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Black Serpent

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From the Editor

Spring Cleaning



Spring. This simple word brings with it the first time, after a long, cold winter that we again smell the grass and flowers growing. It promises the warmth of summer just around the corner. This is the time of year many people do their spring-cleaning. It's often that time of year where we feel rejuvenated and energetic, as if we'd all been in hibernation. It's a time to start new projects, kick out the old, and bring in the new.

While this issue just misses Rite to Lucifer, I think you'll be thrilled with the contents. Included are many interesting articles and book excerpts sure to get you thinking about your own goals and spiritual progress for the months ahead.

While the format hasn't changed, we're hoping that this year our issues will bring you plenty of articles on spirituality and personal growth through

the Demonic Divine. With that I bring you the first issue of 2007.

We hope you enjoy it!

Adrianna, The Editor

http://www.ofs-demonolatry.org



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The Morning Rite of Renewal



Just before dawn, take a cup of brewed, hot tea (or coffee) outside or to a room with a view of the sunrise. Sit comfortably with your tea/coffee beside you. As you are facing east and just as the sun rises, invoke Lucifer, "Renich tasa uberaca biasa icar Lucifer."

Take three deep, measured breaths. Close your eyes. Chant the Enn nine times. Take three more, deep, measured breaths. Keep your eyes closed and let the warmth of the rising sun wash over you. Relax your body. Slowly open your eyes and watch the sunrise while drinking your beverage. Be sure to take note of any thoughts that cross your mind during this period.

For those who practice Yoga, you might choose to do a few Sun Salutations as well. Overall, just enjoy the sunrise.

CINNAMON COFFEE

For a simple and delicious morning coffee, add two teaspoons of cinnamon to the grounds for every 12 cups of coffee you make in your standard coffee maker. Adjust the amount to your liking. Add milk (or cream) and sugar.





You Can Also Get Great Music and Journals!



<u>http://www.lulu.com/demonolatry/</u><u>http://www.lulu.com/demonolatry2/</u> Coming soon – Honoring Death by J. Thorp and S. Connolly

Life Coaching & Demonolatry

By Laura Naysmith Dip.L.Coach



Demonolatry and life coaching might not seem to have a lot in common on the surface, but once you dig a little deeper there are a few similarities. Life coaching is all about healing yourself with the aid of an intermediary. This wont happen unless you make it happen, a life coach wont just come up to your door and say, "you need to change something in your life." You, as a person, you, as the most important person in your life, need to want to create that change for yourself. But most importantly of all you need to know and believe that you are worthy of change and that you deserve the best, and you deserve to be the best person you

can be.

Life coaching is about thinking before taking action.

Life coaching to some might be a bit on the fluffy side and bit new age. Sometimes it can be. Which I found to be annoying because I don't see the world is black and white but like most Demonolaters/Satanists, I see the world in grey. In my own work as a life coach I try to avoided platitudes and what I like to call "Oprah-isms". You know the sayings like, "turn you frown upside down" "every day is a gift, that's why they call it the present." I hate those types of things - they don't help. As we all know feelings are not bad, it's how you use them that counts. It's no good throwing curses at every one who wrongs you. Hopefully the more evolved among us would think long and hard before throwing a curse. Life coaching is about thinking before taking action.

In Demonolatry people are encouraged to find a Demon that is the exact opposite to who they are. The reasons for doing this will probably vary from person to person, but sometimes a person will pick a Demon who has characteristics that they would like to see in themselves, so they will work with that Demon to build up those character traits. For some people confidence is a problem so they could possibly work with Satan to improve this issue. Having a life coach can help a person see character traits in themselves that they didn't realise existed, traits that could be the reason they have a particular problem. Once this is found out the coach and the coachee can work on the issues together, much like a demon and the Demonolater. I will use an example of an over worked boss who wants to spend more time at home with her children. Perhaps the boss's problem is she doesn't know how to delegate, so the she and the coach could work on that issue. Leaning to delegate would mean that she has freed up more personal time to spend with her family.



