

PAGAN MAGIC *of the* NORTHERN TRADITION

Customs, Rites, and Ceremonies



NIGEL PENNICK

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Pagan Magic of the Northern Tradition Nigel Pennick, 2015-05-21 A practical guide to the magical history customs and practices of pre Christian Northern Europe Details the everyday magic of the Northern Tradition including household magic protection spells and the significance of the days of the week Explores direct natural magic such as shapeshifting and soul travel and talismanic or sigil magic including runes and rituals to unlock the power of crafted objects Explains how many of these customs continue to the present day In the pre Christian societies of Northern Europe magic was embedded in the practical skills of everyday life Everything in Nature was ensouled with an inner spirit as was anything made by hand People believed in magic because it worked and because it was part of the functionality of their day to day lives Many of these practical observances and customs continue to the present day as rural traditions folk customs household magic and celebrations of the high and holy days of the calendar Exploring the magical pagan traditions of the people now called Celtic Germanic Scandinavian Slavonic and Baltic Nigel Pennick examines the underlying principle of the Northern Tradition the concept of Wyrd and how it empowers the arts of operative magic such as direct natural magic and talismanic or sigil magic Through direct natural magic individuals can shape shift journey out of the body or send one of their three souls fylgia or fetch ahead of them Sigil magic involves the powers contained in objects which can be channeled after the appropriate ritual Runes are the most powerful sigils in the Northern Tradition and were used to ward off illness danger hostile magic and malevolent spirits Emphasizing the importance of the cycles of Nature to the tradition Pennick explores the eightfold sun dials and the four ways the solar year is defined He looks at the days of the week and their symbolic association with different deities as well as why particular acts are performed on certain days and what the customary lucky and unlucky days are He also examines sacred spaces household magic protection spells and the role of music in the Northern Tradition Explaining all the traditional holidays and activities necessary to honor them Pennick shows how anyone can participate authentically in the magic of the Northern Tradition if they take care to do things properly with respect and on the right day

A Guide To Pagan Worship Ian Corrigan, 2018-01-10 Pagan Ways based in the reality of nature and the visions of ancient wisdom offer a platform for many people to seek their own spiritual fulfillment and growth If you seek personal Pagan practice the blessings of the Gods the Ancestors and the Sacred Land this small manual offers clear instructions and easy to begin methods Arranged for modern living but rooted firmly in tradition and scholarship Easy Prayers and Simple Offerings Simple methods for meditation and divination Making and Using a Pagan Home Shrine Building Your Own Practice Formal Invocations and Seasonal Rites For those seeking the ways of ancient cultures this book offers a simple ritual format that is in accord with the basics of traditional Paganism For anyone who wishes to grow closer to the spirit and spirits in the Holy World it offers a door and the first steps of a path This is a premium edition for wider distribution Check this catalog for a less expensive copy

Original Magic Stephen E. Flowers, 2017-10-17 A complete guide to the theory practice and history of

