The Book of Novicia, Chapter Ten Foreword

KEY: MAGICK ISN'T HARD for Witches.

This is one of the most carefully guarded secrets among authors, New Age celebrities and those who have something to sell.

In this Chapter, I'm going to share some examples of spells or charms I have developed for personal use. These contain some of the most potent Magickal techniques ever practiced. Yet they seem deceptively simple. When you read these, your first reaction may be, "It can't possibly be that easy!" Ah, but it is... if you are equipped with a Magickal core.

The Difference between Witches and Magicians

You have heard me refer to both terms frequently. The difference between Witches and Magicians is that Witches practice an intuitive form of Magick that seems to rely on an *innate* Magickal faculty while Magicians practice a rigid set of ceremonial rituals. This course isn't adding anything that wasn't there already. You're simply being shown how to use what you already have.

The intuitive approach (Witches) is almost like watching a baby learn to walk. The legs are in place. It is just a matter of developing the supporting musculature and coordination of motor skills. Soon the healthy child is off and running independently, laughing as she goes, feeling like she may be mistress of the Universe. I call this innate faculty your Magickal core. If you didn't have it, you wouldn't have made it to this lesson.

The "High Magick" approach is all mental and altogether different because it presupposes that this innate Magickal faculty is missing! And, in truth, it is. Real Magicians must go through lengthy, meticulous and sometimes painful training. Even then, they will not achieve the results that Witches can expect on a regular basis.

I know you're wondering about the role of gender. Male Witches are an anomaly. They do exist, but it's rare, almost a mutation. (If you are a male Witch, see Chapter 10 questions.)

Sympathetic Magicks. Repelling Magicks.

Sympathetic Magicks.

In the first chapter of first year training you learned **the principle of Magnetic Magick**-- **that like attracts like** -- and that the creative employment of that principle could drastically change your life.

With Sympathetic Magick, the principle at work is that like affects like. The operative that underlies this definition is the belief that establishing Magickal links, or taking advantage of already established Magickal links, is the major part of spell "quickening".1

This is, so far as we know, the oldest form of Magick. Put simply, this is the craft in Witchcraft. It is sometimes called "Primitive" Magick or "Folk" Magick because the prac-

tice of some form of Sympathetic Magick is reflected in the histories of virtually all cultures. Some have even conjectured that the oldest cave paintings were not intended simply as murals for the enrichment of cave décor, but rather were intended to influence the success of hunts.

1. Quicken: To kindle, make alive or cause to come to life. The Quickening: The point at which the object does come to life. More in depth in third year study.



There are two types of Sympathetic Magick: imitative and correspondence.

A. IMITATIVE MAGICK involves the use of an object or effigy (poppet) or photo to represent a person, thing or state of being. When used to affect anotherperson's will or change the circumstances they would encounter without interference, it is shadow or black Magick. (I will reference this as an FYI, but will not teach it because I believe it to be Magickal molestation. Some think an exception exists for obtaining someone's permission to make a poppet of themselves. All I can say to this is that no one of sound mind, who truly understood the fine print, would agree.)

Examples:

Imitative White Magick: A model of a house used in a ritual casting to represent a dream house. A handful of gold coins to represent wealth.





Imitative Black Magick: A doll, or poppet¹, Magickally assigned to function as proxy for an actual person in a ritual casting.

B. CORRESPONDENCE MAGICK which I think of as "relationship" Magick. This is an assumption that one thing can represent another and act as its Magickal surrogate in the event of a preexisting relationship. Magickally speaking, a preexisting relationship would be a vibrational link established by actual physical contact.



Examples:

White Correspondence Magick: On your last trip to Oregon you gathered a vial of forest soil for use in a casting to facilitate a move to the Pacific Northwest.

Black Correspondence Magick: You have a grievance, righteous or not, against someone at work. You notice a stray hair on the sweater she left hanging on the back of her cubicle chair. You surreptitiously remove the hair with the intention of using it to quicken a curse.



NOTE: As you will see later in this Chapter, Spells of Binding are in a somewhat gray area.

We use Sympathetic Magick because it creates either a stronger link between the casting and the intention or a stronger influence upon the casting. If you put your mind to it, you can think of several times you have already used Sympathetic Magick to complete assignments for this course.

^{1.} Poppet: A crude "doll" formed from cloth, wax or clay to represent a person. A famous movie demonstration is the wax poppet used in "The Witches of Eastwick" to drive the demon (demonology is third year study) away. This was acceptable hilarity because who wouldn't want to get rid of Jack Nicholson in any form?

