

Askej Kataskej

the official Covenant of bekate ezine



Issue 1

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Editorial

I NEVER IMAGINED THAT WHEN I SAT AT HOME THE DAY AFTER ATTENDING THE FIRST COH CAMPING & PICNIC WEEKEND BACK IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR (MORE DETAILS ON THAT EVENT ON P.26) AND DECIDED TO SUM UP THE WEEKEND'S JOVIAL NATURE WITH A TONGUE-IN-CHEEK PARODY OF THE INFAMOUS WHICH? MAGAZINE, THAT IT WOULD LAND ME THE ROLE OF EDITOR FOR OUR VERY OWN COVENANT PUBLICATION.

NOW, HERE I AM FLEXING MY JOURNALISTIC MUSCLES AND MARVELING AT THE DEVOTION AND CREATIVITY OF MY FELLOW HEKATEANS AS I HAVE BEEN PIECING TOGETHER OUR LAUNCH ISSUE.

AND WHAT AN ISSUE IT HAS TURNED INTO! WE HAVE LOTS GOING ON IN THIS BUMPER-SIZED EDITION, FROM PERSONAL ACCOUNTS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL RITE OF HER SACRED FIRES, POETRY, EXPERIENTIAL PIECES, BEAUTIFUL PHOTOGRAPHS OF SHRINES AND HEKATE IMAGES ARE STREWN THROUGHOUT THE PUBLICATION AND WE EVEN HAVE A RECIPE FOR SOME RATHER TASTY SESAME SNAPS.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED SO FAR AND TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CHEERING ON FROM THE SIDELINES, WAITING PATIENTLY FOR THE FINAL RELEASE DATE WHICH I HAD TO PUSH BACK A FEW TIMES DUE TO PERSONAL REASONS. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THIS IS YOUR EZINE, WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE AND HEAR WHAT EVERYONE IS GETTING UP TO IN THEIR ROLES AS DEVOTEES OF THE GODDESS HEKATE AND AS MEMBERS OF THE COH. WE'D ALSO LOVE TO HEAR FEEDBACK ON THIS FIRST ISSUE SO THAT CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENTS AND ADDITIONS CAN BE MADE IN THE FUTURE FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL. FOR MORE INFO ON SUBMISSIONS YOU CAN CHECK OUT P.30 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE:

WWW.HEKATECOVENANT.COM

SPECIAL THANKS GO OUT TO SORITA D'ESTE FOR OF COURSE FORMULATING THE COH AND HAVING FAITH IN ME TO FULFILL THIS ROLE. TO MY FRIENDS TARA SANCHEZ, MIMA CORNISH, KATH RUNICMAN AND ROBERT PODMORE, WITHOUT WHOM I WOULDN'T HAVE GOT THIS FAR. TO SETH DAVID RODRIGUEZ FOR HIS WINNING TITLE SUGGESTION THAT WAS VOTED TOP AMIDST A MYRIAD OF OTHERS. AS WELL AS LOUISE GREENTREE WHOSE SPLENDID PHOTOGRAPH GRACES OUR LAUNCH COVER. AND OF COURSE TO HEKATE, OUR LADY, FOR HAVING HER OWN CONFIDENCE IN ME AND FOR EVER PUSHING ME IN THE DIRECTION OF HER LIGHT.



EN EREBOS PHOS!

Kenn

What is the Covenant of Hekate?

THE COVENANT OF HEKATE (COH) WAS BORN OUT OF THE DESIRE TO CREATE A COMMUNITY AND CENTRE OF STUDY FOR THOSE WHO SHARE A PASSION FOR THE HISTORY, MYSTERIES AND MAGIC OF THE GODDESS HEKATE. THIS DESIRE WAS DRAMATICALLY DEMONSTRATED ON 27TH MAY 2010 WHEN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WORLDWIDE PERFORMED THE RITE OF HER SACRED FIRES RITUAL CREATED BY SORITA D'ESTE IN A UNIQUE ACT OF DEVOTION TO THE GODDESS HEKATE.

WITHIN THE COH WE VIEW THE GODDESS HEKATE AS THE COSMIC WORLD SOUL. HEKATE IS A LIMINAL GODDESS WHO OFTEN EXPRESSES HERSELF THROUGH TRIPLICITIES OF FORM AND POWER, SUCH AS HER THREE BODIES FACING THREE WAYS, HER CONTROL OVER LAND/SEA/SKY, BIRTH/INITIATION/DEATH AND DIVINATION/DREAMS/ORACLES. WE BELIEVE THAT SHE IS A NATURAL FORCE WHOSE POWER EXTENDS THROUGH ALL REALMS AND WHOSE FORMLESS FIRE ILLUMINATES THE PATH OF THE UNIVERSAL MYSTERIES, WHERE SHE IS BOTH OUR GUIDE AND INITIATOR.

WITHIN THE COH WE EXPLORE THE MYSTICISM AND MAGIC OF THE GODDESS HEKATE THROUGH THE PRACTICE OF THEURGY ('DIVINE-WORKING') TO ACHIEVE HENOSIS (UNION WITH THE DIVINE), THROUGH CONTEMPLATION, EXPERIENCE, INTUITION, DIVINATION, MEDITATION AND RITUAL WITHIN THE REALMS OF THE WESTERN ESOTERIC TRADITIONS.

THE COH IS ROOTED IN FIRM FOUNDATIONS OF KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE FROM THE TRADITIONS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD WHICH HONOURED HEKATE. THIS KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES FORM THE BASIS OF THE MODERN MANIFESTATION OF HEKATE'S WORSHIP IN WAYS RELEVANT TO THIS AGE AND ACCESSIBLE TO ALL WHO SEEK HER MYSTERIES. THE TORCHBEARERS OF THE COH ARE INDIVIDUALS FROM AROUND THE WORLD WHO THROUGH THEIR ACTIONS AND STUDIES ARE SHINING THE LIGHT OF HEKATE'S TORCHES AND EXPRESSING THE SPIRIT OF THE ANCIENT MYSTERIES.



ENCHANTMENTS

FROM THE

KEYBEARER

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WHEN I SET OUT TO DO SOME DANCING, SWAYING AND CHANTING IN MY TEMPLE SANCTUARY BACK IN 2009 I HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION TO COMPILE ANOTHER COLLECTION OF ESSAYS ABOUT THE GODDESS HEKATE, LET ALONE CREATE WHAT IS THE RITE OF HER SACRED FIRES AND CERTAINLY NOT TO SET UP AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY DEDICATED TO THE GODDESS HEKATE! MY INTENTION WAS FOCUSED ELSEWHERE, BUT IN RETROSPECT I CAN SEE THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF IT ALL RATHER CLEARLY AND BESIDES, I AM DELIGHTED WITH THE RESULTS OBTAINED, AND OF THE MANY ACHIEVEMENTS ACCOMPLISHED AS A RESULT OF THOSE MOMENTS OF INSIGHT – AND FOR ME, OF THOSE, THE COVENANT OF HEKATE IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE NEXUS.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A COMMUNITY SUCH AS THIS, IN WHICH WE SHARE OUR PASSION FOR THE TORCH-BEARING GODDESS OF THE COSMOS, WHILST ALSO LEARNING FROM THE DIFFERENCES WE HAVE, ALLOWS EACH ONE OF US TO GROW IN OUR SPIRITUAL WORK AND UNDERSTANDING, BOTH OF HEKATE AND OF THE WORLD WE LIVE IN. WE ARE BLESSED WITH A TRULY DIVERSE MEMBERSHIP, WHICH INCLUDES AUTHORS AND ARTISTS, MUSICIANS AND POETS, PEOPLE FROM A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT SPIRITUAL BACKGROUNDS WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED TO HEKATE IN DIFFERENT WAYS AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE OVERCOME THE LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL BARRIERS AND HAVE JOINED US FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD DURING THE LITTLE MORE THAN 18 MONTHS SINCE WE WERE OFFICIALLY BORN AND BAPTISED AS AN ORDER!

IN THIS FIRST ISSUE OF ASKEI KATASKEI I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE MY THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO ALL THE TORCHBEARERS WHO HAVE OFFERED THEIR TIME, CREATIVE EFFORTS AND WORK SO SELFLESSLY, AND MOST OF ALL TO THOSE OF YOU WHO SUPPORTED ME IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER DURING THE FORMATION OF THE COH AND SINCE. YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT I AM THANKING YOU FOR; PLEASE KNOW I AM ETERNALLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN HELPING TO BUILD THIS COMMUNITY. LIKewise I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE DEVOTEE MEMBERS WHO JOINED THE COH TO DATE AND WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED IN OTHER WAYS. COMMUNITY IS ONLY POSSIBLE WITH THE SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT OF THOSE WITHIN IT, AND THE COH COMMUNITY IS ONE I TAKE A GREAT DEAL OF DELIGHT IN.

IN APRIL I HAD THE ENCHANTING EXPERIENCE OF BEING INCLUDED IN THE GLASTONBURY HARMONY AND HEALING CEREMONY AT CHALICE WELL GARDENS, GLASTONBURY AND REPRESENTING THE COVENANT OF HEKATE AS KEYBEARER. THIS MULTI-TRADITION EVENT AND CEREMONY WAS HELD TO CELEBRATE THE DIVERSITY OF THE DOZENS OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS, SPIRITUAL AND MAGICAL PATHS WHICH ARE ADHERED TO TODAY IN GLASTONBURY. YOU CAN READ MORE ABOUT IT AT:

[HTTP://SORITA.CO.UK/GLASTONBURY-2012-HARMONY-HEALING.](http://SORITA.CO.UK/GLASTONBURY-2012-HARMONY-HEALING)

MY GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION ALSO GOES TO ALL THE TORCHBEARERS AND DEVOTEES WHO HELPED ME TO MAKE THE HEKATE TRIFORMIS SYMPOSIUM 2012 SUCH A MAGNIFICENT EVENT, AS WELL AS TO EVERYONE ELSE WHO ATTENDED AND CONTRIBUTED THEIR ENTHUSIASM THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND.

IN MEMORIAM

MY SYMPATHIES AND CONDOLENCES, AND THAT OF ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO KNEW THEM, TO THE FAMILIES OF TWO MEMBERS WHO PASSED THROUGH THE VEILS EARLIER THIS YEAR, BOTH OF WHOM WERE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE ANTHOLOGY HEKATE KEYS TO THE CROSSROADS. TORCHBEARER *HELEN KALIKA* (HAPI), WHOSE LOVE OF NATURE AND THE WILD LANDSCAPE OF WALES HAS INSPIRED ME IN MY OWN WORK AND DEDICATION OVER THE YEARS IN INNUMERABLE WAYS. AND ALSO, *PROF. NINA LAZARUS* WHO WAS A CLOSE FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE AND IS DEARLY MISSED, SHE WAS ALWAYS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE MYSTERIES OF HEKATE, ENOUGH TO DELIVER A FULL DISCOURSE (BORDERING ON A FULL SERMON!) TO UNSUSPECTING BARISTAS IN CAFE NERO IN COVENT GARDEN IN A WAY I SHALL NEVER FORGET! DAUGHTERS OF THE TORCH-BEARING INITIATRIX, YOUR WORK WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN AND I AM ETERNALLY GRATEFUL FOR THE TIME WE SPENT TOGETHER. IAO.

APPOINTMENTS

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE THAT *SHAY SKEPEVSKI* (SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA) IS JOINING OUR CIRCLE OF TORCHBEARERS AROUND THE WORLD THIS MONTH. MANY OF YOU WILL KNOW SHAY FROM HIS ESSAY IN HEKATE HER SACRED FIRES, AS WELL AS HIS INSPIRED IMAGES OF OUR GODDESS, WHICH HE SO FREELY SHARES WITH US ALL.

THANK YOU TO *KENN PAYNE* WHO HAS TAKEN ON THE ROLE OF EDITOR OF *ASKEI KATASKEI* OUR COH E-ZINE. THIS IS THE FIRST ISSUE OF WHAT I HOPE WILL BE MANY IN HIS CAPABLE HANDS. PLEASE SUPPORT KENN IN HIS WORK.

MY GRATITUDE ALSO TO *LEZLEY FORSTER* WHO HAS TAKEN ON THE ROLE AS EDITOR OF THE COH WEBSITE ARTICLE LIBRARY, WHICH WILL BECOME A RESOURCE BOTH FOR MEMBERS OF THE COH AND OTHERS WHO SHARE AN INTEREST IN THE LIGHT-BRINGING GODDESS.