Mazdan magic the first organized system of magic Provides a complete curriculum of magical study and initiation centered on exercises keyed to the sacred Zoroastrian calendar Details advanced magical rituals and practices based on archaic Persian formulas including fire rituals and divine invocations Explores the history and lore of Persian magic explaining how the author reconstructed the original Mazdan system of magic Stephen Flowers explores the history theory practice rituals and initiations of the Mazdan magical system practiced by the Magi of ancient Persia who were so skilled and famed for their effectiveness that their name came to mean what we today call magic The prestige and reputation of the Magian priests of Mazda is perhaps most iconically recorded in the Christian story of the Three Wise Men who visited newborn Jesus The author explains how the religious branch of the Mazdan magical system founded by the Prophet Zarathustra is known in the West under the name Zoroastrianism He reveals how the Zoroastrian religion which acts as a matrix for the symbols and formulas of the original form of magic has existed for almost four thousand years with roots going back even deeper into the Indo European past The author reveals how all other known systems of magic have borrowed from this tradition providing the clues that enabled him to reformulate the original Mazdan system He reviews what the Greeks Romans Hebrews Christians and Chinese said about the Iranian Persian tradition of the Mazdans and their invention of a magical technology He explains how the ultimate aim of the original form of magic was not only individual wisdom self development and empowerment but also the overall betterment of the world Outlining the theoretical principles of this method which can be applied in practical ways to deepen the effectiveness of these magical operations the author details a complete curriculum of magical study and initiation based on a series of graded exercises keyed to the sacred Zoroastrian calendar He then offers a series of more advanced magical rituals and practices based on archaic Persian formulas including fire rituals and divine invocations Providing a manual for the original magical system used by the members of the Great Fellowship this book guides you toward the comprehensive practice of the Mazdan philosophy the ultimate outcome of which is ushta Happiness The Way of the Eight Winds Nigel Pennick, 2025-06-03 Examines the Eight Directions and the powers of their Winds the Tides of the Day and the eightfold year of modern Pagan practice Explores geomancy practices how to work with spirits of place and the power of mountains rivers caves standing stones and crossroads Shares spiritual exercises including runic practices and divination techniques as well as how to craft your own magical tools In this guide to the Way of the Eight Winds Nigel Pennick explores the history and practice of traditional European Pagan spirituality a path that recognizes and celebrates our relationship with the Cosmos and the creativity of Nature The author looks at the Eight Directions and the powers of their Winds the Tides of the Day stations and houses of the Sun and the eightfold year of modern Pagan practice He explores practices for restoring a connection with sacred places in the landscape and the eldritch powers that inhabit them including working with spirits of place the Anima Loci interpreting the lore of trees and recognizing magical otherworldly and auspicious features He describes divination techniques including ostenta and signs as well as sigils and emblems that emerge

from the Wildwood He explores geomancy and the magic of the landscape including both natural and man made features such as standing stones and crossroads He shares spiritual exercises including meditations runic practices and geomantic walking and explores how to craft your own magical tools and build labyrinths from small talismanic ones to those large enough to be danced in With re enchantment of life as the goal Pennick emphasizes the Way of the Eight Winds as a spiritual path that reconnects us to Nature brings us back to the present and helps us see the world our ancestors venerated

Runic Book of Days S. Kelley Harrell, 2018-09-11 A step by step guide to working with the runes throughout the year 2019 Nautilus Silver Award Explains how the 24 runes of the Elder Futhark each rule the calendar for a half month Details the runes most powerful during each runic half month what they portend for personal and spiritual wellbeing and techniques for creating relationships with them Includes structured devotionals for each half month and runic initiation rituals for the 8 pagan Sabbats or holy days such as the Summer Solstice Litha and Lughnssadh the first harvest holy day The Old Norse runes known as the Elder Futhark have long joined forces with the cycles of the seasons to offer powerful initiations guidance and wisdom Aligning the sacred festivals plantings and harvests of ancient runic calendars with our modern 12 month calendar Kelley Harrell reveals how the runes can once again offer initiations as well as instruct us on the holy days and creative rhythms of today Drawing on her more than 25 years of shamanic practice and runic study Harrell offers a step by step primer to work with the runes throughout the year She explains how the 24 runes of the Elder Futhark follow a seasonal progression in which each stave rules the calendar for a half month She explores the meaning of each rune in detail and presents structured runic devotionals for each half month interwoven with guidance on how to make the best use of the life force available during each season as well as runic initiation rituals for the 8 pagan Sabbats or holy days such as the Summer Solstice Litha and Beltane May Day She details the runes most powerful during each half month what they portend for personal and spiritual wellbeing techniques for creating relationships with them and how to work with them as an oracle The author also explains how the runes leading up to each Sabbat help create the space for properly greeting each calendrical transition and completing its initiation By moving through Nature s cycle with the runes each year becomes a reliable and trackable process of personalized growth and spiritual connection Progressing through the teachings of each stave while honoring the seasons Harrell s year with the runes becomes an initiation into a direct relationship with powers of Nature