We all need some help from time to time, even though as Demonolaters and Theistic Satanists we see ourselves as independent and normally like to do things for ourselves. Strength of character is never stronger than when we ask for help when we really need it. We have all asked a Demon for help at some point, in doing that we have also realised that we had to do some of the work our selves. For example, I recently asked Ronwe for help with my university course because I am having difficultly understanding a lot of the foreign words in my religious studies course. Ronwe, being the demon of knowledge, was more than happy to help, but it is still down to me to make the effort to do the course works and to actually take time out and study harder on the parts that are causing me problems. Asking Ronwe for help has made me aware that I can manage to study effectively and understand what I need to; I just have to put a bit

more effort in. Of course then there is also the subject of the use of magick to solve problems.

The use of magick is encouraged in Demonolatry but what if your reliance on this gets out of control? After all it is fun and empowering doing a magick ritual. And when you see it working, there is temptation to keep doing it again and again. This could lead to a person opting out of life, by virtue of using magick to solve problems rather than working through the issues on their own. This will not make the Demonolater grow as a person. This will, in fact, actually halt their progress because all their energy will go into performing the perfect spell, which would get them the job they really wanted when all that energy could be put to the better use to actually looking into themselves to see why they don't have the perfect job yet. They could be looking into what is actually holding them back. A life coach could help this situation by actually talking to the person and asking questions that would hopefully make the Demonolater realise that they already know the answers; they already know how to change a situation without relying on magick. A bit like Dorothy in "The Wizard of Oz" she already had the power to go home, she just had to learn it for herself.

If a person came to me with an issue of over-reliance on magick I would ask them to make a list of reasons why they think they use magick and how they feel it helps them and the situation. I would then ask them to make another list of reasons why they should be able to handle the situation themselves by the mundane way. Hopefully they would find that the list for mundane ways is bigger than the magick one. In fact, I would encourage anyone to write these types of lists before planning a magickal working. That way you can be sure that you are doing magick for the right reason and not because you think it will just be easier. I do these lists myself and end up doing most things the mundane way. I find that more often than not I find that the mundane way is so much more satisfying. I feel a greater sense of accomplishment when I do things the nonmagickal way even if it is harder. I tend to have a higher respect for myself because I know if I keep plugging away, I will get results.

I believe life coaching is an untapped resource among Demonolaters and Theistic Satanists. I think if we learned to be our own life coach it would make us stronger, happier and mentally healthier people. It is easier than you might think to gain life coach knowledge or help. There are excellent books out there. I highly recommend books by Julie Starr and Fiona Harrold. Many Life coaching websites are springing up on the Internet. Most, however, are there as advertising. Three things you most definitely need before accessing life coaching are:

- 1. Know you need help
- 2. Being strong enough to get the help
- 3. Wanting to help yourself

As a life coach myself I can honestly say I want to help people but I want to help them help themselves, I have no time for people, who make an appointment with me and want me to have all the answers. Yes I get paid either way but I get angry at the loss of potential. We all know the power human beings CAN have we just need to learn to tap into it and when someone just can't be bother it's just so sad. Are you using your power to its full potential? \Box

If you are interested in learning more about life coaching, you can visit Laura Naysmith's website at <u>www.geocities.com/lanarkshirelifecoach</u>



Coming in 2007 From DB Publishing ...

Honoring Death by J. Thorp & S. Connolly –

For those who have ever endured loss or life altering change, this book is for you. It covers the Rites of Death, dealing with loss, change, and death, and how to attune to the death energy. Geared toward Demonolators, Honoring Death will give you the tools of Demonolatry Necromancy and teach you to embrace change and loss through rites, meditations, and honoring the Demons of death.

The Kasdeya Rite of Baal: Blood Rite of the Fifth Satan *by S. Connolly –*

A complete extended rite for the Adept that includes planning, sample rites for the full duration of Kasdeya, and considerations for performing one of the most life changing rites you'll ever perform. Warning: This is not a book for beginners.



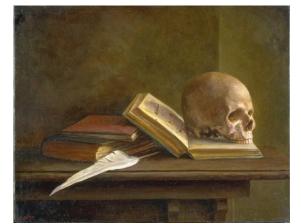
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Book Excerpt: The Hexagradior

By Nemo

Black Serpent readers are first to see this. This is a preview from an upcoming "Hexagradior" publication soon to be available on Lulu. Enjoy it.