I TRUST THAT HEKATE'S GUIDING TORCHES WILL CONTINUE TO LIGHT THE PATHWAYS TO JOY, FULFILLMENT OF SPIRIT AND MAGIC FOR EACH OF YOU IN THE COMING MONTHS,



Blessings...
Sorita d'Este

HEKATE PRAYER

BY SOSANNA

HEKATE, GODDESS OF DARKNESS

I OFFER THIS TO YOU

HONEY & GARLIC ON YOUR ALTAR

NEXT TO THE WAND MADE OF YEW.

HEKATE, PROTECTOR OF WOMEN

GUARDIAN OF THE CROSSROADS

AS THE BLACK DOGS HOWL

I AM BURDENED BY THESE HEAVY LOADS.

HEKATE, QUEEN OF THE NIGHT

BY THE DAGGER AND THE SERPENT

ADVOCATE FOR THOSE IN NEED

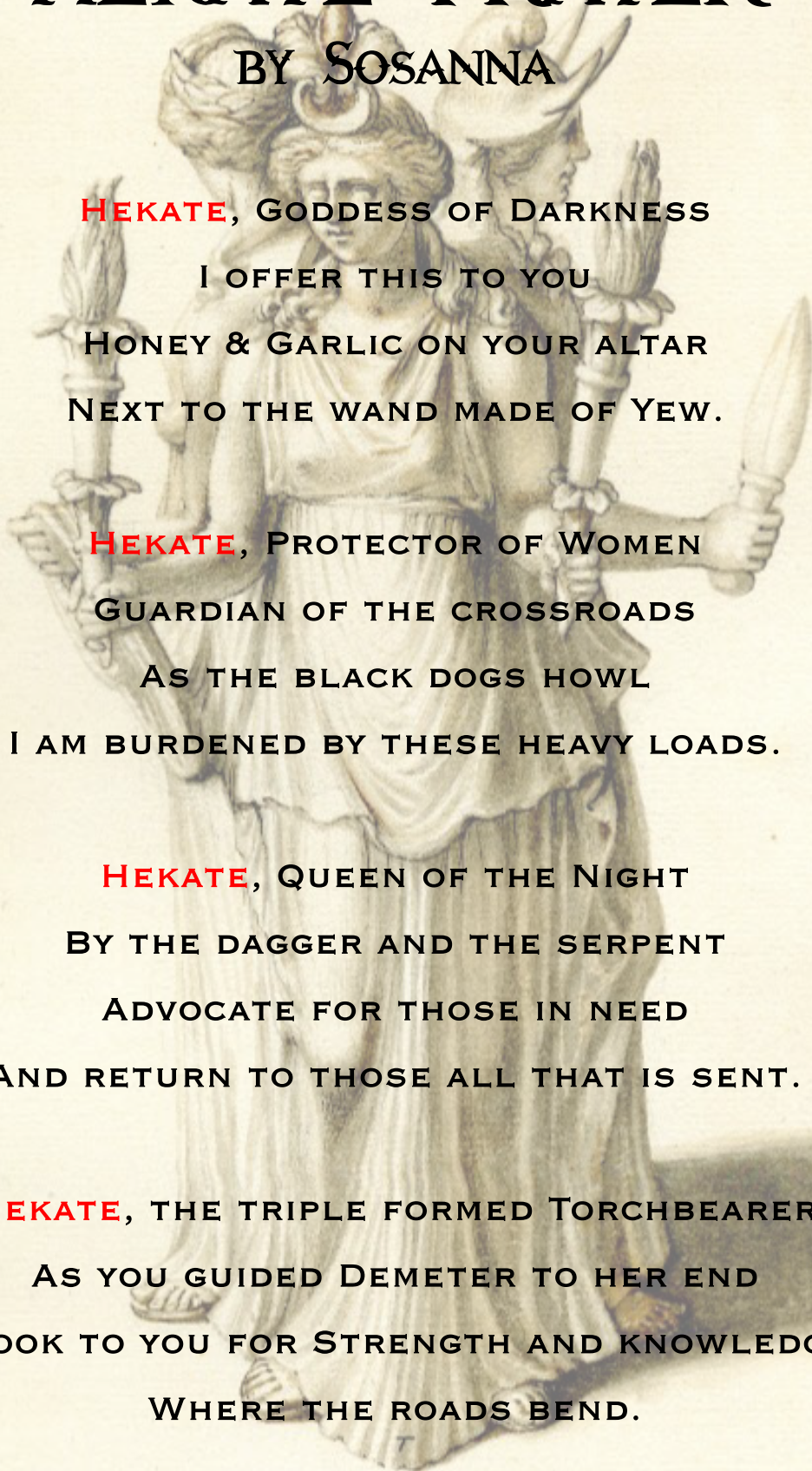
AND RETURN TO THOSE ALL THAT IS SENT.

HEKATE, THE TRIPLE FORMED TORCHBEARER

AS YOU GUIDED DEMETER TO HER END

I LOOK TO YOU FOR STRENGTH AND KNOWLEDGE

WHERE THE ROADS BEND.



Flames &

Keys

*Experiences of Her
Mysteries during the Rite
of Her Sacred Fires*

2012

*By Cheryl
Reynolds*

I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE A PART OF THE FIRST "RITES OF HER SACRED FIRES" BACK IN 2010, SO THESE PARTICULAR EVENTS ARE VERY EXCITING FOR ME AS THEY HAVE BECOME A PART OF MY DEVOTION TO HEKATE. THE FIRST ONE I CELEBRATED WITH ANOTHER MEMBER OF MY OWN COVEN, AND BESIDES A SMALL WRITTEN ODE' TO A DEAR FRIEND WHO TRAGICALLY PASSED FROM SUICIDE A WEEK EARLIER, I KEPT THE RITE AS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN. (EXCEPT FOR MY PERSONAL HYMN OF COURSE) THIS WAS VERY DIFFERENT FOR ME AS I TEND TO WRITE AND FACILITATE MY OWN RITUAL WORK, AND USUALLY FEEL A TAD UNCOMFORTABLE USING OTHERS PRE-WRITTEN RITUALS.

HOWEVER, I FELT THIS WAS IMPORTANT SO I SURRENDERED THAT PART OF ME AND PUT MY FOCUS ON MY FRIEND AND ON MAKING A DEVOTIONAL ALTAR CLOTH FOR HEKATE TO USE IN THIS SPECIFIC RITE. DUE THE RECENT DEATH OF MY FRIEND, (TALK ABOUT TIMING) AND HEKATE BEING SO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEPARTED, THIS WAS EXTREMELY COMFORTING AND CATHARTIC AS THERE WAS A SIMPLE YET GENTLE AWARENESS OF HER BEING WITH ME AT THAT TIME.

DURING THE PREP AND THE RITUAL, I COULD FEEL THE CONNECTION TO OTHERS AROUND THE WORLD AND I WILL NEVER FORGET THAT FIRST INTERNAL PULL. IT WAS ALMOST AS IF A PROVERBIAL 'LIGHT' SWITCH WAS TURNED ON AS ALL HER SACRED FLAMES BECAME A STRING OF UNENDING LIGHTS THAT MIRRORED THE DISTANT LIGHTS FROM THE PAST TO REFLECT AND EXPAND WITH THE THOUSANDS OF HEKATE LIGHTS OF TODAY.

THE NEXT YEAR, I DID THIS RITE IN A SOLITARY FASHION WHICH AGAIN, IS A VAST CONTRAST FOR ME AS I TEND TO DO GROUP WORK, BUT THIS WAS NEEDED FOR MY SOUL AND TO HONOR MY FRIEND. AGAIN, THE RITE WAS SIMPLE YET PROFOUND, AND OF COURSE GLOBALLY CONNECTING. THIS YEARS' RITE IN 2012, I CONTEMPLATED GOING SOLITARY AGAIN, BUT I KEPT GETTING THE PROVERBIAL PULL TO INVITE OTHERS TO JOIN. THE FINAL RITUAL COUNT WAS NINE WHICH IS A BEFITTING NUMBER FOR HEKATE, AND RATHER SYNCHRONISTIC AS IT WASN'T PLANNED THAT WAY. THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS RITE: HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF HEKATE, BRING A PERSONAL OFFERING FOR HER AND READ THE COH WEBSITE ALONG WITH A COPY OF THE "RITE OF HER SACRED FIRES" RITUAL.

I DECIDED THIS TIME TO GO BACK TO WHAT IS COMFORTABLE, SO I ADDED ANOTHER SECTION TO THE MAIN BODY OF THE RITE. HERE WE HAVE AN ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE BEYOND LIGHTING OF HER SACRED FIRES; A CONNECTION TO HER ASPECT AS "KEY BEARER".

THIS IDEA MERGED ABOUT TWO WEEKS BEFORE WHEN KEYS AND ONGOING DISCUSSIONS OF KEYS STARTED TO INUNDATE MY LIFE. THEY SEEMED TO BE EVERYWHERE, WHICH AGAIN, KNOWING HEKATE'S SYNCHRONISTIC AND NOT-SO-SUBTLE WAYS, DID NOT SURPRISE ME. SO, BESIDES HAVING AN INDIVIDUAL SACRED FLAME THEY WOULD BE GIVEN A GIFT OF A SKELETON KEY. PURCHASING THE KEYS WAS AN INTERESTING ENDEAVOR AS YOU REALIZE HOW KEYS ARE SUCH A MODERN ITEM THAT WE OVERLOOK DAILY. THE LOCKSMITH, OUR MODERN "KEY BEARER" SELLING THE KEYS WAS DELIGHTED I WANTED SO MANY, BUT A BIT CONFUSED ON

'WHY'. ALTHOUGH HE UNLOCKS MANY DOORS, THIS PARTICULAR MYSTERY FOR HIM WAS JUST BETTER LEFT UNSAID.

FOR PREP OF THIS RITUAL, WE WOULD HAVE TWO ALTARS, OUR CENTER ALTAR IN HONOR OF HEKATE AND OFF TO THE SIDE WE HAD OUR FOOD OFFERING TABLE. IN ADDITION TO THE ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE RITES OF HER SACRED FIRES, I ALSO OBTAINED INDIVIDUAL TEA LIGHT AND DECORATIVE REFLECTIVE RED CANDLE HOLDERS FOR EACH PARTICIPANT WHICH THEY WILL TAKE HOME TO RE-LIGHT AT THEIR CHOOSING. OTHER ADDITIONAL ITEMS WERE: OCEAN WATER, OAK LEAVES & DIRT, SPECIALLY BLENDED INCENSE, ONE WHITE 9 FOOT RIBBON, AND A SKELETON KEY FOR EACH MEMBER.

I CHOOSE TO USE A WHITE RIBBON AS I DIDN'T WANT ANY OVERLAP WITH THE USE OF A RED RIBBON/CORD WHICH IS A PART OF THE "RITE OF THE RED CORD" (FOR MORE INFO SEE [HTTP://HEKATECOVENANT.COM](http://HEKATECOVENANT.COM)) AND CONSIDERING THAT MANY CONNECT WHITE TO HEKATE, IT WOULD WORK. PREP FOR THIS RITE IS TO CLEANSE AND CONSECRATED THE CANDLE HOLDERS, KEYS AND RIBBON THEN LOOSELY TIE ALL THE SKELETON KEYS ONTO THE RIBBON AT EVEN INTERVALS. WE HAD 9 KEYS, AND A 9 FOOT RIBBON...AHHH...SYMBOLISM.



THE ANTICIPATION OF THIS RITE WAS PALPABLE AS I SET UP THE ALTARS, CLEANSED AND PURIFIED THE RITUAL SPACE AND ENJOYED THE INTOXICATING SMELL OF INCENSE AS IT PERMEATED THE AIR HOVERING OVER THE ALTAR AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND OUR BELOVED GODDESS.

THE OFFERING THAT THE PARTICIPANTS BROUGHT WERE FLOWERS, CRYSTALS, HERBS, COINS, WRITTEN POEMS, HOMEMADE FOOD, BLENDED AROMATIC INCENSES, AND A FEW OF OUR ARTISTIC MINDS MADE BEAUTIFULLY HAND-MADE WOVEN ITEMS. WE GATHERED AROUND THE MAIN ALTAR, CENTERED TO THE PRESENT MOMENT AND BEGUN. WE EACH CALLED ON ONE OF HER EPITHETS, THEN FOLLOWED THE FORMAT OF THE RITE, LIGHTING OUR FLAMES ONE BY ONE. WE STOOD AROUND IN SILENCE CONNECTING TO THE INVISIBLE WEB THAT STRETCHED OUT. THE 'KNOWING' THAT TINY FLAMES AROUND THE WORLD WERE IN ESSENCE A

BEACON OF MINI-TORCH LIGHTS, LIT IN UNISON FOR OUR GODDESS WAS AGAIN TRANSFORMATIVE. IT TRULY BECAME A LIMINAL REFLECTIVE SPIRIT OF "AS ABOVE AND SO BELOW", AND THE ENERGY AND CONNECTION WAS PALPABLE.