In review, Sympathetic Magick means that making a change to one of two things Magickally linked, either by similarity in appearance or by physical relationship, will cause a similar change in the other.

REPELLING MAGICKS

ABSOLUTE: Magick is never passive. It is always active. It may be proactive, reactive or in entropy (state of decay), but it is always in motion. It is utterly impossible for Magick to be in stasis.¹

We have done a good bit of foundation work with Magicks of Attraction. Now it's time to explore the other side. This is the shadow side of Magick not in the evil sense, but in the sense of being the opposite of Attraction Magick.

An overview of Repelling Magicks.

- 1. Protection.
- 2. Psychic Defense.
- 3. Banishings.
- 4. Destruction.
- 5. True Repelling.
- 6. Bindings.
- 7. Reversals.

^{1.} Stasis: A state of static balance or equilibrium.

Your Seasons of the Witch calendar will tell you when extra power is available to assist with a specific issue, but, if your particular matter doesn't appear when you need it, use the guideline. Attraction Magick is practiced during the waxing moon. Repelling Magick is practiced during the waning moon.

1. Protection

Sometimes called Barrier Spells. Includes the subgroup of spells for security. These are spells cast to create a perimeter around physical objects to deflect, or repel, unwanted events or acts even though they are unknown; like a mystical insurance policy.

Please read from your *Primer* page 125.

Magick is not exact like a recipe. If it was, everybody who bought a prepackaged wealth spell would be Warren Buffet. Like a lot of things in Magick, spells of protection require a measure of good judgment, a dash of wisdom and a light touch. This may best be illustrated with a real life example.

Shortly after Seasons in Avalon opened, I received a question from a student regarding protection spells. The poor thing was maniacally performing spells of protection everyday to keep her husband and two dogs safe from harm. I spent more time than I really had to write back and tell her, as gently as possible, that through her fear of loss she had unwittingly formed a trap and set herself up to fail. I told her that, as women, when we marry we know that the odds greatly favor our future as widows. We also know that the joy of bringing puppies home comes with a song of bitter-sweetness because we will very likely survive them, too. This, of course, is nature at work. We, as Witches, have been granted the power to manipulate many things to make our lives easier and more pleasurable, but we are not granted immortality for ourselves or others.

As a postscript, this student turned out to be a diamond in the rough. My note, meant to merely nudge her to consider a shift in perspective, was cathartic which means that she was ready and longing to hear what was said. She wrote back that she resolved to

overhaul her entire way of looking at things; to spend her time thoroughly enjoying everyday instead of living in fear of the inevitable.

Here are two of my personal favorites.

a. Property protection: Turn On Your Hearth Light

People who live in multifamily dwellings usually draw their boundaries at walls. People who live in single family homes draw boundaries at the property's edge. The process is basically the same except that in the case of multifamily buildings there is usually one door only and fewer windows to protect.

It took years for me to develop a property protection charm (for my personal use) with which I am satisfied. Like much of what I do it is a combination of many techniques, tweaked and nudged until this or that is not too much, not too little, but just right. I hope you will view this example as just that – one example -- and set out to create a charm that is perfect for *your* needs and *your* Magickal personality.

I do this three of four times a year, simply because I get busy and forget to renew often enough. Theoretically, this charm would never have to be repeated if you remembered to refresh it often.

I cast from my bed after the household has gone to sleep. I recreate the property in my mind. Within my mind's eye, unbound by gravity, I can do a literal overview of my property looking down on the roof and treetops. I can zip about as quick as a pixie. I set stationary absolutes at the corners of property and draw an imaginary silver line that connects the corners. I leave three feet or so open just before I seal off the barrier. I call out a warning to anything on the property that isn't certain it has my best interest in mind to leave while it can. Having had experience in my youth with actual cattle drives, it's like second nature for me to zip about, round up the strays (if any) and send them through the opening with a, "Shoo!" In case you're wondering, yes, sometimes I can see forms respond to this command and drift to the other side of my "fence". When this is accomplished, I finish the seal and return to my body lying in my bed.

I then call down a circle from the infinity of space to settle around my property boundaries. The visual is a tube of white light that stretches from the ground into the infinity of space above. This light is not stagnant, but liquid, moving like water in a slow, salt water aquarium. Depending on my state of mind and/or health, the predominantly white light may have flecks of yellow, blue or violet.

