

The Book of Initia, Chapter Twelve

Initia General Theory VI

Famous Witches & Magicians



In 1951 the 1735 Witchcraft Act was repealed. Sybil Leek promptly came out of the broom closet and quickly rose to media fame being called Britain's most famous Witch by the BBC. She wrote sixty-odd books on occult subjects and traced her ancestry to one of the Witches tried during the Burning Times.

Sybil was from a well-to-do family that hosted notable personalities such as H.G. Wells and Aleister Crowley. Her family encouraged her to explore metaphysics and follow the Craft. They were, themselves, powerful enough within the Witch network that her grandmother appointed her high priestess to a French coven in need of replacement. This was after she was widowed at the age of eighteen.

After returning to England she spent a year with the Horsa (gypsy) Coven in New Forest and, as their high priestess, became a member of the Nine Covens Council. All this took place before she was twenty-years-old.

She opened three antique stores in and around the New Forest area, but found life difficult after she became a famous Witch. Even though her fame brought prosperity to her village, the landlord eventually refused to renew her shop leases unless she publicly denounced witchcraft. So she closed her shops. She did several TV shows in the U.S. on the subjects of psychic and paranormal phenomenae and eventually moved to Los Angeles. At the time of her death she was living in Melbourne, Florida. She is credited for helping to shape the modern Wicca movement and opened doors for what was to come.

“Whatever you ardently desire, sincerely believe in, vividly imagine, and enthusiastically act upon, must inevitably come to pass.” - Sybil Leek, *Diary of a Witch*

Dear Sybil - I TRULY could not have said it better myself. - Victoria

Sybil Leek
1917 - 1982

more on Creating Your Own Reality

As you learned early in your training, there are cosmic rules that govern using magick for physical manifestation in this state of being. While I cannot assign motivation to the creator of the system, if there was a creator, I can tell you that the principle guiding rule of physical manifestation is that it will not, cannot, be instantaneous.

Regardless of lore, I do not believe that there has ever been a Witch or Magician who could command instant physical results. It is my personal theory that this is a safeguard put in place for benefit of ourselves and others. Though it may not seem so at times, the world is orderly in the sense that it is subject to the laws of physics. We know that a ball thrown in the air will come down unless intercepted by another force also subject to physics. In other words, we can count on gravity. We can count on the twenty-four hour rotation of the Earth. We can count on the cycles of seasons, birth, death, aging, and so on and so on.

If our thoughts took immediate physical form, the chaos and destruction would be unimaginable. One of the functions our imagination performs is analogous to a fitting room. Our imagination allows us to try things on to see if they “fit”. Some of the thoughts that flit across the landscape of our minds are things that we wouldn’t want either consciously or unconsciously.



Victoria David Danann



They serve the purpose of smorgasbord. How about this? What about that? The marvelous computer that is your brain can make a dozen choices within milliseconds. If we could attach this process to a movie screen and play back, we would undoubtedly be horrified (on some level) by some of the things we consider and reject. We are socialized to behave according to the standards of modern civilization, but that socialization hinges on moment to moment choices. We are also subject to the dictates of our evolution which has not moved past a prime directive of personal survival. Thinking otherwise is self-deception.

What I am saying is that we are beasts with piano finishes. We are at the

top of the philogenetic scale because we are smart beasts. We have a glossy surface compliments of civilizing influences, but it is an illusion easily discarded when we are threatened. The intelligence makes us potentially dangerous to ourselves, others, and even the planet that sustains us. Add magick to that and you could have a fine mess.

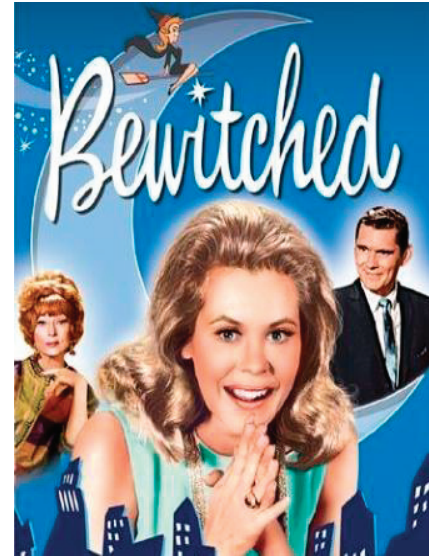
No. We would not last long as a plane of existence if there were those among us whose thoughts could produce physical manifestation instantaneously. I always come back to my example of the elephant in the grocery store. Can you imagine the scene? Customers are wheeling their carts down straight, well-ordered, well-stocked aisles being considerate (for the most part) of other customers. Innocuous music is playing on the audio system. Occasionally a clerk may greet you or ask if you need assistance. The atmosphere has been designed to make people feel secure and comfortable so that their shopping will not be hurried. After all, the longer you stay in the store, the more you will buy. What if a frightened African elephant suddenly appeared in the middle of the produce section because someone thought about a camera safari brochure?