AFTER SOME MOMENTS OF REFLECTION, WE CONTINUED ON TO THE SECOND PART OF THE RITE WORKING WITH THE KEYS. THIS SECTION CAN BE MODIFIED FOR A SOLITARY RITE OR GROUP SETTING:

HOLD UP THE WHITE KEY RIBBON SO ALL CAN SEE. "WHITE IS ONE OF THE COLORS ASSOCIATED WITH HEKATE. TONIGHT THIS WHITE RIBBON REPRESENTS THE STREAMING

Photo: courtesy of Cheryl Reynolds



ETHEREAL THREAD THAT IS OUR UNIVERSAL CONNECTION TO NOT ONLY HER, BUT TO ALL THOSE WHO BASK IN THE DIVINE LIGHTS OF OUR GODDESS. BASICALLY THIS IS OUR UNIVERSAL UMBILICAL CORD, AND IT HOLDS A MYSTERY WITHIN ITSELF. HANGING ON THIS ETHEREAL CORD ARE HER KEYS. HEKATE IS ALSO KNOWN AS HEKATE KLEIDOUCHOS (“KEY BEARER”). THE KEY IS ASSOCIATED WITH HEKATE IN A FEW WAYS; IN THE ORPHIC HYMN SHE WAS CONSIDERED “KEEPER OF THE KEYS”. SHE WAS ALSO KNOWN TO “HOLD” THE KEYS TO THE CITIES, POSSIBLY SHOWING WEALTH OF THE TEMPLE, ASSOCIATION TO HER, AND/OR PROTECTION. ALSO, AT ONE OF HER SACRED SITES IN LAGINA, A PROCESSION TOOK PLACE ANNUALLY IN THE SPRING WHERE A YOUNG GIRL WOULD WALK HEKATE’S SACRED KEY DOWN TO THE NEIGHBORING TRADE-CITY.”

FOR INFO SEE:

[HTTP://HOME.TISCALI.NL/POLISSANCTUARY/RESEARCH-CASE-LAGINA.HTML](http://home.tiscali.nl/polissanctuary/research-case-lagina.html)

“VISUALLY, WE SEE HEKATE STATUARY OF OLD AND NEW HAVING DEPICTIONS OF KEYS ON THEM AS WELL AS PRACTITIONERS OF TODAY WHO KEEP CONSECRATED KEYS ON THEIR SHRINES/ALTARS TO HONOR HER KEY BEARING ROLE. METAPHYSICALLY, KEYS REPRESENT OPENING AND CLOSING, KNOWLEDGE, AND ACCESS TO THE SPIRITUAL REALM, OR ENTRANCE INTO THE GATES OF THE AFTERLIFE/UNDERWORLD. IT IS BETWEEN THESE LIMINAL REALMS WHERE YOU CAN ACCESS AND “UNLOCK” THE WISDOM AND MYSTERIES OF HEKATE. TONIGHT YOU WILL REFLECT UPON THE KEY... YOU WILL BECOME THAT KEY-BEARER. FIRST WE WILL CONSECRATE OUR KEY WHITE RIBBON VIA HER THREE REALMS”:

“BY THE EARTH! SHE IS ADORNED WITH OAK LEAVES UPON HER HEAD. WITH HER BRONZE COLORED SANDAL, SHE WALKS STEADFAST UPON THE EARTH AND DWELLS IN THE DEPTHS BELOW. (HOLD UP ABOVE THE ALTAR, THEN PUT THE KEY/RIBBON ON TOP OF SOME OAK LEAVES AND SPRINKLE GINGERLY WITH DIRT). WE OPEN TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR DOMINION OVER THE EARTHLY REALM! HAIL HEKATE!”

“BY THE (SKY) AIR! SHE MOVES EFFORTLESS THROUGH THE LIMINAL REALMS, STRETCHING OUTWARD BETWEEN AND BEYOND THE HEAVENS AND THE STARS! (HOLD UP ABOVE THE ALTAR THEN MOVE IT SLOWLY THROUGH THE INCENSE SMOKE). WE OPEN TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR DOMINION OVER THE SKY! HAIL HEKATE!”

“BY THE SEA! SHE CONNECTS TO THE ENERGY OF THE MOON, AND IS A PROTECTOR OF FISHERMAN, AND THOSE WHO JOURNEY THE OCEAN WAYS! (HOLD UP ABOVE THE ALTAR THEN SPURGE SOME SALT WATER UPON IT). WE OPEN TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR DOMINION OVER THE SEA! HAIL HEKATE!”

HOLD UP KEYS AND WHITE RIBBON, BOW HEAD TOWARDS ALTAR, THEN IN UNISON STATE: “GODDESS HEKATE, IN REVERENCE TO YOUR MANY MYSTERIES AND DOMINION OVER ALL!” HAIL HEKATE!”



Photos: Courtesy of Tamrha Richardson (top left) and Cheryl Reynolds (bottom right)

PASS AROUND THE RIBBON HAVING EACH PARTICIPANT TAKE THEIR TIME UNTYING A KEY OFF THE RIBBON STATING: "I UNTIE AND UNLOCK THE MYSTERIES OF HEKATE KLEIDOUCHOS (KEY-BEARER)".

HOLD THE KEY TO THE HEART, PAUSE A FEW MOMENTS FOR REFLECTION, AND THEN PLACE IT ON THE ALTAR IN FRONT OF THE INDIVIDUAL SACRED FLAMES. WHEN EVERYONE IS COMPLETE THE WHITE RIBBON ALONE IS WRAPPED AROUND HER MAIN STATUE STATING: "THIS RIBBON REPRESENTS THE HOLDER OF OUR COLLECTIVE KEYS AND MYSTERIES OF HER MAGICAL WAYS. IT ALSO GENTLY BINDS US TO THOSE WHOSE ETHEREAL THREAD STRETCHES BEYOND SPACE AND TIME TO HONOR HEKATE. HEKATE SOTEIRA, WE ARE NOW CONNECTED TO THE CORD OF YOUR REALMS AND WILL ALWAYS FIND REFLECTION AND TRUTH IN YOUR GUIDING LIGHT-BLESSED BY YOUR WAYS!"

THE EXPERIENCE OF HAVING EACH PERSON PARTICIPATE IN CONSECRATING THE KEYS AND THEN HOLDING THE RIBBON TO UNTIE WAS VERY POWERFUL. EACH PERSON HAD TO HELP ANOTHER WITH THE RIBBON GIVING THE IMPRESSION THAT HEKATE'S MYSTERIES ARE EVENTUALLY SHARED WITH ALL WHO ARE PRESENT IN HER COMPANY. AS WE ALL KNOW, RITUALS NEVER GO THE WAY EXPECTED WHICH IS THE BEAUTY AND MAGIC OF THE JOURNEY. DURING THE RITUAL WE ALL NOTICED THE SOUNDS THE KEYS MADE AS THEY CLINKED TOGETHER ON THE RIBBON, SO WE ENDED UP ADLIBBING AND PASSED AROUND THE KEY RIBBON TO GENTLY SHAKE, WHICH MADE US ALL GIGGLE AS WE LISTENED TO THE BEAUTIFUL SOUND THAT PERMEATED THE ROOM IN A MAGICAL MELODY. ACTUALLY, IT WOULD BE A WONDERFUL SOUND TO MEDITATE TOO, AND ONE OF MY NEXT PROJECTS IS TO CREATE A SKELETON KEY WIND CHIME. ANOTHER UNFORESEEN PART IN THE RITE WAS WHEN MY KEY FELL OFF THE RIBBON AND HIT THE FLOOR. I BELIEVE THERE IS A LESSON IN EVERYTHING SO I LEFT IT OFF CONSIDERING THAT MAYBE I SHOULD NOT "UNTIE" A NEW MYSTERY UNTIL I "PICK UP" WHERE I LAST LEFT OFF. GODDESS HEKATE: SO SUBTLE.

ONCE WE CLOSED UP RITUAL, WE SHARED EXPERIENCES, LAUGHED, AND HAD HERBAL PEPPERMINT & MUGWORT TEA ALONG WITH DELICIOUS HOMEMADE CHEESECAKE. WE THEN WALKED TOGETHER AS A GROUP DOWN TO THE CROSSROADS BY THE SEA TO GIVE HER OUR PERISHABLE OFFERINGS. WE WAITED...AND WHEN THE DOGS HOWLED, WE KNEW IT WAS TIME TO JOURNEY BACK TO THE HOUSE.

AS WE WRAPPED UP THE RITE, WE TALKED ABOUT JOINING FOR NEXT YEAR. IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE SOMEONE DIFFERENT EACH YEAR OFFER TO WRITE THE SECOND PORTION OF THE RITUAL AS THIS WILL ADD TO OUR UNIQUE FLAVOR AND LAYER OUR ENERGY FROM YEAR TO YEAR. THE BEAUTIFUL ITEMS THAT WERE OFFERED AND THE WHITE RIBBON WILL BE KEPT IN A SPECIAL "SACRED FIRES" BOX TO BE USED RESPECTFULLY EACH YEAR FOR HER SACRED FIRE RITUALS.

OVERALL, THIS WAS A BEAUTIFUL RITUAL, AND I AM BLESSED TO FIND OTHERS WHO WALK THE PATH BY THE TORCH LIGHTS OF THE GODDESS. I AM ALSO ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO BE A PART OF THE COMMUNAL "RITES OF HER SACRED FIRES" AS THIS RITUAL INCORPORATES AND SPIRALS KNOWLEDGE OF HER PAST INTO THIS MILLENNIUM SO WE CAN ALL SHARE AND HONOR HEKATE IN A NEW UNIVERSAL WAY.

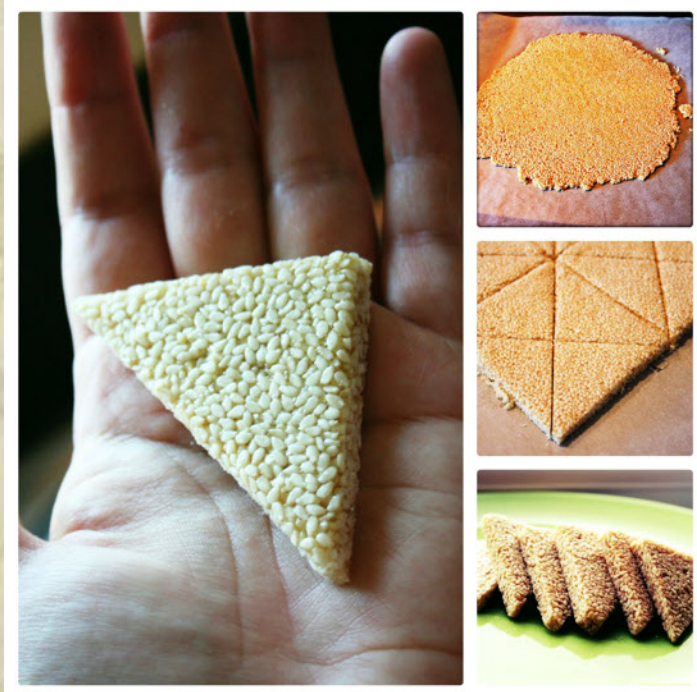


Photo: courtesy of Sara Croft

Mortar & Pestle

ANASTASIA SIMONS SHOWS US HOW TO MAKE THESE

SIMPLE AND DELICIOUS GREEK SESAME SNAPS



WHILE YOU MAY ASSOCIATE *PASTELI* WITH GREEK WEDDINGS, THESE TREATS HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN AROUND IN SOME FORM SINCE BYZANTINE TIMES. THE ANCIENT GREEKS CALLED THEM *SESAMUS*, WHILE THE TURKISH, CENTURIES LATER, CALLED THEM *SESUM-HALVAS*. IT'S EASY TO FIND THE MODERN EQUIVALENT AT ANY CORNER SHOP IN GREECE OR TURKEY, SOMETIMES CALLED *MELEKOUNI* OR *SESAMOMELI* (LITERALLY SESAME AND HONEY) BUT WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL THEM - IF YOU TUCK INTO PASTELI, YOU ARE TASTING HISTORY.