Once the tube of light is in place, I direct it to begin a doesil (clockwise) turn. I don't have to actually engage my "power hand", the right hand in my case, to cause the Magickal engine to start. I simply visualize myself stirring the protection spell. For every turn of the spoon in my metaphorical cauldron, the light tube goes round at the same pace. I stir until the light will continue circling at the speed of, say, a merry-go-round when I stop.

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As I have told you, protection spells are particularly vulnerable to entropy and need to be refreshed. The circling will begin to slow when I stop stirring and will slowly unwind like a top. I can check in with the state of the spell at any time by closing my eyes, after I'm in bed, and reaching out with my intuition to judge the speed at which the spell is turning. If it has slowed, I can speed it up by stirring a little faster. If I have not thought about it for awhile so that the light has failed, I must regenerate this spell from scratch.

The diagram is my house and odd-shaped lot. Because I want to use a Circle to protect, part of the neighbors property comes within my protection. I would like to be generous enough to just extend this to the entire globe, but, alas, even I have limitations.

b. Personal protection: The Heptagon Ward

My favorite personal protection spell is a combination charm of deflection and reflection. First, I picture myself in a space large enough to construct a Magickal heptagon (seven-

sided object) around myself. The heptagon is made of mirrors, eight-feet-tall, that face outward. The cover is a silver screen that filters in everything except pure light, but does allow the unwanted to escape and not be trapped with you. I manifest the mirrors one at a time and hear the sound of them sliding into place and locking together -- to me it sounds like steel doors. I lay the screen on top of ward and then shoosh out anything that doesn't belong in there with me.

I charge the mirrors with the task of deflecting negative energy, intentional or not, and causing the people I encounter to reflect their own projections back to themselves.

The good news is that it works marvels and, with a little practice, you can throw it up in an instant. The bad news is that I wouldn't trust it to last longer than a day. Major uses would be in situations where you know there are people who wish you harm; "mean girls" who NEVER grow out of their abominable personality aberration or those who think of themselves as competitors because they don't understand that there is plenty to go around. Many of you are empathic enough to be uncomfortable in crowds.

TIP: If you think you may have occasion to need this charm quickly, you can develop its use as second nature like this. Practice it every day for 21 days. Think of a word you would like to associate with this charm – a word that you wouldn't typically hear or use conversationally -- something like "heptagon". Whenever you construct your sheild, say the word loudly and clap your hands. On the 22nd day, you should be able to close your eyes, say your word silently (with exclamation!) and hear your hands clap at the same time. You will find your shield instantly erected. This is a rather advanced Magickal principle, but you are getting close to second year. Take the time to perfect this technique and I promise you, you will find occasions to use it. It only takes a couple of minutes a day and you can create a reminder for yourself by writing your focus word in color at the top of your planner every day for twenty-one days.

2. Psychic Defense. As the name suggests, these are spells to defend against an attack of psychic or Magickal nature.

Please read from your *Primer* pages 123-124.

Intentional psychic attacks, instigated by other people, are rare. Subconscious attacks are fairly common, but can be dealt with using a personal protection spell. Psychic attacks by non-human entities are more complicated. This in depth study is reserved for second and third years first to allow you a good foundation in the basics and also because the further you go in your studies the more likely you may be to encounter an "other".

3. Banishings. These are spells to rid a person, place or thing of undesirable vibration or entity attachment. They may also be adapted to treat addiction or disease. When purely physical, this is just an exorcism of unwanted organisms. When psychological or emotional, it's more tedious and requires a commitment from the one who suffers that is often beyond their range.

Please read from your *Primer*, pages 120-121.

The most common form of Banishing is clearing one's home. The easiest way to do this is with a White Sage smudge stick. Leave one door open and start in the farthest corner of your residence. When you light the Sage you will feel instantly Magickal and in charge. I like to hold the smudge stick in one hand and a little, hand-held broom in the other. I use the broom to swish the smoke and the unwanted toward the door.

You don't have to be too solemn. You can go along saying something like, "Out with the bad. In with the good." When you've cleared the house, close the door and put a little salt on the threshold which will keep that entrance clear for awhile.

4. Destruction. These are spells to disintegrate blocks, barriers or obstacles that stand between you and what you want or need. Sometimes, when something is resistant to a spell of attraction, the problem can be an impenetrable barrier. The thing or essence may be trying to get to you to no avail.