Scientific view



It is hard to find another example of two concepts so diametrically opposed to each other as science and magic. And yet, as the science advances and new natural occurrences and laws are discovered, more and more evidence emerges that there is something to the claims of the supernatural phenomena. We can say that what was considered supernatural or magic once upon a time tends to become a scientific fact after a few advances of the science. Furthermore,

we can divide all occurrences in three categories. First category would be phenomena which have been scientifically explained and are no longer considered magic. Second would be occurrences which are being researched and debated, but are not yet fully explained and therefore are not firmly in the realm of science yet. Third kind would be occurrences and practices which are still considered magic or trickery.

Examples of the first kind are obvious. Let's take electricity for example. Many everyday things that we have today would have been considered magic in Middle Ages. Imagine bringing an MP3 player before the Inquisition. On the way to the stake, one could try explaining that it's just sound recording compressed in MP3 format and stored on the silicon chips, but that would still look like Devil's work to them.

One of the most infamous occult books of the past, *Le Grand Albert*, carries "secrets" such as "to soften iron or steel" and "to engrave on all sorts of metals." Today, anyone with even amateur knowledge of chemistry would recognize that these are no longer secrets. They are called amalgamation and acid etching, and everyone can find out just about everything about them for free on the Internet.

Examples of the second category would be telepathy and telekinesis. The first step in any scientific research is to determine is there something to research in the subject matter or not. The two mentioned phenomena have been accepted as not being mere trickery and say-so, and thus worthy of scientific exploration. Research of telekinesis in the case of Nina Kulagina was probably the world's first. Next more prominent example was the research of telekinetic and telepathic abilities of Uri Geler. That at least started the age of serious research of what was once firmly considered to be magic. Without a doubt, even today anyone who sees a video of Nina Kulagina levitating a Ping-Pong ball in the mid air or moving objects across the table without touching them, first thinks of either some camera trick or magic. That is a good example of occurrence which would have been considered magic a while ago, but are being scientifically explored today. The research seems to be far from over. Some scientists provide evidence, others dispute it. In order for something to become a scientific fact it must be verified, documented and repeatable. Telepathy and telekinesis have a problem with being repeatable. Even the best of the best in those areas have difficulties with keeping their telepathic or telekinetic abilities constant.

If something is not repeatable, does it mean it does not exist? Not necessarily. To use the *Hexagradior*-style illustration - try placing an ashtray 20 feet away from you and then try throwing a quarter into it ten times in a row. All it takes is fine muscle coordination, nothing "unearthly," but still, some people will miss all 10 times, and some will hit more or less often. Idea of the parable is obvious.

Human beings are not perfect and often can't demonstrate the same level of performance every time, especially when fine perception or muscle coordination is required. A good everyday example is separating diamonds by color and clarity. There is no city on the earth without jewelry stores, and no jewelry store without diamonds. Every day thousands of these precious stones are shipped from the mines to the handlers and dealers. Before they are sold for cutting and polishing, diamonds must be sorted by size, color and quality. Only limited amount of people can do this and none of them can keep up that work for full 8 hours a day. After a while errors in grading become too great and the activity stops for the day. All they are doing is separating the shiny crystals into the groups of same clarity and shade, but even this very down-to-earth activity is not repeatable for a full working day. Electronic devices have been developed to replace human workers and thus make the separation process more certain and efficient, but such devices have been proven to lag behind human graders in accuracy. This forced diamond traders to return to flesh-and-blood specialists, and thus to the limited time for which their skill is functional.

The situation is similar with the perfume industry. Every perfume is actually a combination of scents. Perfume designers usually have a laboratory with over 2,500 scents and combine some of those to create perfumes for the market. But the fact is also that perfume designers can only recognize 5-7 individual scents one after another. The best among them can go up to 25, but they are rare.

This still leaves the fact that all these activities are actual, factual, real-world human activities regardless of the fact that only select few perform it and even then not always with the same level of success. Obviously, when it comes to hammering nails, such activity is easily repeatable, but when it comes to tasks that require finer motoric skills and senses, not everyone can do it and not for a long span of time.