IT'S NOT SURPRISING THAT THEY HAVE REMAINED POPULAR OVER THE YEARS. SESAME SEEDS WERE FIRST CULTIVATED OVER SIX THOUSAND YEARS AGO, AND HONEY HAS ITS OWN RICH HISTORY (ITS LISTED AS ONE OF THE INGREDIENTS OF AMBROSIA - THE FOOD OF THE GODS, FOR EXAMPLE.) WHAT WE CONSIDER TO BE CANDY WAS ORIGINALLY EATEN AS A HEALTH FOOD - IT'S EVEN MENTIONED IN THE *ILIAD* AS BEING EATEN BY WARRIORS BEFORE GOING INTO BATTLE.

SESAME SEEDS PACK QUITE A HEALTHY PUNCH ; THEY ARE BURSTING WITH GOODNESS IN THE FORM OF COPPER, MANGANESE, TRYPTOPHAN, CALCIUM, MAGNESIUM, ZINC, FIBRE, AND B1, TO NAME A HANDFUL. AND HONEY HAS IT'S OWN HEALING POWERS, AS AN ANTISEPTIC AND ANTIOXIDANT AS WELL AS HAVING BEEN USED THOUSANDS OF

YEARS AGO TO HEAL CUTS, CURE AILMENTS AND DISEASES, AND CORRECT HEALTH DISORDERS. MAGICALLY SPEAKING, THE TWO TRADITIONAL INGREDIENTS OF PASTELI HAVE BEEN USED FOR CENTURIES; THEY BOTH REPRESENT FERTILITY (WHICH IS WHERE THE WEDDING CONNECTION COMES IN) AND ABUNDANCE. HONEY HAS BEEN USED FOR ATTRACTING HAPPINESS, ROMANCE, AND IN PURIFICATION AND IS ASSOCIATED NOT ONLY WITH ARTEMIS, EA, MIN, PAN, APHRODITE, AND VISHNU - BUT ALSO HEKATE. (AS ARE SESAME SEEDS.)

AND IF ALL OF THE ABOVE ISN'T EVIDENCE ENOUGH, THE RECIPE IS WONDERFULLY SIMPLE AND THE RESULTS ARE SATISFYINGLY SWEET. PASTELI ARE A PERFECT ADDITION TO ANY HEKATE SUPPER, OR AS A SIMPLE AND MEANINGFUL OFFERINGS ON THEIR OWN, WHETHER YOU WANT TO WELCOME (OR CELEBRATE) ABUNDANCE IN YOUR LIFE, OR JUST SATISFY YOUR SWEET TOOTH WITH A TRADITIONAL RECIPE. AND IT'S NOT ONLY HIGHLY PORTABLE (HOW MANY HOME COOKED OFFERINGS CAN YOU JUST POP IN YOUR POCKET AND HEAD OFF FOR THE WOODS?) BUT IT'S ALSO ANIMAL FRIENDLY - ESPECIALLY FOR BIRDS. IT'S QUICK, AFFORDABLE, AND LONG LASTING. WHY NOT MAKE THEM AS YOUR NEXT OFFERING? JUST FOLLOW THE RECIPE BELOW, AND ENJOY!

Photo: courtesy of Anastasia Simons

PASTELI (GREEK SESAME SNAPS)

~500G SESAME SEEDS

~250G WHITE SUGAR

~8 LEVEL TABLESPOONS HONEY (GREEK HILL HONEY WOULD BE ESPECIALLY INDULGENT)

1. PREHEAT YOUR OVEN TO 180 C. (350 F) SPREAD THE SESAME SEEDS ON A BAKING TRAY AND ROAST IN THE OVEN UNTIL GOLDEN BROWN. DEPENDING ON YOUR OVEN, THIS CAN TAKE FROM 15-25 MINUTES. KEEP AN EYE ON THEM AND SHAKE OR STIR THEM OCCASIONALLY. REMOVE FROM OVEN AND SET ASIDE TO COOL. COVER A FLAT COOKING SHEET OR LARGE CUTTING BOARD WITH A LAYER OF GREASEPROOF PAPER.
2. NOW HEAT THE HONEY AND SUGAR IN A SAUCEPAN OVER A MEDIUM HEAT UNTIL THE MIXTURE CARAMELISES. THIS CAN BE A LITTLE DAUNTING! MY ADVICE IS TO KEEP A COOL HEAD, STAY WITH IT AND HEAT IT GRADUALLY. (IF YOU ARE REALLY NERVOUS, THERE ARE FABULOUS HOW TO VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE.) YOU CAN USE A SUGAR THERMOMETER; JUST KEEP THE TEMP BELOW 250 C (470 F). DON'T STIR THE MIX, JUST GENTLY SWISH THE PAN AS IT BEGINS TO BREAK DOWN INTO A COMPLETE LIQUID (THE SUGAR WILL ALREADY BE DISSOLVING SLIGHTLY IN THE HONEY) YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A NICE GOLDEN BROWN COLOUR - YOU CAN GO A BIT DARKER, DEPENDING ON YOUR TASTE. REMOVE THE SAUCE PAN FROM THE HEAT AND STIR IN THE ROASTED SESAME SEEDS CAREFULLY - REMEMBER THAT THE SUGAR MIXTURE IS EXTREMELY HOT.
3. YOU'LL WANT TO MOVE PRETTY QUICKLY NOW, TIPPING THE STILL HOT SESAME AND HONEY MIXTURE UNTO YOUR COOKING SHEET. PUT ANOTHER LAYER OF GREASEPROOF PAPER ON TOP OF THE MIXTURE AND, APPLYING EVEN PRESSURE, ROLL IT OUT TO ABOUT 2 CM THICK. REMOVE THE TOP SHEET OF GREASEPROOF PAPER.
4. WHILE WARM, CUT OUT YOUR SESAME BARS - YOU CAN BE REALLY CREATIVE AS THIS POINT, CUTTING ANYTHING FROM TRIANGLES, CIRCLES, SQUARES, TO RECTANGLES. JUST KEEP IN MIND THAT AS THE MIXTURE COOLS, THE SUGARS BEGIN TO HARDEN, AND IT WILL BECOME HARDER TO CUT, SO USE A SHARP KNIFE (OR A GOOD SET OF COOKIE CUTTERS) AND REMOVE THE SHAPES TO A WIRE RACK TO COOL COMPLETELY.
5. YOU CAN THEN WRAP THESE INDIVIDUALLY IN GREASEPROOF PAPER OR CELLOPHANE OR YOU CAN PUT THEM IMMEDIATELY ON YOUR ALTAR OR IN A BASKET FOR YOUR SUPPER. THEY WILL LAST FOR WEEKS IN A TIGHTLY CLOSED CONTAINER - SO FEEL FREE TO KEEP SOME IN YOUR BAG OR PURSE, OR IN THE CAR - THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS! JUST DON'T FORGET TO SHARE THEM - BECAUSE YOU CAN ALWAYS JUST MAKE MORE.



HER SACRED FIRES 2012

BY TINA GEORGITSIS

PUBLIC RITUAL HELD IN MELBOURNE, SE AUSTRALIA

HER SACRED FIRES RITE WAS FACILITATED BY ME AND HELD IN A PUBLIC PARK NEAR SANDRINGHAM BEACH ON SATURDAY 5TH OF MAY AT 2.00PM UNDERNEATH THE CANOPY OF A VAST TREE. DESPITE THE COLD AND DRIZZLE I WAS HUMBLLED AT THE GREAT TURNOUT WHERE ATTENDEES CAME FROM ALL OVER MELBOURNE AND BRAVED THE WEATHER, SOME EVEN FROM VAST DISTANCES ACROSS THE STATE.



I PLACED THE SHRINE AT THE BASE OF THE TREE ON THE EARTH AS I FELT IT WAS INCREDIBLY LEFT OFFERINGS OF INCENSE, HER SYMBOLS TORCHES AND OTHER FROM ATTENDEES SUCH AND PERSONAL JEWELRY.

A MAN IN BLACK, SIMON CLEARED THE SPACE WITH THE LBRP AND I IN TURN CREATED SACRED SPACE BY CASTING CIRCLE. I ANOINTED EACH ATTENDEE WITH LAVENDER OIL AS THEY MADE THEIR WAY INTO THE CIRCLE TO STAND BEFORE THE SHRINE OF HEKATE IN A SEMICIRCLE WITH DEEP RESPECT AND REVERENCE. THE RITE COMMENCED AND I FELT HEKATE ENTER OUR SPACE AS THE SACRED WORDS AND ACTIONS WERE ENACTED AND AFTER THE SACRED FLAME WAS LIT ALL WHOM WERE GATHERED LIT THEIR PERSONAL CANDLE FROM THE SACRED FLAME. THESE CANDLES WERE EXTINGUISHED AT THE END OF THE RITE BUT THE ATTENDEES TOOK THEM HOME TO BE ABLE TO RELIGHT THEM IN THE NAME OF HEKATE.

WHEN THE RITUAL WAS COMPLETED SOME CAME BEFORE THE SHRINE AND CONSECRATED THEIR PERSONAL ITEMS WHICH WERE OFFERED AND I FINISHED THE RITUAL BY GIVING THANKS AND FAREWELLING HEKATE. AFTERWARDS I THANKED THOSE WHO ATTENDED AND WE CHATTED ABOUT HEKATE. I TOLD THOSE GATHERED ABOUT THE MYTH OF PERSEPHONE AND HEKATE AND SOME SHARED THEIR PERSONAL STORIES WITH

CONNECTION TO HEKATE WHICH WAS QUITE INSPIRING.

THE WONDERFUL THING IS THE DEEP GRATITUDE WHICH WAS EXPRESSED BY ATTENDEES OF ME HOLDING HER SACRED FIRES RITUAL AGAIN AS THEY HAD WANTED TO HONOUR HEKATE WITH FELLOW DEVOTEES AND HADN'T HAD THE CHANCE PREVIOUSLY AND SO HAVE ASKED ME TO HOLD YET ANOTHER GATHERING IN HER NAME. LIKE LAST YEAR I HAVE DECIDED TO HOLD ANOTHER PUBLIC HEKATE PICNIC ON SUNDAY 12TH OF AUGUST 2012:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/384463134939249/](https://www.facebook.com/events/384463134939249/)

IT WAS A WONDERFUL DAY AND I AM HONOURED TO HAVE HELD THIS RITUAL IN HER NAME AND I AM DEEPLY APPRECIATIVE OF THOSE WHO ATTENDED AND HEKATE HERSELF FOR BESTOWING HER BLESSINGS.



Photos: Courtesy of Tina Georgitsis (top right) and Robert Podmore (middle left) & Andrea Salgado Reyes (bottom right)

READER'S SHRINES

CONNECTING WITH HEKATE THE WORLD OVER

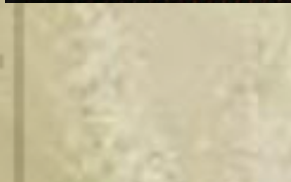


CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

PRE-SACRED FIRES ALTAR BY
CARLOS ZAMBRANA.

HER SACRED FIRES BY
TINNEKKE BOGUCKI BEBOUT.

OUTDOOR SACRED FIRES
WORSHIP BY TAMRHA
RICHARDSON



Hymn to Hekate

By Madame Hummingbird

Earth and Wind and Rain and fire

you go where no-one goes

in this time of lost respire, you walk the
crossroad

Light the path, my friend, my home; in
Darkness is your light.

Secrets that are never known within the
daylight.

Blood and Bone and Breathe and fire

you go where no-one goes

in this time of lost respire, you walk the
crossroad

Hounds at your side, you walk with pride
a traveler of time.

Healing, Changing, Living, Dying,

Singing souls alive.



Photo: "Hekate" courtesy of Madame Hummingbird and Babamojo

The Rite of Her Sacred Fires

By Shay Skepevski



THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE RITE OF HER SACRED FIRES FELL UPON US THIS FULL MOON, HELD GLOBALLY, OUR RITE WAS RAISED AT THE GORGEOUS SPACE OF RHIANNON SANCTUARY (KILMORE, VIC, AUSTRALIA).

THIS WAS MY FIRST LARGE PUBLIC RITUAL, AND ALTHOUGH I EXPECTED TO BE RATHER NERVOUS, AN OVERWHELMING SENSE OF CONTROL AND PEACE WAS GROWING WITHIN ME. THERE WERE OVER A DOZEN OF US WHO CAME TO BE ANOINTED AND PASS THE GATES, WHO CAME TO SHARE THEIR POWER AND THEIR DEVOTION... WHO CAME TO BURN THE HEKATEAN FIRE WITHIN THEM JUST AS THE CAULDRON BURNED BETWEEN US ALL.

THE CASTING OF THE SKIN OF SNAKES INTO THIS FIRE BEGAN THE RITE...