The Book of Initia, Chapter Twelve

Indeed I am thankful that Witches and Magicians have a governor on our possibilities to save us from ourselves.

As a caricature of this principle, there was, in the original TV series *Bewitched*, an elderly aunt who was suffering from mild dementia. She was “magickally incontinent”, if you will, as she no longer had control over when, where or how her magical results would take shape. This proves the rule that the funniest comedic situations are those that have the potential to be real life nightmares.

*It is true that your mind has no boundaries.
Thank the gods your ability to instantly conjure
does have limits.*



Assignment #1.

So, if you cannot conjure instantaneously, then why is there a little part of you that believes you can? The short answer is that I can't know for certain. It may have something to do with memories lingering from other forms of existence or a kernel of knowledge planted in the heart of the potential Witch or Magician to motivate or some sort of link with The Source. It's like programs that are running in the background on your computer. You're not actively using them. You're not consciously aware of them. Nonetheless, they are operating, using power and memory, and are part of the package. There may be a part of us that is connected to The Source and knows that instant manifestation is possible somewhere under certain circumstances.

That brings us to the point which is this. You have begun to build your Astral Temple and have initiated it by forming a Circle and performing a formal ritual there -- from memory. As discussed in the last lesson, your Astral Temple mimics The Source in the sense that you can do anything, be anything, create anything while there. Your assignment is to continue building, expand its uses and put some protections in place.

The Book of Initia, Chapter Twelve

You can be thirty or thirteen. You could be a raven or a wolf. You can wear anything, eat anything, and invite anyone you want (Cautions apply. More on page 7.) Your Astral Temple can hover in space, float on an ocean, sit on a mountaintop or be surrounded by dunes or forest. It is movable, anchored only by the limits of your imagination.

It can be as small as a chapel or as large as Warwick Castle. It can have one room or many rooms with different purposes, some used often, some used rarely. There are no budgetary constraints. You can decorate with priceless rugs, museum quality art and hand carved furnishings or you can have nothing present except smooth, white stone. There are no practical considerations. You can change anything with a thought.

You can light your space with starlight or roaring fires or modern fixtures that fuel themselves.

Perhaps you would like to experiment with different looks, feels, decors. You should. **Because one of the critical elements of this assignment is to practice instantaneous manifestation in your astral temple.** It doesn't matter whether you wave your hand, twitch your nose or simply think what you want.

Start with something simple. Raise your hand palm up and think, "Orange." What appears in your hand is a perfectly formed, ripe orange with deep, even color." Feel the adjustment your arm must make to keep your palm upright when the weight is added. In your Astral Temple anything is possible. You can cause an orange to appear in your hand or pick it from a snowy, evergreen tree.

Again, working on the principle that your mind believes what it sees, **the Astral Temple can be used to accelerate your magickal abilities.** You



The Book of Initia, Chapter Twelve

cannot manifest or move physical objects instantly in your dimensional reality, but you can speed up the process many times over.

The element of tactile experience is important. It boosts what your mind “sees”, adds substance to belief and challenges your imaginative faculty to acquire new skills. So you not only feel the weight of the orange as it appears in your hand, but the texture of the rind as well. Peel back a section of rind and let the delightful explosion of citrus smell tickle the inside of your nose. Taste a section of the orange and enjoy the potency as it fires up your taste buds.



As you create with your thoughts, add sensation to the experience. Touch, smell and, sometimes, taste.

Every issue in your life can be changed for the better by a well-planned event staged in your Astral Temple.

Here are some guidelines:

1. When you can, create a deliberate link between what is happening in your Astral Temple and what is happening in your dimensional reality. For example, let's say you wanted to attract wisdom, enhanced intuition and wealth. You might create a Song of Solomon Incense by combining (use intuition to determine amounts):

Solomons Seal
Lavendar
rose petals
**the color red.