We can conclude that all paranormal phenomena and abilities are not necessarily imaginary just because not everyone can perform them every time. But until some advance in science explains the telepathy and telekinesis, these two will still remain in the aforementioned second category – being researched, but not yet verified.

Practices such as love spells, usage of amulets, talismans and similar fall into the third category. It is only natural that many people think in terms of – "OK, a remote controlled toy car would have been considered a magic in Middle Ages, but some things like love spells will always be magic." In deed, even telepathy and telekinesis are still being debated and are not firmly set in the realm of science, not even to speak of things like love spells or harmful spells. But is there something to it? Is there something worthy of research in the "influence from the distance" or can we attribute all the reports of magic to trickery and fantasy? Leaving aside the terminology of what the word magic means and implies, the real question is - can one human being actually influence another in a way other than physical and can it ever be confirmed by science?

Many indications and experiments suggest a positive answer. For a start, as stated before, the telepathy and telekinesis have gained a "there is something to it" status in scientific circles. Dr. Genady Sergeyev, a neurophysiologist from Leningrad determined that Nina Kulagina can control the beat of a frog heart and stop it. Less known is a fact that she was also able to accelerate the healing of wounds. Because of such experiments and their implications, the USSR authorities gave her a fake name Nelya Mikhailova in an attempt to keep her identity a secret.

If we therefore, accept that it is possible (as can be seen on many video recordings) that a human being can move or bend objects in a non-physical way, then we also have to accept the possibility that someone can also use telekinetic abilities to influence another human being. Let's say to influence his heart or stop it all together.

If we accept that telepathy allows human beings to send and receive images or words (as demonstrated in many experiments), then we also have to accept the possibility that someone can transfer favorable thoughts to some person, thus eliciting positive feelings for someone. As we can see, love magic and harmful magic are not so irreconcilable with science after all.

Still, one of the first scientific explanations of influence by magic is the power of suggestion or the placebo effect. Literature is full of such arguments. If some gentlemen A learns that certain lady B is casting loves spells on him, at first he will feel flattered. That much is certain. From then on other positive feelings can develop, and with a minimum of favorable conditions, it all has more than a random chance of finishing in a romantic relationship. As arid as it sounds in such laboratory terms, we must concede that this is one of the possible explanations of how some love spells worked out. Of course, working of harmful spells may be interpreted in a similar manner.

There are, however, other explanations for apparent effectiveness of some spells beyond the placebo effect. A very famous prayer study was done at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center by cardiologist Dr. Randolph Byrd. His study included 393 people who were admitted to the hospital because of a heart attack. They were all given the same top-notch medical care, but in addition to that, half of them were prayed for by various prayer groups around the country. The results showed that the prayed for group had fewer deaths, faster recoveries, less intubations, and needed less medication. None of the patients were aware that they have been prayed for. This excludes the placebo effect.

Such remote influence is not limited to humans only. Dr. Robert Miller performed an experiment with the help of psychic healers Olga Worrall and her husband Ambrose. In his laboratory he was growing a rye grass. An electromechanical transducer was used to measure the microscopic growth rate of the plant. In the conditions of constant lighting, temperature and watering conditions, a rather constant growth rate in the plant of approximately 0.00625 inches per hour was recorded. Dr Miller asked the psychic couple to attempt to mentally affect the growth of one single blade of rye grass. On the agreed date, at 9 PM, the regular prayer time of the Worralls, they prayed for the plant. This included visualizing a white light around it. Their home was over 500 miles away from the laboratory with the rye grass plant. Test equipment has recorded normal continuous growth of 0.00625 inch per hour up to 9 PM. At that time, the record began to rise and peaked at 8 AM next morning when it reached 0.0525 inch per hour. Mathematically inclined would say that this is an increase of 840 percent. This growth rate eventually decreased but never to its original level. Obviously, this can not be explained by power of suggestion because rye grass can not think and therefore can not be suggested anything. In light of this and similar experiments, it is reasonable to reach a conclusion that living beings can influence another life form in the way other than physical or by placebo.