I ASSISTED IN LEADING WITH THE BEAUTIFUL HEKATEAN PRIESTESS NAZA COGO, AND TOGETHER... OUR ENERGY SO TOGETHER... WE INVOKE.. WE GESTURE... WE CRY OUT...

EVERY TRACE OF THE SETTING SUN'S LIGHT HAD NOW FADED... WITH THE ONLY LIGHT THAT ILLUMINATED THE SPACE COMING FROM TORCHES AND THE FIRE BURNING IN THE CENTRE...

OFFERINGS OF POMEGRANATES, WINE, GARLIC, HONEY, OLIVES, CAKES, EGGS, APPLES AND INCENSE WERE ALL THROWN IN TO BURN FOR OUR LADY... WITH BREAD TORN AND A BLESSING SPOKEN.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO EVEN FIND THE WORDS TO CAPTURE THIS DEEP MOMENT... WORDS HAVE NO MEANING... THE UNITY WHICH WAS FOUND, THE LOVE WHICH WAS POURED ALL OVER... I WILL NEVER FORGET

AND TO THOSE, WHO GATHERED IN HER NAME, MY BLESSING UPON YOU ALL... YOU ALL GAVE SO MUCH OF YOURSELVES TO THE RITE, AND I AM HUMBLED AND BLESSED THAT WE OFFERED THIS EXPERIENCE TO EACH OTHER... MY LOVE AND SINCERE REVERENCE UNTO YOU ALL...

TO MY MISTRESS NAZA COGO, THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY AND WORK YOU SACRIFICED INTO RAISING THIS RITE, I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL... YOUR GRACE, YOUR LOVE, AND YOUR PASSION FOR HEKATE WAS TRULY A BLESSING TO NOT ONLY WITNESS, BUT TO EXPERIENCE... YOU ARE AN INSPIRATION AND A VESSEL OF OUR LADY'S WISDOM.

AND TO CRIMSON FYRE, MY BLESSINGS TO YOUR LAND, IT IS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL SPACE, THE NOTICEABLE ENERGY YOU HAVE PUT INTO THE EARTH, THE SANCTUARY YOU HAVE BUILT... I THANK YOU FOR YOUR WELCOMING AND LOOK FORWARD TO RETURNING AGAIN.

AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MY PARTNER TRENT SMITH, FOR DOING A WONDERFUL JOB AT CAPTURING THE RITE.

I AM SO PROUD OF US ALL, AND I ACHIEVE FOR THE FOURTH...

HAIL HEKATE...



Photos: courtesy of Naza Cogo & Shay Skepevski

Loss of Faith by Robert Podmore

It gathers and grows in the silence,
The darkness creeping into my mind, I begin to doubt that what
I felt was ever real.

Is it me?

Have I done something wrong?

Have I angered her in some way?

I will try again tomorrow.

Its time salt and water blessed, candles lit and the incense rising
up and filling the room

Will she answer this time?

I sit my eyes are closed, I breath in the incense I start to chant
and sway, this time please this time.

I reach out into the darkness with my mind my voice the very
fibre of my being,

"Hekate thrice called Lady of the crossroads; hear me your
servant and priest."

I wait I listen but there is nothing but silence and darkness, a
dead empty silent darkness.

Am I being tested or have I offended and she has left?

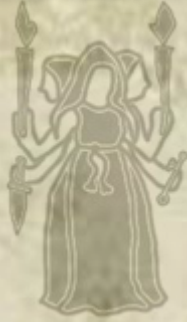
I continue but the ritual is nothing but empty play acting,
it's over and I feel nothing but an empty longing for how it was.

I dream the dream of the unconnected I wait and hope she will
come and speak in my dream state but nothing I awake with
a sense of loss, why? Why? Why? I have always strived to
honour her.

Maybe next time it will happen, to feel the warmth of her
presence and the joy of the connection

To our lady and to once again walk the path illuminated by
her torches

A Humble Devotee's Weekend



by

Robert Podmore



I WAS HONORED WHEN I WAS ASKED BY SORITA D'ESTE TO TAKE PART IN THE EVENT TO MARK THE 3RD HEKATE HER SACRED FIRES. SORITA ASKED IF I WOULD ACT AS PRIEST TO ANDREA FOR THE RITUAL OF THE ORACLE TO TAKE PLACE ON THE SATURDAY EVENING AND TO INVOKE OUR LADY AS HEKATE CTHTHONIA. AT FIRST I WAS SCARED BUT THEN WENT AND MEDITATED ON IT AND ASKED HEKATE FOR HER DIVINE HELP.

I PLEDGED TO HER MY ACT OF DEVOTIONAL WORSHIP FOR A FULL LUNAR CYCLE IF SHE WOULD GIVE ME THE WORDS I NEEDED TO INVOKE HER AT THE RITUAL AND NOT LET HER DOWN OR MYSELF DOWN AS THIS WEEKEND WAS IN HER HONOUR. SO I UNDERTOOK THE DEVOTIONAL DESPITE THE FACT THAT I WAS WORKING LATE NIGHTS BUT AS I HAD SAID I WOULD DO THIS BEFORE I WENT TO BED EVERY NIGHT IT SOMETIMES ENDED BEING DONE AT 3 OR 4 IN THE MORNING BUT I DID IT WITH A GLAD HEART AS THIS IS WHAT I SAID I WOULD DO AND NOTHING NOT EVEN LACK OF SLEEP WOULD STOP ME.

SO THE END OF THE DEVOTIONAL CAME TO PASS AND IT FELL ON BELTANE EVE, I ASKED OUR LADY TO GIVE ME THE WORD'S I NEEDED FOR THE WEEKEND. I WENT INTO MEDITATION AND THE WORDS JUST FLOWED AS SHE SAID THEY WOULD AND IN ONE HIT THEY WERE ALL THERE.

SO ARMED WITH HER WORDS I DROVE TO THE EVENT STILL VERY NERVOUS, THE DAY DAWNED I AND WENT TO THE EVENT.

THE DAY WENT VERY WELL AND I ENJOYED MEETING ALL THE PEOPLE FROM THE COH THAT I ONLY EVER TALK TO ON FACE BOOK BUT HAVE NEVER MET.

THE EVENING ARRIVED AND I WAS GRIPPED WITH FEAR I DIDN'T WANT TO LET SORITA, ANDREA, MYSELF AND MOST DEFINITELY HEKATE DOWN. WELL THE TIME IS NOW I HAD TO DO MY PART, A BIG BREATH I JOINED ENERGIES WITH ANDREA, SORITA MOTIONED TO ME TO START, AGAIN ANOTHER DEEP BREATH AND HERE WE GO. I SPOKE THE WORD'S HEKATE HAD GIVEN TO ME THE ENERGY WAS SO INTENSE I FELT SHE WAS RIGHT

BEHIND ME WHILE I WAS SPEAKING GIVING ME COMFORT AND SUPPORT.

I SPOKE THE WORDS OF INVOCATION AND FELT HER PRESENCE, THE ORACLE SPOKE AND I HAD DONE MY JOB I FELT OVERWHELMED I HAD UNDERTAKEN THE TASK I WAS SET AND HEKATE HAD GIVEN ME HER BLESSING IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I HAD SPOKEN TO SUCH A LARGE GROUP OF PEOPLE BUT I FELT THAT HEKATE HAD TRULY BLESSED ME AND I HADN'T LET HER, ME OR ANYBODY ELSE DOWN. IT WAS A TRULY WONDERFUL WEEKEND HELD IN PRAISE OF THE COSMIC WORLD SOUL HEKATE AND I THINK SHE WAS PROUD OF ALL OF THE DEVOTEE'S THAT TOOK PART IN HER NAME.

HAIL HEKATE!

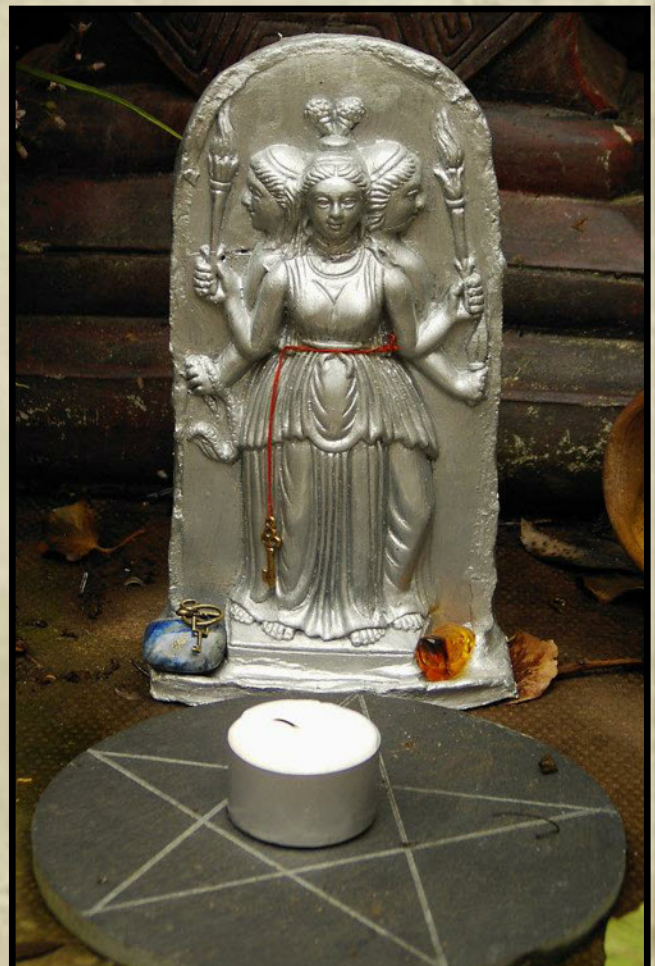


Photo: courtesy of Robert Podmore

HEKATE CTHTHONIA

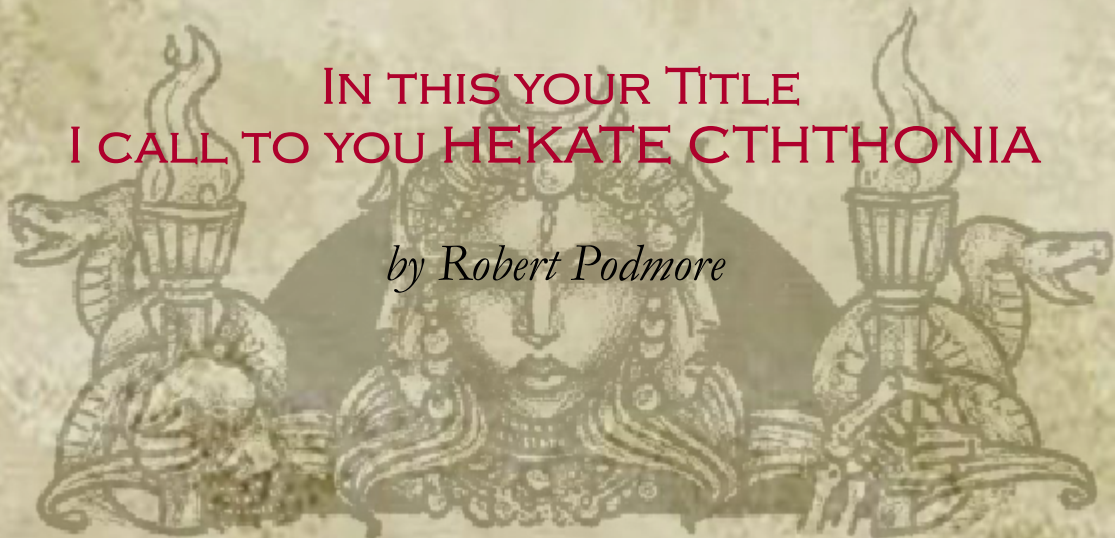
POWERFUL AS THE MOLTEN LAVA YOUR ENERGY IS
SOLID THE BEDROCK OF THE EARTH YOU ARE
YOUR ESSENCE IS LIKE THE UNSTOPPABLE WATER
THAT RUNS AND PERMEATES THROUGH ALL THAT IS IN
ITS PATH

YOUR VOICE CAN BE HEARD LIKE THE WIND BLOWING
THROUGH THE TREES
GREAT GODDESS WHO SENDS UP LIFE FROM BELOW
THE EARTH TO BE REBORN AND RENEWED

HEKATE CTHTHONIA
I INVOKE YOU INTO THIS YOUR PRIESTESS
THAT YOU MAY HONOUR US YOUR SERVANTS, PRIESTS
AND PRIESTESSES WITH YOUR WORDS OF WISDOM,
THAT WE MAY BE ENLIGHTENED

IN THIS YOUR TITLE
I CALL TO YOU HEKATE CTHTHONIA

by Robert Podmore



The Rites of Her Sacred Fires

3rd Year Anniversary

By Naza Cogo



THE RITES OF HER SACRED FIRES WAS HELD ON MAY 5TH 2012, AT THE SACRED GROUNDS OF RHIANNON , KILMORE IN HEKATE'S CIRCLE BENEATH THE FULL MOON LED BY SHAY SKEPEVSKI AND MYSELF AND OVER 20 HEKATE DEVOTEES.

