

**SPELLS for BLESSING, CLEANSING, HEALING,  
JINX-BREAKING, and UNCROSSING**

**compiled from usenet, 1995 - present**

This is a REfERENCE file for the alt.magick newsgroup.  
As such it constitutes an attendant file to the  
alt.magick FAQ, which is intended as an introductory  
file and its content may be discussed within the  
alt.magick.\* constellation. The FAQ is available at:  
<http://www.luckymojo.com/altmagickfaq.html>

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spelling and format editing has occurred within these posts;  
some email addresses may be out of date.

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**WHITE CANDLE SPELL FOR BLESSING**

Get a white candle -- either a plain one (offerotroy,  
pillar, or taper) or a figural one in the gender of the  
person you want to bless. Carve the person's full name on  
the candle, then dress it with Blessing Oil or Holy Oil.

For more power, you may place a name-paper of the person, or  
a photo, or some personal item of theirs (such as a bit of  
hair or a snippet of clothing) either under the candle or  
next to it. One easy way to do this is to place the paper or  
personal concerns under an overturned saucer and put the  
candle on top of the saucer.

Burn a portion of the candle every day for seven days,  
pinching it out between burnings. As you light it each day,  
say this

[Name], may you be blessed

May all good things come to you  
May nothing whatsoever harm you

May your heart be light  
May your travels be safe  
May your health be good  
May your mind be sound  
May your friendships sustain you  
\*

May you be blessed in every way

\* If you have a special request for this person (such as  
that they find a lover, get a good job, come home safely  
from a war, or whatever), just add it to the list.

Some people use a large pillar-type candle and keep it going  
for longer than seven days. They may make a habit of burning  
such a candle every day -- or once a week, on Sundays -- for  
as long as their friend or relative needs help, even doing  
so for months at a time. if the candle is large and it is to  
be burned in this way, it should be re-dressed with Blessing  
Oil or Holy Oil once a week: after the initial dressing, you  
can drop a tiny bit of oil into the "well" or hole in such a  
large candle just before lighting it each time.

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**WITCHES LADDER OR SORTILAGE FOR COMFORT AND BLESSING**

> If you want to do a spell to comfort [a sick friend], try  
> making a witch's ladder.  
>  
> Take a long blue cord or ribbon, and collect 7 symbols to  
> hang from it -- things like grey feathers for protection  
> during sleep, sprigs of healing herbs, garlic for healing  
> and protection, small talismans, conjure bags, charms ...  
> you get the idea. The important thing is that the symbols  
> should represent comfort, protection, and healing. Tie  
> them to the cord and charge it with comforting power.  
>  
> blackbriar (briar\_13br@hotmail.com)

The "Witch's Ladder" charm-spell you describe -- 7 items on a cord -- is very common in Latin American bruja, where it is called "sortilaje." That word actually means something more like casting lots or drawing straws, but that's what they call it, and i'll explain why:

In Mexico, they make special sortilaje candles with 7 little charms in them -- usually tiny metal milagros depicting men, women, children, flowers, hearts, and other devotional items. You buy a sortilaje candle and burn it for 7 days and every day a new charm comes out of the wax and you string it onto a cord, knotting it in place as you go. When the 7 days are up, you have created a special charmed cord! The word "sortilaje" makes sense in this context, because when you buy the sortilaje candle, you have no idea which 7 charms will be cast inside it, so it is like drawing straws or casting lots. But the name "sortilaje" also applies to ANY cord-charm made with 7 items on it.

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BREAKING HOODOO JINXES (ORAL HISTORIES from the 1930s)

Here are a few random excerpts about breaking jinxes, taking off spells and uncrossing, taken from Harry Middleton Hyatt's collection of hoodoo oral histories, circa 1936 - 1940. The transliterated dialect is Hyatt's accurate attempt to transcribe regional accents; it is not racist in a hateful sense:

1181: Dey use chicken feathers, dey say to take spells off people -- dappled, dese speckled feathers...if dere anybody [has been]...root worked or somethin' lak dat, yo bathe 'em down with that. Yo' cook dat [the feathers] down in pure lard.  
[Fayetteville, North Carolina; informant was a male root doctor]

1202: My mother, she was hoodooed at Miss S's house. I guess, if you ever been up on Cherry Street, to old S's -- they was Jews -- but she had a woman there named Tuley S. Well, my mother was a pastry cook -- she was making twelve dollars a week, but this other woman she didn't like that 'cause she wasn't getting the money. But if she got rid of my mother, that would be her job. She hoodoo her in her shoe. She put something in her shoe, just poisoned her same as a rattesnake...[the cure, performed for the mother by a root doctor, utilized beef gall]  
[Vicksburg, Mississippi]