It would take a book in itself (and there are such publications available) to list similar experiments. They all point to the same conclusion, the one maintained by occult traditions for ages. Human beings can influence other humans and life forms regardless of the distance between them. Once again, a line from *Hexagradior* seems applicable:

Matter contains ether and we are made of matter. And magic works through this ether because it connects and binds us and nobody and nothing is exempt from this.





Almighty Lucifer, bless me with enlightenment. Allow me to emerge from the darkness awake, with understanding. Grant me the knowledge to make my life what I want. Grant me the wisdom to see things for what they really are. For I wish to dwell in the world of intelligent thought and reasoning. In Lucifer's name, Amen.



We pray thee Lucifer, bestow upon us the strength of your design. Let the eagle bring us a new understanding. Your light shall be our protection and guide us through this life. We are as the wind. We humbly pay homage to thee in our offer of incense that you may know our respect for your vast strength. We offer requests of knowledge and reflection that we may employ your creation to do so. Hail Lucifer. Lord and Master of Air.



I ask of you, Lucifer, to grant me wisdom and aide in obtaining knowledge for new beginnings. In your name I invoke the strength of your nature to aide me. Lord Lucifer, hear my prayer.



Lucifer brings us enlightenment and wisdom. He is the daemon of air, the light bringer. Hail the season of wisdom, rebirth, and enlightenment. Hail to our Lord Lucifer. Show us truth and reason. It is our Lord Lucifer who hath brought us from the darkness into the light. His winds carry with them the lessons for this lifetime.



All Hail Lucifer, Lord of Light!

Life Altering Rites: Are You Ready?

By S. Connolly



As eternal students, many Demonolators will eventually find themselves curious about and wanting to try more difficult rites that offer the promise of life change and wisdom. These rites often last for days, weeks, or even months. While the shorter ones are great warm-up rites for the longer ones, very few people will ever make it through the longer rites (such as Kasdeya) because not only is the commitment great, but these rites are difficult. Ask anyone who has performed Kasdeya (or at least made an honest attempt) and they'll tell you that it turned their lives upside down and inside out. Few people have ever been able to continue the Kasdeya rites successively and often need to take breaks between each seven day working. Some Demonolators will tell you that Kasdeya cannot be broken (i.e. no breaks allowed) for the adept to get the full effect of Kasdeya. The downside to their criticism being that the practitioner's life will remain in discord until Kasdeya is completed properly. I disagree. I've known many adepts who took breaks during the Kasdeya, still completed it, and still found they got a lot from the rites. However, I fully admit that I know far more people who abandoned Kasdeya than those who have successfully completed it.

Technically – no one is ever completely prepared for a life-altering rite no matter how experienced they are, or how well they think they "know" what kind of affects a longer ritual can manifest.

As someone who has done Kasdeya, and who is considering doing it a second time, I'd like to offer some tips and considerations to help you get ready for extended ritual work, in hopes it will better prepare you for the commitment you've made in performing an extended rite.

Be Prepared:

- First – if the rite calls for preparation time, don't skip it! Use it! Part of the purpose of longer rites is to see how much patience and how committed you really are to performing the operation as stated. It's also a testament to your

ability for Self Discipline! So if the rite calls for a month of preparation – take it. Otherwise you may find yourself completely unprepared.

- Second take care of yourself before and during the duration of the rite. Get plenty of sleep, proper nutrition, and exercise. Since rites of this nature often cause discord you need to be in good health so you can effectively deal with the stress of the changes. Do not embark on a rite like this unless you are physically healthy and somewhat emotionally stable. These types of rites have the potential ability to make a sick person even sicker, and push someone with emotional instability into deep depression! If you suffer from bi-polar or depression of any kind, but still want to try a longer rite, I highly recommend you do the rite in pieces. One week at a time with a week break in between each chunk. It will take you longer to get through, but it will also keep you from getting too stressed out.
- Third Do not even consider performing an extended rite if you have no intention of finishing it. Otherwise you're just wasting your time and missing the entire purpose and full transformation potential. Sure take breaks in between chunks, but make sure you follow through even if a 2 month rite ends up taking you 9 months to complete.
- Fourth Try 4-day (i.e. Rite of Ammon or Four Day Pathwork), 7-day (i.e. Pillars of the Sisters), or 14-day (i.e. Rite of Change) rites before you jump into a rite lasting a month or longer. It will help you condition yourself to the discipline required for longer rites, such as Kasdeya.