THIS WAS THE 3RD ANNIVERSARY FOR THE RITES OF HER SACRED FIRES MAKING IT AN EXTRA SPECIAL EVENT. THE ALTAR WAS SET, ADORNED WITH OFFERINGS OF APPLES, POMEGRANATES, BREAD, INCENSE, HONEY, EGGS AND GARLIC. OFFERINGS WERE ALSO LEFT BY THE DEVOTEES IN THE FORM OF HERBS, PLANTS, TREES AND FLOWERS.

VIKENDIA HAD PREPARED AND CLEANSED THE CIRCLE BEFORE RITUAL, AS DEVOTEES OF HEKATE LINED UP BEFORE THE ENTRANCE AND GATE TO HEKATE'S CIRCLE.

I WELCOMED EVERYONE TO THE RITE AND ANOINTED EACH PARTICIPANT WITH ANOINTING OIL AS THEY ENTERED AND BEGAN TO FORM A CIRCLE.

BEFORE WE BEGAN I PLACED THREE FULL SNAKE SKINS INTO THE FIRE PIT AND THE INCENSE I HAD PREPARED FOR THE RITE.

CRIMSON FYRE HAD STARTED OFF BY LEADING THE CALLING OF THE QUATERS , VERSE BY VERSE THE CIRCLE REPEATED AFTER HER.

OUR EVENING BEGAN WITH HYMNS, BOTH ANCIENT AND MODERN WITH ALL PARTICIPANTS BEING ALLOCATED A HYMN TO READ OUT BEFORE RITUAL.



Photos: courtesy of Naza Cogo & Shay Skepevski

SHAY AND I HAD GONE TO THE ALTAR TO BEGIN THE RITES OF HER SACRED FIRES . WE EACH HAD ALLOCATED SECTIONS TO READ OUT WHICH FLOWED IN PERFECT HARMONY.

ONCE COMPLETED SHAY HAD TAKEN THE OFFERINGS TO THE FIRE BEFORE OUR GROUP RITUAL BEGAN.

VERSE BY VERSE THE CIRCLE REPEATED THE RITUAL AFTER ME, THERE WAS SUCH POWER, SUCH LOVE AND DEVOTION THAT NIGHT AND WITHIN THAT CIRCLE, THOUGH MOST OF US MET FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THAT NIGHT WE WERE THERE FOR ONE REASON, HEKATE AND BECAUSE OF THAT OUR RITUAL WAS ABSOLUTELY AMAZING A NIGHT I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER.

IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR ME THAT EVERY SINGLE PERSON THERE ON THAT NIGHT FELT THAT THEY WERE APART OF THE RITE AND IT WAS SO, FROM BEGINNING TO END EVERYONE PARTICIPATED. I WAS SO IMPRESSED AT HOW MUCH EFFORT EVERY SINGLE PERSON PUT INTO THE WHOLE EVENING.

ONCE RITUAL WAS COMPLETE WE HAD RAVEN WOLF PERFORM THEIR SONG "HEKATE" FOR US, AS I HANDED OUT GIFTS I HAD MADE FOR THE PEOPLE THERE WHICH WERE TALISMANS AND THE INCENSE BLEND.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL WHO PARTICIPATED , ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO TRAVELED FROM INTERSTATE TO BE WITH US SHAY SKEPEVSKI, TRENT SMITH AND JONI LOGGEN .

AN EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU TO SHAY WHO I HOLD SO DEAR IN MY HEART FOR LEADING THE RITES WITH ME .

WE ENDED OUR EVENING AT A LOVELY GREEK RESTAURANT TO FEAST AND CELEBRATE TOGETHER.

I LOOK FORWARD TO MANY MORE HEKATE PUBLIC RITUALS IN FUTURE IN HER NAME, IN HER SERVICE, IN HER LOVE ...



Photos: courtesy of Naza Cogo & Shay Skepevski

Hekate's Feast Picnic

SUNDAY
12 AUG 2012



12:00 IN
UTC+10

JOIN US FOR A PICNIC BEING HELD AT SANDRINGHAM BEACH (VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA) IN HONOUR OF HEKATE'S FEAST.

WHAT TO BRING:

- *YOUR OWN FOOD AND DRINK (PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE BBQ FACILITIES AVAILABLE).
- *A PICNIC BLANKET (PREFERABLY WATERPROOF) FOR YOU TO USE FOR ...SITTING AND EATING ON OR ALTERNATIVELY FOLD OUT CHAIRS AND TABLES.
- *ANYTHING YOU WANT CHARGED OR OFFERED ON THE HEKATE SHRINE WHICH WILL BE SET UP.
- *APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR THE WEATHER (IE WARM CLOTHES).

PLEASE NOTE:

- *THERE ARE BBQ FACILITIES IN THE AREA BUT IF THERE ARE LARGE NUMBERS ATTENDING YOU WILL HAVE TO WAIT YOUR TURN UTILISING IT.
- *THIS IS AN ALCOHOL AND ILLICIT DRUG FREE EVENT (PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION IS NOT INCLUDED IN THIS AND SHOULD BE TAKEN AS NORMAL) AND ANYONE BREAKING THIS RULE WILL BE KINDLY ASKED TO LEAVE.
- *THIS IS A CHILD FRIENDLY EVENT BUT PARENTS NEED TO BE MINDFUL THAT THEY BEHAVE RESPONSIBLY.

ADDRESS:

SANDRINGHAM BEACH, CORNER OF BAY ROAD AND BEACH ROAD (BANDSTAND ROTANDA ENTRANCE TO BEACH)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT TINA GEORGITSIS THROUGH THE EVENT'S FACEBOOK PAGE:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/384463134939249](https://www.facebook.com/events/384463134939249)



AT THE CROSSROADS

By Anastacia Simon

I WENT TO KEFALONIA, GREECE IN 2011, WITH MY FIANCÉ AND HIS FATHER, EAGERLY SEEKING AN “EXPERIENCE” - SOMETHING TO ASSUAGE MY RETICENCE IN WORKING WITH HEKATE, AND HELP ME FIND MY BEARINGS. EVERY INITIATION CARRIES A LITTLE RESERVATION, AS YOU TRY TO FIND THE STABILITY, THE FAITH, WHICH CAN CARRY YOU ONWARDS. I KNOW THAT WALKING WITH HEKATE ISN'T ALWAYS EASY, AT LEAST TO BEGIN WITH, SO I WASN'T SURPRISED WHEN SHE MANIFESTED AS SHE DID IN KEFALONIA - BUT I WASN'T AS PREPARED AS I'D HOPED.

IT HAPPENED A FEW NIGHTS INTO OUR STAY. THE THREE OF US WERE WALKING BACK FROM THE POOL HOUSE TOWARDS OUR HOLIDAY APARTMENT, AT MAYBE 11 PM. THE MOOD WAS RELAXED, WE HAD SHARED SOME DRINKS AND HAD BEGUN TO SETTLE INTO OUR FIRST PROPER HOLIDAY, BUT WE ALL SLOWED TO A STOP AS WE SPIED TWO CRÈME COLOURED DOGS RUNNING LOOSE AHEAD. THE PATH WE WERE ON WAS DIMLY LIT, AS WAS THE PARKING LOT BEFORE US, AND WE WEREN'T ABOUT TO APPROACH WHAT COULD BE FERAL DOGS WITH NO SIGN OF OWNER IN SIGHT, SO WE JUST WAITED QUIETLY. AS DOGS AND HUMAN CONSIDERED EACH OTHER, I TOOK A MOMENT TO TAKE IN OUR SURROUNDINGS. WE HAD COME UP THE PATH FROM THE POOL HOUSE, WHICH CONTINUED PAST THE PARKING LOT, AND WE WERE STOOD WHERE PART OF THE PATH DIVERTED TO THE RIGHT, UP INTO THE FIRST OF THE APARTMENTS. A CROSSROADS, I REMINDED MYSELF, AND I TURNED MY ATTENTION BACK TO THE DOGS WITH FRESH, WELCOMING PERSPECTIVE. THEY PADDED OVER TO SNIFF US, AS OUT OF NOWHERE A THIRD DOG JOINED THEM, AND ALL THREE RAN OFF BEHIND US INTO THE HILLS BEYOND THE COMPLEX. WE MADE OUR WAY TO OUR APARTMENT WITH NO FURTHER CONTACT, BUT I WAS PERSONALLY FULL OF WONDER. WAS IT A SIGN? WHAT DID IT MEAN? I SLEPT WITH DIFFICULTY; THE THREE OF US WOULD COMPLAIN ALL WEEK LONG OF STRANGE NIGHTMARES AND PROBLEMS SLEEPING, BUT THE ADDITION OF THE DOGS ONLY MADE MY MIND MUDDIER WITH THOUGHT.

OUR NEXT CONTACT CAME IN THE EARLY MORNING LIGHT, AS WE WERE MAKING OUR WAY DOWN TO THE VILLAGE FOR A DAY TRIP AROUND THE ISLAND. THE DOG THAT HAD JOINED THE OTHERS AT THE LAST MINUTE, WHOSE SHAGGY FUR WAS A DEEP RUSSET COLOUR, WAS LAYING ON THE GRASSY LAWN AT THE FRONT OF THE COMPLEX. I SAW HOW SKINNY HE WAS, AND EVEN THOUGH I WAS GROWING ACCUSTOMED TO THE SADLY UNHEALTHY CONDITION OF THE DOGS AND CATS RUNNING LOOSE IN THE VILLAGE, IT BROKE MY HEART TO LOOK AT HIM. HE HAD THE WARMEST PERSONALITY, DESPITE BEING UNKEMPT AND MALNOURISHED, AND HE STARTED TO FOLLOW US DOWN THE HILL REGARDLESS OF OUR SHOUTING FOR HIM TO STAY. I THOUGHT TO MYSELF “WHO IS GOING TO FEED HIM?” AND IMMEDIATELY HEARD A RESOUNDING, “YOU ARE...” FROM WITHIN.

THE VOICE WAS UNMISTAKABLE, AND I KNEW THAT I WOULD COMPLY - NO MATTER HOW CRAZY IT MIGHT SEEM TO FEED A STRANGE DOG ON HOLIDAY. THAT EVENING, AFTER OUR TIRING TOUR OF THE ISLAND, I HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE SHOPS AND BOUGHT A BIG CAN OF DOG FOOD AND I THOUGHT DEEPLY ABOUT THE DOG AS WE MADE OUR WAY BACK TO THE APARTMENTS. AT FIRST I THOUGHT HE WOULDN'T COME - IT WASN'T AS IF THE DOGS HUNG AROUND MUCH DURING THE DAY, THEY JUST SEEMED TO BE

Photo: courtesy of Anastasia Simon

PASSING THROUGH. BUT I WAS RESOLVED TO FEED THIS DOG, IF NOTHING ELSE, IN SERVICE TO HEKATE.

MY MIND WAS FLOODED WITH THOUGHTS, CONCERNS, AND QUESTIONS, AS MY FIANCÉ WENT FOR A SHORT WALK AND I TRIED TO SETTLE INTO DOING NORMAL THINGS THAT EVENING. BUT THEN HE CALLED OUT TO ME AS HE RETURNED, AND AS I WENT OUT UNTO THE PORCH I SAW THE RUSSET COLOURED DOG STOOD AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS, GRINNING UP AT US. I RAN BACK INSIDE TO PUT THE FOOD INTO A BOWL AND BROUGHT IT OUT FOR HIM, WONDERING FOR A MINUTE IF THE OTHER TWO DOGS WOULD SHOW UP AND MUSCLE IN - BUT THEY DIDN'T. AS HE BENT AND ATE THE FOOD HUNGRILY, I FELT A LITTLE RELIEF - AT LEAST FOR THIS NIGHT HE WOULD HAVE FOOD IN HIS BELLY, AND IT FELT LIKE A MINOR VICTORY FOR ME. THEN AS HE LICKED THE BOWL CLEAN, THE DOG TURNED TO FACE ME AND ALMOST SEEMED TO BOW GENTLY, BEFORE TURNING SLOWLY AND WALKING DOWN THE STAIRS AGAIN. I WAS LOST FOR WORDS. HERE WAS THIS DOG WHICH WAS PROBABLY STARVING, RUNNING THE ROADS IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, AND SLEEPING WHERE HE COULD DURING THE HOT DAYS. HE SHOULD HAVE BECOME FERAL, SHOULD HAVE BEEN HOT BLOODED ENOUGH TO BITE THE HAND THAT FED, OR AT LEAST DEMAND MORE. BUT THIS DOG, DESPITE ALL OF THIS, HELD HIMSELF WITH PERFECT GRACE. WHEN HE HAD LOOKED AT ME, THERE WAS FAMILIARITY AND TRUST. I COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT - AND ONCE AGAIN, HAD TROUBLE SLEEPING.