1204: ...If you was crossed, if you know that people have got you crossed, that you can't be successful or nothing, you take [a] crab, the whole crab, and you put him down in the fire and you parch him there, but have it where you could get all that dust [ash] from him. Well you get this crab [ash], and you get some sugar and hot water, and you crumble that crab [ash] down in that. You pours your cayenne pepper down in there with your salt...[thence follows a description of how to ritually bathe in the crab ash/sugar/cayenne pepper/hot water mixture to uncross yourself and dispose of the water. Hyatt notes: "This is a reversing rite -- a crab moving backwards here uncrosses the cross."]  
[New Orleans, Louisiana]

1209: If dey put somethin down fo yo tuh walk ovah, yo'll take devil's shoe string. Yo know dat devil's shoe string...[thence follows a receipe for uncrossing by tying devil's shoe string twigs on the leg for nine days to stop the evil from rising up through the foot.]  
[Waycross, Georgia]

1221: If a person got chure foot track -- you live in de yard, de same yard an' he take yore foot track out -- you go back in de house an de same dirty water you wash in de dishpan, you throw it in de bottom of yore shoes and throw it in yore track and back out de gate fer three mawnings. Den dat person will turn loose yore foot track...[note the reversal of the crossing by walking backwards; also, if i interpret this correctly, it is not dish-washing water in the pan but bathing water.]  
[Charleston, South Carolina]

Well, as you can see, i could fill pages with this stuff, but by now you will have gotten the idea.

For an explanatory web page about the Harry Hyatt oral histories of African-American hoodoo folk magic, with links to further spells, see <http://www.luckymojo.com/hyatt.html>

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HOW TO BREAK A JINX or GET UNCROSSED

If you have been crossed or jinxed, or someone has put roots on you, you may not know who did it...but you may suspect and even be able to remember how it was done. One common way to cross someone is to sprinkle Crossing Powder, Hot Foot Powder, or Goofer Dust across their trackway or doorstep, or dress their socks or shoes. I have even heard of women who will dress their own privates so that a man will drag himself in it and lose his nature or jinx up his love life.

Another way to fix a person is to get something personal of theirs and stop it up in a bottle with roots and nails, pins, or needles. Your hair may have been gotten this way, or a piece of your clothing, or your personal concerns. This trick may have been done to you by an enemy to control you, dominate you, or get revenge on you by destroying your happiness in love and money matters.

If you want to undo this sort of work, it helps to know who put the jinx on you so you can call their name back at them, but even if you don't know who did it or how it was done, there are things you can do to take off the jinx.

First, if you have been having bad luck for a long time or are suffering from an unnatural illness but you have no known enemy and no one has ever openly declared themselves against you, check around your home and see if you can find something that anyone could have secretly put there to jinx you, like burying something in your front yard. If you find something, like a bottle with personal effects, roots, or hairs in it, dig it up and burn it or throw it away in running water. If you can't find such a thing, you may have been fixed with some mess sprinkled on your food or on your shoes.

You need to get 2 white offertory candles for uncrossing and some Uncrossing oil to dress them. Also, and this is important, before lighting the candles, i want you to take a bath in some purifying herbs or Uncrossing type bath preparation. The hyssop herb bath is something you can make up yourself from hyssop leaves or you can buy ready-made Uncrossing Bath Crystals with Hyssop, or -- for a really strong job -- you can use the 13 Herb Spiritual Bath, which contains hyssop and 12 other uncrossing herbs. Many folks use 13 packets of 13 Herb Spiritual Bath and take a bath every morning for a total of 13 days to clear away a really bad jinx. Hyssop is what is recommended in the Bible for purification. (Look up the 51st Psalm; this is the one that tells you how to use the hyssop bath. If you are not a Christian, you can still use the hyssop herb; it is traditional for uncrossing in any case.)

To prepare the bath, you either brew up the herbs into a tea and strain it or dissolve the mineral crystals in warm water. Then you recite the 51st Psalm (or an uncrossing spell of your choice) as you pour the bath water over your head. If you are taking the 13 Herb Bath, you pour the water and recite the 51st Psalm 13 times for each morning's bath.

When you have finished the bath, step out of the tub and light the 2 white candles that have been dressed with Uncrossing Oil. Stand between the candles. Do not dry yourself with a towel -- let the bath water dry on you in the air as the candles burn.

Now recite the 37th Psalm, the one folks call "The Uncrossing psalm." This is the one that begins "Fret not thyself with evil-doers..."

Pinch out the candles (don't blow them out) if you intend to work this spell for the full 13 days. If you do will only be doing it for one day, just let the candles burn until they go out, no matter how long that takes. If you are not a Christian, then instead of the 37th Psalm, just voice your request in your own words that the jinx be lifted and the one who put it on you be struck down.