What You Should Expect:

Oftentimes, the longer the rite is the more energy is utilized. Because there are Rites performed daily, in succession, over a certain period of time, these rites can be extremely powerful. These extended rites always have the purpose of transforming the self and one's life in a profound way. This means that the effects of such a rite can literally be life altering. Some common things you could possibly experience:

- Possible destruction of bad or co-dependent relationships and/or loss of friends.
- Possibility of change in employment.
- Possible upheaval in family relationships.
- Possibility of losing someone or something close to you.
- Possibility of your life crumbling around you so it can be rebuilt.
- Possibility of financial problems.
- Possibility of having your security ripped away from you.
- Emotional discord.
- Feelings of extreme fear and dread.

I say *possibly* on most of these because not all people are going to experience these things. The common experience among those who have done a Kasdeya (or other extended rite) is emotional discord and feelings of fear and dread. These latter things

must be present for internal change to occur. You have to face fear and discord in order to overcome them. If you have a lot of toxic relationships in your life, you may find yourself suddenly alone, making you seriously consider who your friends are and what kind of friends you want. You may have sudden monetary problems prompting you to be more careful with your money. You may experience loss of someone or something close to you if you have deep, hidden (or even outright) fear of loss and/or abandonment. The list of the possibilities goes on. Just remember that the journey will have obstacles, some of them difficult.

The Demons don't throw these things at us because they're mean or evil, but rather to induce change, introspection, and strength. I think you'll find that embarking on an extended rite can be one of the best experiences of your life because you'll come out the other end stronger, wiser, and ultimately better prepared to create the life you want for yourself.

So Are You Really Ready?

It comes down to this final question: *Are you really ready?* No one can answer this except you. So consider these questions before you make a decision to perform an extended rite such as Kasdeya:

- Can you commit to it?
- Can you handle the stress of it?
- Are you prepared to face the possible problems that could arise?
- Are you physically and emotionally healthy?
- Finally, are you ready for a change?

Your answers to these questions will be the ultimate deciding factor as to whether or not you should or should not perform an extended rite meant to impart wisdom and change. •

This article is an excerpt of the forthcoming DB Publishing title, The Kasdeya Rite of Baal: Blood Rite of the Fifth Satan, to be released in 2007. The Kasdeya Rite of Baal includes the Rite of Ammon, Four Day Pathwork Rite, Pillars of the Sisters, and the Rite of Change. S. Connolly has been working with Demons for over 20 years and has been a dedicated and practicing Daemonolatress for 18 years. She is the author of several books about Demonolatry including The Complete Book of Demonolatry.



Per Contra

Music & Movie Reviews



By DeSang & Aramon

A review of "Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning" and "American Pie: The Naked Mile"

Aramon Says

Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning- Why?



In a time when Hollywood shows a lack of creativity, we get a new installment to the Texas Chainsaw franchise. I have one question: Did we really need another one?

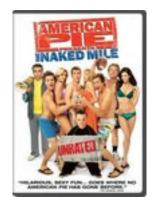
This round of gore tells the early history of that twisted west Texas family before the original movie took place. We see what dark forces twisted a young man into a monster and the family who raised him. Unfortunately, we also see more of the exact same- kids driving along and suffering an accident which leads them to be captured by the vile Sheriff Hewitt only to be handed over to Leatherface. What we also see in this prequel is a lack of a storyline. Dialogue leaves much to be desired and overall quality is substandard at best. After sitting through some two hours, this movie left me wondering why I had just spent more than thirty seconds on something so pathetic. I could have read the box description and been more entertained.

The only highlight is R. Lee Ermey playing the psychopathic sheriff. Other than that, this is nothing more than a waste of time. But, as decent as he was, there was no saving this pile of bovine manure.

Avoid this one.

1 out of 5 possible Serpents!!!

American Pie: The Naked Mile



Here we go again folks- another American Pie movie. This was another straight to video release, which in my opinion, should not have been foisted upon the masses.