The biggest trick here is *recognizing* when there is an obstacle or block that needs to be cleared. Honest assessment is the work. Once that's done the rest is easy. Just picture

yourself at one end of a path. Your goal is at the other end. The block, obstacle or barrier is on the path between you and your goal. Raise your power hand in the air. You will disintegrate the block (as in blow it into a million pieces) when you snap your fingers. That's it. This will work for everything except deep-seated psychological issues and a current life challenge you can't wiggle out of.

5. True Repelling. These are the reverse of glamours. They are spells to make you seem undesirable to a person whose advances are not easily thwarted or invisible to a form of misfortune that has become chronic.

Example of a Repelling Charm. Choose your favorite essential oil that can be used directly on the skin. By favorite, I mean one with a scent you like enough to wear as perfume. Buy a new bottle of it. BE SURE IT'S ACTUAL ESSENTIAL OIL AND NOT SYNTHETIC. Cast a spell over the bottle before you open it. You can use a simple talk to the bottle and stir-the-air doesil procedure, but, if you're having trouble releasing the idea that Magick must be complicated to work, here's an alternative. Put the bottle in a copper pot or cauldron. Surround it by thirteen white candles, tea lights are fine.

When candles are burned The charm is turned. He (or that) which offends Recoils from this oil.

The contents will serve as a repellant to a certain person or a stroke of bad luck that seems stuck in a loop. Wear every day until the problem is corrected.

6. Bindings. In Magickal circles the term binding is used to describe two very different things. First definition is to render impotent another person's efforts to do you harm. The second definition refers to the process of creating an unbreakable relationship (bond) between a Witch and another sentient being – usually a familiar.

Please read your *Primer* page 121.

My old standby is the "bell jar spell". Truthfully, I have only had occasion three times in my long life to perform this spell.

This is where maturity and judgment come in. I think of this as a sort of "time out" for another adult. Two or three times a year we get a customer at 7th House who is having a bad life and decided they will try to ruin ours as well. My husband is always astonished when this happens. He is likely to ask, "Don't they know who you are?" Of course, that's not the right question. The question should be, "Don't they know what you could do?" I suspect they don't or they would approach our customer service department with a measure of civility.



I don't use pictures because it's too commanding and compelling. I write their name and my grievance on a piece of paper. I put the paper in a bell jar. When I seal the jar I say something to the effect that this person is heretofore bound from causing any more mischief and that they need to spend some time rethinking things. Then I bury it in my backyard.

CRITICAL: If you don't remember to release this individual, then it may as well be Black Magick. I would say three years is a maximum to leave someone in "time out". However, when you release them, say some words that indicate that if they go back to their old ways it will be the worse for them next time. Release by removing what was in the jar and burning with a black candle. If you want to reuse that jar, you're going to need to do some super, heavy duty cleansing in the physical and metaphysical sense.

7. Reversals.

If you are following this course of study with care, you have not done anything that needs reversing.

Please read your *Primer* page 127.

Assignment:

In Chapter 1 your assignment was to study your own life and make choices about what you want to attract or manifest. The physical evidence of that work is the Treasure Map you created. In this lesson, you're going to apply the practical side of Magickal polarity by creating a push-pull system.

You need two pieces of paper.

1. At the top of the first, write "Bring Me". Draw a line down the middle. On the left side make a list of what you want to attract or manifest. This list will certainly be different from the one you made when you began your training. Some of the things on that list may already be yours and you may have changed your mind about others.

On the right side of the paper write down how you might use a push-pull approach to double your effort. If there is something that is critical – badly needed or wanted – you can use attraction Magick to bring it to you while at the same time using repelling Magick to clear away anything that would stand between you and your goal. Beginning with January 2010, Seasons of the Witch notes PowerDays that can be used for clearing the way to particular results. These will, of course, always occur during the period of the waning moon.

2. On the second sheet of paper, write "Send Away" at the top. Draw a line down the middle. On the left side make a list of aspects presently in your life that you DON'T

want. Of course you can't get rid of every unpleasantness or life in a body wouldn't be a lesson, but you can have it pretty good.

On the right side of the paper write down, next to each item, what kind of Repelling Magick you might use to reduce the negative influences in your life. Hopefully these two projects will spark some Magickally ambitious behavior and a flurry of activity.

REMEMBER. You put a little in, you get a little out. You put a lot in, you get a lot out. Commit yourself to the spell or don't do it. Magick is not for the half-hearted.

Magickal Notation: Don't forget your journaling. The keeping of a Witch's Diary is a big part of the process. No detail is too unimportant to record.

Your Chapter Eleven notes will be about how Sympathy Magicks and Repelling Magicks may be used to accomplish your own goals.