You create the incense. Wrap yourself in a red sheet. Open a Circle. Light the incense and let your spirit fly to your Astral Temple. There you will recreate and light the incense while wearing a red robe. What happens in your Temple is linked to your reality.

The Book of Initia, Chapter Twelve

2. Inviting others. This is an exercise that is satisfying and, when done properly, can assist you with feelings of peace and content. **Obviously you must not force any other being to do anything they don't want to do. No means no.**

a. **Non-human.** As always, special precautions must be taken if you intend to invite the non-human -- particularly those that may have more or better powers than you do. They may have their own agendas as well.

I. **Give yourself an armor of light that cannot**, so long as you are in your Temple, **be penetrated by any means** -- even magick.

II. **Add two PERMANENT inscriptions in violet light above the doorway of your Temple.**

1. This should be the equivalent of "no harm can come to the proprietor of this temple while s/he remains in the temple".

2. Entities may not follow into the proprietor's dimensional realm. ("what happens in the temple, stays in the temple".)

b. **Human.** Your Astral Temple can be used as a summit meeting or a place for dispute arbitration and resolution on a personal level.

I. If you have a social or political cause, you may invite someone who is in a position to affect change to dinner and offer your point of view. If the person you call chooses to attend, it will be the essence or higher self that arrives at the entrance to your temple. The more polite, hospitable and respectful you are, the more likely your views will be heard. Dialogue is necessary. You must listen as well.

The conversation works two ways. You can influence and you can also ask for assistance. Your invitation list need not include only the living. You are free to tap any resource.

II. If you are a creative, you may have always wished you could have supper with a particular artist or poet or author. You may get a chance to meet the person you admire and ask for advice at the same time.

III. Last, but certainly not least, you can use your Temple, in its capacity as sacred space, to try and heal personal wounds. You may not be successful, but sometimes the effort is enough to give you a sense of peace.

The Book of Initia, Chapter Twelve

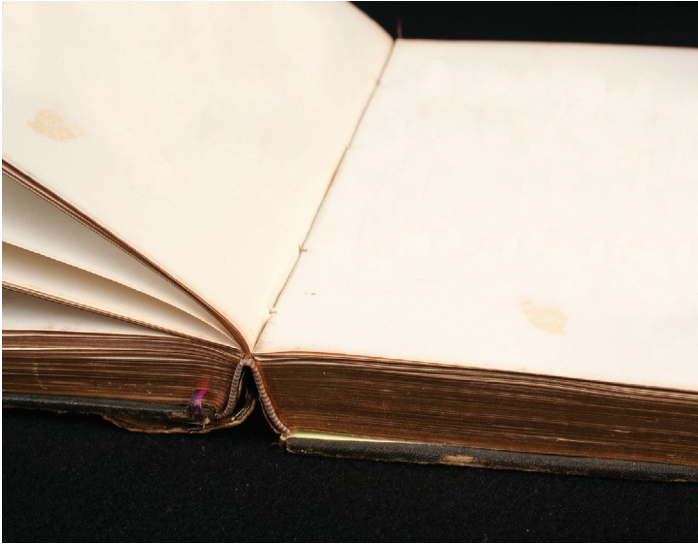
If you use your temple to create the template for your physical reality, then **you must always see yourself...**

- in perfect, flawless, health
- without cares or worries
- living with the confidence of sound, vibrant relationships
- living with the confidence and security of opulence and wealth
- feeling powerful and in control of your future

Your Astral Temple is your most important work because it is from there that you can most effectively create what you want in this reality.

It is and shall always be a work in progress -- just like you.





Assignment #2.

Journal Entry

Create a journal entry entitled, “*Why I Am A Witch In Training*”.

Don’t just dash something off. Do a little soul searching. Dig deep to find your true reasons for pursuing this path. If the answer was something simple like wanting power over others or fame and fortune, you would have fallen by the wayside before now.

Those of you who are nearing the end of second year are serious students with special purpose and authentic reasons. There’s nothing wrong with wanting to be well-off financially. The self-actualization of Witches follows the same principles as Mazlow’s Hierarchy of Needs except that everything is dialed up several powers. Instead of food and shelter, the basic need for a Witch may be a full-time chef and a palatial estate. But, once those needs are met, there is another, higher, more intense, motive.

What is yours?

“Whatever you ardently desire, sincerely believe in, vividly imagine, and enthusiastically act upon, must inevitably come to pass.” - Sybil Leek, *Diary of a Witch*