In this installment we have the cousin of Steven Stifler- Erick Stifler travel to a college for the weekend with friends after being given a "free pass" by his girlfriend. What follows is a quick descent into boredom as the film turns out to be nothing more than toilet humor and gratuitous nudity.

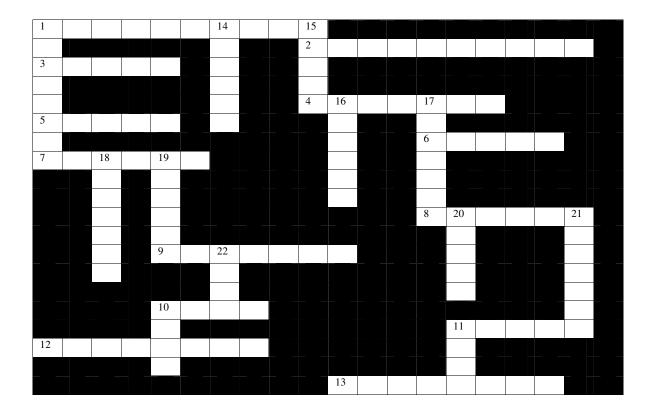
Fans of the franchise all agree- they should have stopped after the second installment of the series. While not as bad as the previous film, I have to agree with everyone else- why did they have to make another one?

I don't recommend this one to anyone unless they are really bored and want something to just make noise as they clean their house.

2 2 1.5 out of 5 possible Serpents!!!

Demonic Crossword #2

By Adrianna



ACROSS

- 1. The Dukante Demon of Death
- 2. A respectful invitation
- 3. Items used during ritual
- 4. A type of demon that allegedly seduces women
- 5. A Serpent God
- 6. Kasdeya is sometimes called the _____ Satan
- 7. From the Latin "Divus", meaning God
- 8. The Angel of Death who tempted Eve, another name for Satan
- 9. A Hebraic name for Satan
- 10. The number of Demonic Divinities
- 11.In giving blood, you _____ it to the Demons.
- 12. An Egyptian Demon who causes natural disasters
- 13.A person possessed by demons.

DOWN

1. A rite that takes place over several days, weeks, months or years.

- 10. A Babylonian Serpent Goddess
- 11. You ______ a rite by creating a balanced and elementally charged space.

14. Crowley defined it as the art of changing something to conform with one's will.

15. He is a great prince & appeareth at first with a Leopards face, and wings as a griffin.

16. Babylonian God of the Underworld

17. A demon of astronomy, geometry, and other such sciences.

18. He is a Mighty Duke, & appeareth in y^e form of a Lion w^h a mans head Lowring.

19. Said at the end of prayer to wish a positive outcome or pleasant spiritual journey.

20. One who is spiritually able to guide him/herself.

- 21. Air Elemental (Dukante) and bringer of enlightenment.
- 22. What you often do with a written offering.

Altars, Temples, & Shrines

By S. Connolly

Altars, Temples and Shrines are the spaces we go to worship, give offerings, and pray. It is the sacred space we utilize for our own spiritual edification, growth, and satisfaction.



So it seems only natural that we make these spaces for ourselves and fill them with items we enjoy. This article will discuss how to select altars and ritual tools, and offer tips to find, clean, and enjoy your altars, temples, and shrines. (To the Left: Ancestral Altar, photo courtesy of J. Thorp.)

Choosing the Altar

Once the flooring is out of the way you can move on to furniture. Obviously we'll start with the most important piece of furniture for your space. The altar.

There are three types of altars as I see it. The movable, the permanent, and the hidden. Each has its own purpose.

Movable Altars – can be hidden. This is the perfect altar to have when your space won't allow for a permanent altar. An example of this would be a dorm room shared with a roommate. A square, flat piece of wood will suffice if need be. That way it can be slipped beneath a bed, moved into a closet or put away on a shelf when not in use. It can also be hidden if necessary.

Permanent Altars – The permanent altar is best for a dedicated space. Ritual tools can be left on top of it. In the permanent ritual space, you may choose to have more than one altar.