Runes and Astrology Nigel Pennick, 2023-06-13 Explores how runes relate to the cycles of time Looks at the meanings and temporal qualities of the 24 runes of the Elder Futhark and their rapport with ancient timekeeping and star reading methods Examines the runes relationships with the planets the stars the seasons and the precessional year Provides charts and calculations to discern which rune is the primary influence on a particular day week month season or year as well as methods for calculating runic birth charts and runic horoscopes Detailing the significance of natural time cycles in the Northern Tradition Nigel Pennick explores how the stars planets seasons months and the precessional year relate to the

runes The author explains how the runes are more than just an ancient European alphabet they encapsulate particular spiritual and symbolic meanings to individually and collectively express deep eternal truths Discussing the pagan wheel of the year whose eightfold path later served the Church as the basis for the eight holy celebrations of its religious calendar he looks at the meanings and temporal qualities of the 24 runes of the Elder Futhark and their rapport with ancient timekeeping and star reading methods He offers charts and calculations to discern which rune is the primary influence on a particular day week month season or year He also examines runic elemental and color associations and their esoteric spatial roles where they represent the four directions the eight airts and other cycles critical to understanding the sacred nature of the material world Exploring runic astrology Pennick looks at the runes as they relate to the planets and their cycles He then presents ways to use this knowledge for calculating runic birth charts and runic horoscopes Revealing the importance of the patterns and cycles of time operating in our world the author provides a means for reconnecting with these primal principles which underlie our existence as beings in time through the ancient wisdom of runes

Russian Black Magic Natasha Helvin, 2019-10-22 A rare look into the history theory and craft of the black mages and sorcerers of Russia Examines practical rituals and spells the demonic pantheon places of power offerings and sacrifices Hell Icons and instructions for cemetery magic Provides insight into the fundamental ideology of black magic practitioners from the universal laws of magic to the principles of morality Details how the Russian practice of black magic preserved ancient pagan traditions and evolved as the antithesis of Christianity Born in the Soviet Union and descended from a matrilineal line of witches Natasha Helvin offers a rare look into the secret practices of Russian black magic passed down from teacher to disciple for generations both orally and through their grimoires bound in black Drawing from her own experience Helvin provides insight into the fundamental ideology of black magic practitioners from the universal laws of magic to the principles of morality She explains a mage's view on fate and predestination how the world was created and their relationship with the demons that grant them their power She examines the demonic pantheon as well as how a black sorcerer is able to influence the forces in the universe and pass on his or her powers and knowledge to further generations Exploring the history of occult practices in Russia including how Christianity had a profound effect upon magic and witchcraft Helvin shows how attempts to forcibly convert the Russian population to the Christian faith were widely resisted and instead of these ancient pagan practices disappearing they blended with Christian belief Authorities repainted old pagan gods as demons in order to eradicate ancient traditions Black magic became labelled as defiantly anti Christian simply for preserving the old ways and as a result some branches of black magic evolved as a reaction against enforced Christianity and practitioners proudly accepted the label of blasphemer or heretic Through this book readers can explore the Left Hand path of Russian magic and its spells and rituals The author explains about cemetery magic sacrifices the creation of Hell Icons and places of power such as crossroads swamps and abandoned villages as well as the best times to practice black magic how to choose the best grave for your spell and how to summon

demons Providing many concrete examples of spells Helvin demonstrates the broad range of what can be accomplished by those who practice the black arts if they commit themselves to the craft **The Norse Shaman** Evelyn C.