IN THE MORNING, I DECIDED I WOULD KEEP FEEDING HIM SO LONG AS I WAS THERE TO DO SO, WHICH WAS ONLY A FEW DAYS - BUT THIS GENTLE BEAST HAD IMPRESSED ME SO MUCH, THAT IF I COULD, I WOULD HAVE BROUGHT HIM HOME WITH HIM, TO HELL WITH THE COST. BUT I NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN, WHICH FELT VERY STRANGE TO ME - SURELY HE WOULD HAVE RETURNED, EXPECTING A

BOWLFUL OF FOOD AGAIN, BUT THOUGH I WAITED FOR HIM, AND MY FIANCÉ EVEN WENT LOOKING FOR HIM IN THE EVENINGS, HE DID NOT RETURN. I KEPT WAITING ALL THE WAY UP TO BEING PILED UNTO THE BUS TO GO BACK TO THE AIRPORT - MY EYES SCANNING THE LAWNS AND THE SIDES OF THE ROAD ON THE HILLY DRIVE, NO NO AVAIL. I FELT HEARTBROKEN.

AS WE WAITED AT THE AIRPORT FOR OUR FLIGHT, I THOUGHT ABOUT EVERYTHING WE HAD EXPERIENCED IN KEFALONIA, NOT JUST THE DOGS (WHICH FELT VERY SIGNIFICANT TO ME) BUT ALSO JUST THE OVERALL EXPERIENCE OF THE PLACE ITSELF. IT FELT VERY MUCH AS IF THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH WAS THIN, AND IN TRUTH THE ISLAND HAD KNOWN MUCH DEATH - MOST RECENTLY IN THE 50S, WHEN NEARLY THE ENTIRE ISLAND WAS RAISED TO THE GROUND BY A SERIES OF EARTHQUAKES. THE ISLAND, LIKE MANY IN GREECE, HAS A HISTORY OF INVASIONS AND WAR. THE PEOPLE, AT LEAST THE OLD ONES, UNDERSTOOD LOSS - AS WELL AS WHEN TO STAND UP AND FIGHT. OR REBUILD. THE PEOPLE THAT I MET IN KEFALONIA, WERE STRONG, BEAUTIFUL, WARM AND WELCOMING. I KNEW THAT THEY COULD FEEL WHAT I OFTEN FELT - THAT FINE EDGE OF MORTALITY AND THE TOLL THAT THEIR ANCESTORS HAD PAID, AND YET THEY SHONE. I KNEW THAT MY NIGHTMARES HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THOSE ANCESTORS, AND THAT THE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE WAS A SERIES OF LESSONS, WHICH HAD HIT ME SQUARELY IN THE HEART. I WENT TO KEFALONIA TO REALISE A CONNECTION, AND I FLEW AWAY FROM THAT RESILIENT LITTLE ISLAND, WITH TEARS IN MY EYES.

AND WHAT OF THE DOG?

AS WE FLEW BACK TO ENGLAND, I WAS SO SCARED THE DOG WOULD DIE WITHOUT SOMEONE LIKE MYSELF THERE TO TAKE HIM IN, AND HOW HORRIBLE TO DIE ALONE AND UNLOVED. IT TOOK SOME TIME, WEEKS IN FACT, BUT I REALISED THAT HE WAS NEITHER UNLOVED, NOR ALONE. I LOVE HIM; WILL LOVE HIM SO LONG AS I HAVE A HEART THAT BEATS. AND HE WILL NEVER BE ALONE, IN THIS WORLD OR THE NEXT, FOR HEKATE IS WATCHING OVER HIM. WHEN I COULD FINALLY DIGEST THIS - I ASKED HER TO CONTINUE TO DO SO, AND THAT IF HE SHOULD HAVE TO DIE, THAT SHE WOULD TAKE HIM INTO HER PACK, AND THEN THOUGHT PERHAPS THIS WAS ALREADY THE CASE. NO DOUBT THIS NOBLE BEING WAS SENT TO LIGHT A FIRE WITHIN ME, I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT I HONOURED HIM, AND THAT I HONOURED THE SPIRIT OF DOG, AND A COMPANION



Photo: courtesy of Anastasia Simon

COVENANT OF HEKATE

CAMPING & PICNIC WEEKEND 2011

AT THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER 2011, TARA SANCHEZ - TORCHBEARER AND AUTHOR OF "THE TEMPLE OF HEKATE" - ORGANISED A WEEKEND EVENT OF CAMPING AND RITUAL AT THE SENTRY CIRCLE SITE IN YORKSHIRE. THE FIRST OF IT'S KIND, THE EVENT WAS A SMALL, INTIMATE AFFAIR FILLED WITH MUCH JOY AND MIRTH WITH MANY A LONG NIGHT'S TALKING AROUND THE CAMPFIRE NEXT TO THE BEAUTIFUL HEKATE SHRINE AREA THAT WAS SET UP AND ALLOWED TO STAY UNTOUCHED FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE WEEKEND.



THE WEEKEND STARTED OFF LATE FRIDAY EVENING, DURING AN UNSEASONABLY WARM AND SUNNY OCTOBER WEEKEND. THE SITE HAD BEEN EXCLUSIVELY RESERVED FOR USE THAT WEEKEND BY THOSE COVENANT MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED. TARA LEAD A SMALL OPENING RITUAL AROUND THE CAMPFIRE AND THE HEKATE SHRINE WE SET UP USING A LARGE PIECE OF LOG.



LAUGHTER AND SMILES RAN ALONGSIDE THE ENTIRE WEEKEND, WITH NEW FRIENDSHIPS BEING FORGED, HILARITY ENSUING, TOTALLY MEMORABLE PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES, AND YUMMY BREAKFASTS AFTER LONG NIGHTS DRINKING WINE UNDER THE STARS IN THE COMPANY OF FELLOW HEKATEANS, THE LAND'S OWNER AND HIS DOG, TOGETHER WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE LAND. MAGICKAL IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD!



BLY (PICTURED ABOVE, LEFT) WAS EVERYONE'S CONSTANT COMPANION NOT LEAST OF ALL TARA, WHO AT THE TIME WAS MISSING HER OWN DOG VERY MUCH. BEING ASSIGNED THE TITLE "HOLY GUARDIAN HOUND" HE WAS A WELCOME AND MEMORABLE PART TO THE WEEKEND. SIDE-SPLITTING ANTICS ALSO TOOK PLACE THANKS TO THE LOVELY KATH, WHO'S IMPROVISATION TECHNIQUES WITH VARIOUS THINGS TO HAND HAD US LAUGHING SO HARD I CONFESS IT GAVE ME A HEADACHE!

WITH THE SUN SHINING DOWN ON US WE WERE VERY MUCH IN A PLACE AND TIME, SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE WHERE THE WHOLE ENERGY OF THE SENTRY CIRCLE SITE JUST COALESCED INTO A WONDERFULLY ENJOYABLE OCCASION, ALL THE TIME WITH HEKATE RIGHT ALONGSIDE US.



THE COMMUNAL PICNIC AND CONVERSATION WAS A LOVELY EXPERIENCE, AGAIN GETTING TO KNOW PEOPLE FURTHER. SITTING IN THE SCORCHING SUN WE WATCHED THE SUN GO DOWN, AND THE MOON COME UP AS THE STARS DANCED IN THE SKY. IT TRULY WAS A GODS-GIVEN WEEKEND WITH THE WEATHER ON THE LAST DAY TURNING WET AND WINDY (MORE IN KEEPING WITH AN OCTOBER) AND WE RELUCTANTLY PACKED UP THE TENTS AND MADE OUR WAYS HOME.

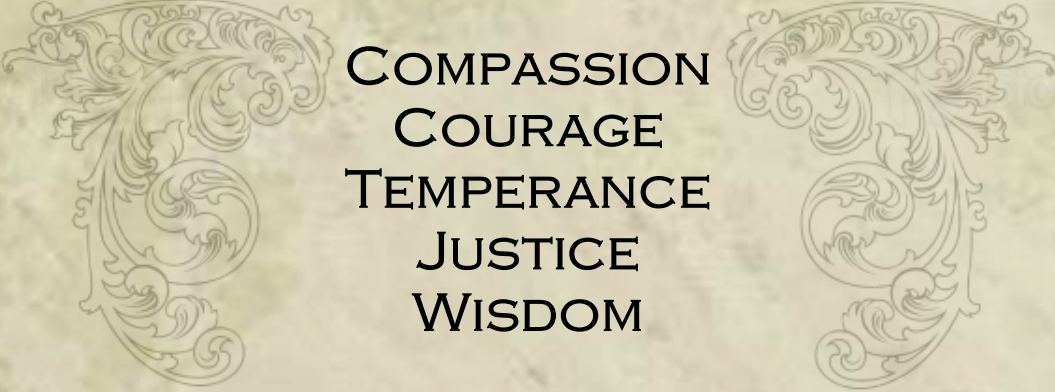
WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO TARA AND KATH FOR THEIR WORK ON MAKING THIS EVENT HAPPEN AND I AM HOPEFUL IT WILL BE REPEATED AGAIN AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE!

Words: Kenn Payne

Photography: courtesy of Tara Sanchez, Kath Runciman & Kenn Payne

Hekate's

5 Virtues Project



COMPASSION
COURAGE
TEMPERANCE
JUSTICE
WISDOM

THESE FIVE VIRTUES ARE BASED ON THE SUGGESTIONS MADE BY MEMBERS A WHILE BACK WHEN I ASKED WHICH VIRTUES YOU ASSOCIATED WITH HEKATE. THE LIST HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN CONDENSED, WITH DUPLICATION REMOVED (FOR EXAMPLE, "TRUTH" WOULD BE PART OF "JUSTICE", LIKEWISE "HONESTY" ETC).

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO SOPHIE NUSSLE, TINNEKKE BOGUCKI BEBOUT, LES JACKSON AND VICKY NEWTON FOR WORKING ON SIMPLIFYING THIS INTO JUST THE FIVE ABOVE. I AM NOW POSTING IT HERE FOR DISCUSSION, DEBATE AND COMMENT AND THE LADIES MENTIONED EARLIER IN THIS PARAGRAPH WILL BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN REASONING BEHIND VIRTUES LISTED IF YOU ASK SPECIFICALLY (THERE WILL BE ARTICLES ON EACH AT A LATER DATE, BUT SUFFICE TO SAY EACH CAN BE SUPPORTED BY HISTORICAL EXAMPLES AND EVIDENCE, SO THIS IS NOT SOMETHING WE JUST MADE UP FOR THE SAKE OF IT!). HEKATE'S 5 VIRTUES AS EXPRESSED ABOVE IS STILL IN "DRAFT" FORM, I.E. AT THIS STAGE IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT REASON TO REMOVE ONE, OR ADD ANOTHER, THEN IT CAN STILL BE DONE, THOUGH GOOD REASONS AND EVIDENCE WILL NEED TO BE PROVIDED IN ORDER FOR US TO CONSIDER IT, RATHER THAN JUST A "FEELING" :-)

WHEN FINALISED THESE VIRTUES WILL FORM THE ETHICAL BASIS FOR OUR WORK, BUT IT WILL NOT BE "RULES" RATHER "ASPIRATIONS" TOWARDS WHICH WE CAN STRIVE IN OUR DEALINGS WITH HEKATE AND THE WORLD AROUND US.

HEKATE

By Kenn Payne

I stand before you at the gate

Enodia, Empylios.

I am but the Fool at the crossroads

Triodotis, Trevia.

My path is blocked, I have lost the map

Hegemonen, Kleidouchos.

I fail to see the signs, the path in front of me

Phosphoros, Dadophoros.

Flame flickers, your face is grim

Brimo, Agriope.

But fear is gone, I supplicate myself before you

Krataiis, Megiste.

You are my Goddess, I your charge

Angelos, Propolos.

My heart swells with my devotion

Antaia, Despoina.