Hidden Altars – are basically altars that either don't look like altars when most of the tools are put away, or they are pieces of furniture used as altars then cleared when the ritual is complete. This type of altar, or the movable altar, may be your best bet if you have yet to come out of the closet with your religion. I have found that dressers or desks make great hidden altars because the drawers can be used to store your ritual tools.

The first step to choosing an altar is to decide which altar is right for you. Choose a piece of wood or furniture that you feel comfortable with and that fits your space. Something you like, or better yet – love. The more you like it, the more positive, strong energy you will associate with it. In the case of movable altars you have a lot of freedom. You may choose to decorate your altar with paintings or carvings of pentacles, sigils, or other meaningful symbols. You can have altars for all seasons, or for different Demons, or different purposes. Be creative and enjoy yourself. By painting or carving (or even gluing sand, feathers, shells to it) you are putting the essence and energies of you into the altar. For more permanent altars and hidden altars, the investment of money, or the simple fact that you don't want to deface your favorite furniture, may prove a discouragement from adorning it with paintings or carvings let alone glue. Don't worry, you can still anoint your altar with ritual oil you enjoy, and you can be especially creative with altar cloths that not only serve the purpose of



decorating your ritual space, but also to protect your altar from ash, wax and oil stains. After all, we all know that worship and magick aren't always clean. *(The above altar is an outdoor wedding altar - photo courtesy J. Thorp.)*

TIP FROM J. THORP: "Put a piece of glass over your altar and altar cloth. That way your altar cloth stays clean. It's far easier to clean wax and oil from a glass surface."

Ritual Tools

I started out shopping for my ritual tools at the local thrift shops and discount shops. There I found offering bowls, chalices, and candle holders all of which served their time on my altars over the years. I often think this is the best way to start out shopping for ritual tools because you can clean them up and decorate them as you wish without feeling guilty for spending a hefty sum buying shiny new items that may be



shiny, but not practical. Plus, you might feel you can't carve or paint sigils or symbols on your shiny new things. This way if the tool turns out to be impractical you spent less money. And it also gives you the option to buy tools you need quickly and inexpensively, that you can use while you shop and search for the tools you really want. (The altar to the left is a spring altar – photo courtesy J. Thorp.)

My favorite tools, however, have always been those gifted to me by fellow practitioners and close friends who

knew my needs, understood practicality and my tastes and obviously put a lot of thought into the gift. This way the tool's energy starts out with positive energy from the start. Even though you'll clean and bless the tool to balance it with your own energies, you will always look upon that tool fondly for as long as you have fond memories of the person who gave it to you.



Now I'm not saving to never buy anything shiny and new. Just remember that silver tarnishes and must be polished, ritual tools should be easy to clean, they have to be practical and the tool has to be something you like. That's a tall order and probably the reason so many of us who have been practicing Demonolatry for some time have acquired an abundance of candle holders, chalices, bowls, burners, incense altar cloths. swords and daggers that clutter our homes. The perfect way to get rid of that clutter is to gift these items to

a fellow practitioner who is short on cash. What wasn't right for us may be perfect for someone else and it will give the other person something to work with until they find the tools they want. *(The above altar is a basic altar – photo courtesy S. Reisner.)*

Of course there are times where the neat silver chalice sets and impractical but beautiful altar cloths are practical, as in if you're buying tools for group work and you want to create atmosphere by using formal attire that you might not feel as comfortable with.

Overall, you want to decorate the altar, temple, or shrine in a way that suits you and your practice. Be creative. There really are no wrong ways to do it.



Scrying Altar - Photo Courtesy C. Ortiz

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS

- 1. Eurynomous
- 2. Invocation
- 3. Tools
- 4. Incubus
- 5. Dagon
- 6. Fifth
- 7. divine
- 8. Samael
- 9. Haborym
- 10. Nine
- 11. Offer
- 12. Aldinach
- 13. Demoniac

DOWN

- 1. Extended
- 10. Nina
- 11.Open
- 14. Magick
- 15. Sitri
- 16. Nergal
- 17. Bifrons
- 18. Valefar
- 19. Naamah
- 20. Adept
- 21. Lucifer
- 22. Burn