Rysdyk,2016-08-15 An experiential guide to the wisdom preserved in Europe's far north Includes shamanic journeys to connect with deities and your ancestral shamans Provides step by step instructions to prepare for and conduct a sei r ceremony Draws on archaeological evidence and surviving written records from Iceland Reveals the long tradition of female shamans in northern European shamanism Shamanism is humanity's oldest spiritual tradition In much of the Western world the indigenous pre Christian spiritual practices have been lost Yet at the northern fringes of Europe Christianity did not displace the original shamanic practices until the end of the Viking age Remnants of Norse shamanic spirituality have survived in myths folk traditions and written records from Iceland providing many clues about the ancient European shaman's world especially when examined in conjunction with other shamanic cultures in northern Eurasia such as the Sami and the tribes of Siberia Reconstructing the shamanic practices of the hunter gatherers of Scandinavia Evelyn Rysdyk explores the evolution of Norse shamanism from its earliest female roots to the pre Christian Viking Age She explains how to enter Yggdrasil the World Tree to travel to other realms and provides shamanic journeys to connect with the ancestral shamans of your family tree including the Norse goddess Freyja the very first shaman She offers exercises to connect with the ancient goddesses of fate the Norns and introduces the overnight wilderness quest of tisetá for reconnecting with the powers of nature She explains the key concepts of rílg and Wyrd the two most powerful forces that shape human lives and provides exercises for letting go of harmful behavior patterns and transforming simple knowledge into profound wisdom by connecting with inn Thororoughly examining the shamanic rituals of sei r the oracular magic of the Nordic cultures the author provides step by step instructions to prepare for and conduct a sei r ceremony including creating your own sei r staff and hood and explores the ancestral use of shamanic songs or var lokur to accompany the ceremony Woven throughout these exercises Rysdyk provides archaeological evidence from Neolithic sites supporting the long tradition of venerating wise women grandmothers and mothers in ancient cultures and the important role of female shamans at the heart of northern European shamanism Providing an accessible guide for anyone trying to fulfill their shamanic callings these powerful rituals can provide personal healing and a clear path for finding our way into a harmonious relationship with the natural world

Journeys in the Kali Yuga Aki Cederberg,2017-12-12 A beautifully evocative account of one man's odyssey to discover authentic and unbroken magical traditions in the East and reawaken them in the West Details the author's encounters with the Naga Babas his initiation into their tradition and his experience at the Kumbh Mela the largest spiritual gathering on Earth Shares the similarities he discovered between the teachings of the Indian tradition and the Western traditions of magic alchemy and pagan pantheons Introduces a wide cast of characters including Goa Gil the world renowned guru of the Goa techno trance scene and Mahant Amar Bharti Ji a raised arm Baba who for more than 40 years has held up one arm in

devotion to Shiva Beautifully detailing his spiritual pilgrimage from West to East and back again in the age of strife known as the Kali Yuga Aki Cederberg shares the authentic and unbroken magical traditions he experienced in India and Nepal and how his search for a spiritual homeland ultimately led him back to his native Europe Cederberg explains how his odyssey began as a search for spiritual roots something missing in the spiritually disconnected life of the Western world where the indigenous traditions were long ago severed by the spread of Christianity Traveling to India he encounters the ancient esoteric order of mystic wild naked holy men known as the Naga Babas the living source of the Hindu traditions of magic and yoga Immersing himself in the teachings of the tradition he receives an initiation and partakes in the Kumbh Mela the largest spiritual gathering on Earth With his evocative descriptions Cederberg shows how traveling in India can be an overwhelming even psychedelic experience Everything in this ancient land is multiplied and manifold people and things sights and sounds joy and suffering Yet beyond the apparent confusion and chaos a strange subtle order begins to reveal itself He starts to glimpse resemblances and analogies between the teachings of the Indian tradition and the Western traditions of magic alchemy and pagan pantheons He meets a wide cast of characters from mystical hucksters in Rishikesh and the veritable army of naked chillum smoking mystics of Maya Devi to Goa Gil the world renowned guru of the Goa techno trance scene and Mahant Amar Bharti Ji an urdhvabahu or raised arm Baba who for more than 40 years has held up one arm in devotion to Shiva After extensive traveling and immersing himself in the extraordinary world of India Cederberg returns to his native soil of Europe Traveling to holy places where old pagan divinities still linger in the shadows of the modern world he dreams of forgotten gods and contemplates how they might be awakened yet again reconnecting the West with its own pre Christian spiritual traditions sacred landscapes and soul