Radiance bathes my confusion and opens my eyes

Liparokrêdemnos, Soteira.

I take my first steps in a new direction with you.

Hail Hekate!

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

ASKEI KATASKEI WILL BE A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION CENTERING ON THE GODDESS HEKATE AND THE GOINGS ON OF THE COH. READERSHIP WILL BE MADE UP BY — BUT NOT LIMITED TO — COVENANT MEMBERS, INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS FROM A VARIETY OF RELIGIOUS FAITHS AND SPIRITUALITIES THE WORLD OVER. WHAT OUR READERS HAVE IN COMMON IS A SHARED PASSION FOR THE HISTORY, MYSTERIES AND MAGIC OF THE GODDESS HEKATE, VIEWED WITHIN THE COVENANT AS THE COSMIC WORLD SOUL.

SUBMISSIONS CAN INCLUDE, BUT ARE BY NO MEANS LIMITED TO:

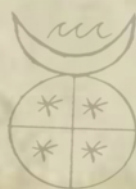
1. HISTORIC ARTICLES (AT LEAST 500 WORDS LONG, AND NO MORE THAN 3000)
2. POETRY (BETWEEN 125 AND 600 WORDS LONG, IDEALLY)
3. RECIPES FOR INCENSE, FOOD, OILS ETC (BETWEEN 250 AND 600 WORDS, IDEALLY)
4. EXPERIENTIAL ESSAYS - ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO COH RITUAL EXPERIENCES (AT LEAST 500 WORDS LONG, AND NO MORE THAN 3000)
5. REVIEWS OF BOOKS, GATHERINGS, EVENTS ETC (AT LEAST 300 WORDS LONG, AND NO MORE THAN 850)
6. PHOTOGRAPHY (SHRINES, RITUAL GATHERINGS, CREATIVE OFFERINGS) AND ARTWORK (DRAWINGS, PAINTINGS, PRINTS)

FULL, IN-DEPTH GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE FOUND ON THE COH WEBSITE.

ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE MATERIAL; REPRESENTING IN SO DOING THEIR DIFFERENT SPIRITUAL PATHS AND THEIR DIFFERENT CULTURAL FLAVOURS TO THE ZINE. CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD IDEALLY HELP TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF THE COH, WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON WWW.HEKATECOVENANT.COM

ALL SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE THE ORIGINAL WORK OF THE AUTHOR/ARTIST. WE PREFER RECEIVING SUBMISSIONS VIA EMAIL SENT TO:

EDITOR_COH@MAIL.COM



PLEASE NOTE: BY CONTRIBUTING YOU GIVE THE COVENANT OF HEKATE PERMISSION TO USE YOUR MATERIAL IN OUR E-ZINE AND ON OUR WEBSITE. ALL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE CREDITED AND REMAIN COPYRIGHT TO THE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTOR. ALSO PLEASE NOTE THAT YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL BE VISIBLE BOTH TO MEMBERS, AND NON-MEMBERS (THE E-ZINE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO VISITORS ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.HEKATECOVENANT.COM), SO PLEASE KEEP THIS IN MIND WHEN SENDING IN YOUR CONTRIBUTION(S). IF FOR ANY REASON YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR TRUE NAME TO BE PUBLISHED ALONGSIDE ANY OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS, PLEASE SUPPLY A PEN NAME/ALIAS YOU WISH TO BE PUBLISHED UNDER.

CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE...



SOSANNA IS A SOLITARY, LIVING IN RURAL NORTH CAROLINA, USA. SHE HAD SPENT THE LAST 20 YEARS IN SEARCH OF HER GODDESS. SHE BEGAN HER LIFE IN THE CRAFT BY FOLLOWING THE REDE AND THE RULE OF THREE BUT WAS ALWAYS PULLED TO THE DARK ONE. MOST SEND OUT A LOT OF LIGHT AND LOVE AND REALLY DON'T APPRECIATE THE TRUE NATURE OF MAGIC. IN DECEMBER OF 2011 SHE WAS CALLED UPON BY HEKATE TO FOLLOW HER. SHE WON A BOOK IN A BLOG CONTEST CALLED "THE WITCHES' BOOK OF THE DEAD", WHICH INTRODUCED HER TO NECROMANCY AND TO THE GODDESS HEKATE. HER STUDIES TRULY BEGAN AT THIS POINT AND SHE STARTED TO LEARN ALL SHE COULD ABOUT THE GODDESS AND FOUND SO MANY CONNECTIONS BETWEEN HER LIFE AND THE GODDESS THAT SHE KNEW, THIS WAS INDEED HER DEITY. IN JANUARY 2012 SHE COMPLETED THE RITE OF THE RED CORD OFFICIALLY DEDICATING HERSELF TO HEKATE, THREE DAYS LATER HER ESTRANGED MOTHER MOVED IN WITH HER TO LIVE OUT THE END OF HER DAYS. FEELING THIS WAS A CONFIRMATION FROM THE GODDESS HEKATE, SOSANNA CONTINUES TO SPEND HER DAYS LEARNING, DISCOVERING AND PAYING TRIBUTE TO HEKATE; ALL THE WHILE USING THE GODDESS' INFLUENCE TO LEAD HER MOTHER TO THE OTHER SIDE.



ROBERT PODMORE LIVES IN THE BEAUTIFUL COUNTY OF SHROPSHIRE, UK JUST A TEN MINUTE WALK FROM THE PICTURESQUE TOWN OF IRON BRIDGE AND THE IRON BRIDGE GORGE. HE HAS TWO DAUGHTERS AND A WONDERFUL GRANDSON WHO LIVE NOT FAR. HE HAS BEEN FOLLOWING HIS CHOSEN PATH FOR ABOUT 10 YEARS, FOLLOWING THE CRAFT AS WELL AS BEING A LEVEL 2 PRACTITIONER IN BOTH USUI AND NEMETON REIKI. CALLED BY HEKATE, ROBERT ANSWERED HER CALL AND IS BOTH HER SERVANT AND PRIEST AND HONOURED TO BE A DEVOTEE OF THE COVENANT OF HEKATE.



TINA GEORGITSIS HAS ALWAYS MAINTAINED A DEEP LOVE AND APPRECIATION FOR THE OCCULT ALL HER LIFE, WHILST ALSO BEING DEEPLY RESPECTFUL TO THE ANCIENT GREEK AND ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SPIRITUAL/MAGICKAL PATHS THAT SHE IS DEVOTED TO. SHE IS A PRIESTESS HIEROPHANT WITHIN THE FOI (LYCEUM OF HEKA), HEREDITARY FOLK/HERMETIC WITCH, INITIATED WICCAN PRIESTESS AND TORCHBEARER FOR THE COVENANT OF HEKATE. QUALIFIED AS A REIKI, SEICHIM AND SEKHEM MASTER AND TAROT COUNCILLOR WITH THE ATA, TINA HAS ALSO STUDIED VARIOUS MODALITIES WITHIN NATURAL/ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE AND SHE OPERATES A SPIRITUALLY BASED BUSINESS (MADAM MAGICK) WHICH INCLUDES READINGS, HEALINGS, MAGICKAL ITEMS AND WORKSHOPS IN VARIOUS METAPHYSICAL AND OCCULT SUBJECTS. TINA ALSO IS THE CREATOR/MODERATOR FOR THE HEKATE'S CROSSROADS GROUP ON FB WHICH SHE CREATED AS A COH TORCHBEARER TO FACILITATE DISCUSSION AND NETWORKING FOR THOSE LOOKING TO COMMUNICATE AND/OR MEET UP WITH OTHERS AROUND THE WORLD WHO ARE INTERESTED AND DEVOTED TO THE GODDESS HEKATE.



TAMRHA RICHARDSON IS A VOTARY-PRIESTESS OF HEKATE AND A MEMBER OF THE NOVICES OF THE OLD WAYS COVEN OF NYC, ALTHOUGH SHE IS CURRENTLY SPREADING HER TRANSPLANTED ROOTS IN INDIANA. SHE IS A VOLUNTEER PRIESTESS WITH INDIANAPOLIS PAGAN PRISON MINISTRY (IPPM), WHO FACILITATE RITUALS AND LEARNING CIRCLES FOR WICCAN AND ASATRU GROUPS WITHIN THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS. TAMRHA IS A CERTIFIED DOULA AND DOULA TRAINER WITH CHILDBIRTH INTERNATIONAL, A WIFE TO A WONDERFUL TREE DOCTOR, MOM OF TWO BOYS AND OWNED BY 7 CATS.

CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE...



SHAY SKEPEVSKI IS A FREELANCE WRITER AND VISIONARY ARTIST, BORN AND LIVING IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA. HE WAS RAISED WITH MACEDONIAN (NORTHERN GREECE) CULTURE AND TRADITION, WHICH INTIMATELY INTRODUCED HIM TO A WORLD OF EUROPEAN FOLK-MAGICK. FOR OVER A DECADE SHAY HAS BEEN PRACTICING HIS SOLITARY WITCHCRAFT, HIS PATH IS A UNION OF THUERGIC, GRECIAN, CHTHONIK, ECSTATIC, ENTHEOGENIC, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL INFLUENCES. SOON TO BE RELEASING HIS FIRST BOOK 'LUNATIK WITCHCRAFT - ILLUMINATING YOUR UNDERWORLD', SHAY'S PUBLISHED WORK FEATURES IN HEKATE: HER SACRED FIRES (ESSAY - 'HEKATE'S SACRED LUNACY', COVER ARTWORK 'HEKATE UNVEILED', AND INTERNAL ILLUSTRATIONS 'SOTEIRA') EDITED BY SORITA D'ESTE, AND THE UP AND COMING FAERY CRAFT (INTERNAL ILLUSTRATION 'PEACOCK VISION') BY EMILY CARDING; MEMENTO MORTE (ESSAY 'BECOMING PERSEPHONE') EDITED BY KIM HUGGENS, AND THE PAGAN PRAYER PROJECT, EDITED BY STACEY DEMARCO AND NAZA COGO. HE IS PASSIONATE ABOUT GRECIAN MYTHOLOGY, THEURGY, VISIONARY ART, NATUROPATHY, AND JUNGIAN PSYCHOLOGY. IDENTIFYING HIMSELF AS AN HEKATEAN PRIEST AND INSPIRED INSOMNIAC YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT SHAY'S WORK AS AN ARTIST, AND JOURNEY AS A WITCH BY VISITING: [THELUNATIKWITCH.TUMBLR.COM](http://thelunatikwitch.tumblr.com)

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PAGES/LUNATIK-VISIONS-ART-BY-SHAY-SKEPEVSKI/150054858388934](https://www.facebook.com/pages/LUNATIK-VISIONS-ART-BY-SHAY-SKEPEVSKI/150054858388934)

SARA CROFT IS A NERDY LITTLE WITCH LIVING IN EAST TEXAS WITH A CLIFF TO ONE SIDE AND THE FOREST AT THE OTHER. WITH HER CATS, DOG, AND HUSBAND, SHE SPENDS HER TIME CREATING ART FOR THE GODS AND SPIRITS THAT CALL TO HER WHEN SHE ISN'T STUDYING MAGIC OR HEKATE. FEEL FREE TO CONTACT HER AT [WICKETICONS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:wicketicons@gmail.com) OR TO LOOK AT HER WORK AT [HTTP://NEHETI.DEVIANTART.COM](http://neheti.deviantart.com)



NAZA COGO IS A TORCHBEARER FOR THE COVENANT OF HEKATE AND A CONTRIBUTOR TO 'HEKATE HER SACRED FIRES'.

ANNASTACIA SIMON IS A 33 YEAR OLD AMERICAN EX-PATRIOT NOW LIVING IN NORTHWEST ENGLAND, WITH HER FIANCÉ AND TWO MAGICAL CATS.

MADAME HUMMINGBIRD WAS BORN AND CURRENTLY LIVES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. SHE IS PAN-DIANIC HIGH PRIESTESS, MOTHER, SACRED DANCER AND JOYFUL CELEBRATOR OF LIFE, DEATH AND REBIRTH. SHE HAS ALWAYS FELT A DEEP CONNECTION TO HEKATE, AND ONE OF THE WAYS SHE SHOWS HER DEDICATION IS THROUGH ART, BE IT DANCE, POETRY, SONG, OR CREATING RITUAL WEAR. TO SEE MME HUMMINGBIRD IN MOTION, HER SACRED DANCE CAN BE FOUND ON HER YOUTUBE HERE:

[HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/USER/MADAMEHUMMINGBIRD?FEATURE=WATCH](http://www.youtube.com/user/MadameHummingbird?feature=watch)