After taking this bath, some people then use the remaining bath water to wash down their floors and especially the doorstep of the house. Mix the bath water into a bucket with some Chinese Wash or Van Van Oil to make it stronger. Wash from the back of the premises to the front. Sweep out the front doorway area while the floor is still wet. Once you are done with the wash water, carry whatever remains out of the house and pour it on the ground outside (not down the drain).

Do this every morning upon awakening -- bathing, praying, lighting the white candles, and washing down the house -- for 13 days and this will bring you relief from crossed conditions.

If you know who has put this crossed condition on you and you want to reverse the spell onto them, burn a black candle on their name (putting their name on a paper beneath an overturned saucer under the candle) or carve their name on the candle. If you use a black candle in the figure of the Devil and carve their name on it, dress it with Cast Off Evil Oil and things will go harder with them. If you don't know the name of the person who did this trick to you, carve the words "My Enemy" on the candle. Burn the black candle on the toilet tank, a little bit each night, pinching it out between burnings. Burn it while the moon is growing smaller -- and on the dark of the moon, the darkest night of the month, turn the burning black candle upside down and extinguish it in the toilet bowl, saying "Thus will you, [name of enemy], meet your fate!" Throw the remaining black candle stub and wax into a crossroads -- or into the yard of the person who had put the roots on you or jinxed you.

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#### ----- SPELL TO REVERSE NEGATIVITY OR HEXES

Try this spell to reverse any negativity or hexes being sent your way.

Visualize all blocks in your life-path being removed.

Anoint a purple candle with Rosemary oil. On a piece of white paper write the following in black ink:

All blocks are now removed.

Fold the paper three times.

Light the candle and burn the paper in a bowl, ashtray, or any fireproof dish. Invoke the power of fire and its elemental spirits by repeating three times:

Firedrakes and salamanders,  
aid me in my quest,  
protect me from all evil forms,  
turn back the negativity being sent.

After the third reptition say:

So mote it be.

witchwoman (witchwoman@home.com)

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#### PSALM 37 AS A CLEANSING RITUAL

The 37th Psalm is used for all types of uncrossing, unjinxing, unhexing, and generally doing away with the work or "tricks" that others have placed upon one.

Here is a very simple spell using this Psalm in the hoodoo tradition:

Two small white offertory candles are lit. The practitioner stands between them, and bathes with clear rain water, spring water, or tap water to which tears have been added while reciting the Psalm. If you customarily burn incense while reciting Psalms, it should be 7-11 Holy Type, or Blessing, or Frankincense Resin.

Here is the Psalm, for your convenience:

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#### Psalm 37

1: Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

2: For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

3: Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

4: Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

5: Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

6: And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

7: Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

8: Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

9: For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

10: For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.

11: But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

12: The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth.

13: The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming.

14: The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as be of upright conversation.

15: Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.

16: A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

17: For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.

18: The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever.

19: They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

20: But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away.

21: The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.

22: For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off.

23: The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

24: Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

25: I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

26: He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed.

27: Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.

28: For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

29: The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.

30: The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment.

31: The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

32: The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him.

33: The LORD will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.

34: Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

35: I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree.

36: Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.

37: Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.

38: But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the

wicked shall be cut off.

39: But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

40: And the LORD shall help them and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.

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For more about the use of Psalms in hoodoo, see the Secrets of the Psalms web page at

<http://www.luckymojo.com/secretspsalms.html>

Cordially,

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#### BLESSING A NEW HOME, HOME CLEANSING

Home-cleansing methods are of great importance in African-American hoodoo folk-magic. To learn more about this tradition of Ritual Cleaning and Floor Washing, you can go to the illustrated Lucky W Amulet Archive page on the subject. It is at

<http://www.luckymojo.com/baths.html>

Here is a simple procedure for blessing a new home and ridding a house of any unwanted spiritual influences.

1) Wash down the wood work and floors with Chinese Wash (or Van Van Oil in water) from back to front and out the front door and throw the remaining wash water out the front door or in the front yard. If there is no front yard, carry some of the wash water to the nearest street intersection or crossroads and throw it to the East. To learn more about the magical uses of Van Van Oil, you can go to the Lucky W Amulet Archive page on the subject. It is at

<http://www.luckymojo.com/vanvan.html>

2) Then use a brand new broom to sweep the house from back to front and out the front door. Some folks also like to sprinkle Van Van Powder at the front threshold and sweep that away from the house.

3) After cleaning as above, put down pinches of salt in the corners of each room or, if you are in a hurry, four pinches of salt at the four outside corners of the house. To learn more about the magical uses of Salt, you can go to the Lucky W Amulet Archive page on the subject. It is at

<http://www.luckymojo.com/salt.html>

Good Luck,

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