Mysteries of the Far North Jacques Privat, 2023-03-14 Presents evidence of early Norse settlement in Greenland and North America Explores in depth how Greenland and its surroundings were inhabited for nearly 5 centuries by two Nordic colonies Vestri bygd and Eystri bygd Shares extensive evidence from the still living indigenous oral tradition of the Far North as well as surviving sculptural art to show how the Vikings and the Inuit formed a harmonious community Examines ancient maps and other cartography such as the 15th century Martin Behaim globe as well as explorers records of their voyages Sharing his extensive and meticulous research Jacques Privat reveals that the Vikings were in Greenland its neighboring islands and the eastern shores of Canada long before Columbus He examines in depth how Greenland and its surroundings were inhabited for nearly five centuries by two Nordic colonies Vestribygd and Eystribygd which disappeared mysteriously one in 1342 and the other in the 16th century Drawing on the still living indigenous oral tradition of the Far North as well as surviving sculptural art carvings he shows how far from being constantly at odds with the native population the Norsemen and the Inuit formed a harmonious community He reveals how this friendly Inuit Viking relationship encouraged the Scandinavian settlers to forsake Christianity and return to their pagan roots Working with ancient European maps and other cartography such as the 15th century Martin Behaim globe as well as

explorers records of their voyages the author examines the English Irish German Danish Flemish and Portuguese presence in the Far North He explores how Portugal dominated many seas and produced the first correct cartography of Greenland as an island He also reveals how Portugal may have been behind the disappearance of the Vikings in Greenland by enslaving them for their European plantations Dispelling once and for all the theories that the Inuit were responsible for the failure of the Scandinavian colonies of the Far North the author reveals how ultimately the Church opted to cut all ties with the settlements rather than publicize that a formerly Christian people had become pagan again When the lands of the Far North were officially discovered after the Middle Ages the Norse colonies had vanished leaving behind only legends and mysterious ruins

Icelandic Magic Stephen E. Flowers, 2016-01-22 A practical guide to the magical systems of pre Christian Iceland Reveals spells and workings drawn directly from surviving magical books from the 16th to 20th century preserved at the National Library in Reykjavík Explores the history of magic in Iceland through original translations of Icelandic folktales about famous magicians and about legendary grimoires such as the *Galdraþek* the oldest and most complete book of its kind Explains how to personalize the spells through the creation of unique signs and symbols based on the mythic names of Odin and Icelandic magical alphabets During the Christianization of Europe in the Middle Ages many books of magic were lost as the ancient pagan traditions were suppressed But in Iceland the practice of recording magical spells in books continued in secret for centuries on a scale not seen elsewhere Now housed in the National Library in Reykjavík these surviving grimoires which represent only a hundredth of what was lost reveal a rich magical tradition that continued to evolve into the 20th century Drawing directly from the actual surviving Icelandic books of magic Stephen Flowers presents a complete system of magic based on Icelandic lore and magical practices from the 16th century onward He explores the history of magic in Iceland in pagan and early Christian times and reveals specific practical techniques and ritual templates that readers can adapt to their unique purposes Illustrating traditional Icelandic magical practices and the Icelanders attitudes toward them he shares original translations of Icelandic folktales about famous magicians such as the legend of Gray Skin and about legendary grimoires such as the *Galdraþek* the oldest and most complete book of its kind After initiating the reader into the grammar and symbols of Icelandic magic through history and lore Flowers then presents an extensive catalog of actual spells and magical workings from the historical Icelandic books of magic These examples provide ready made forms for practical experimentation as well as an exemplary guide on how to create signs and symbols for more personalized magical work The author also includes guidance on creating unique magical signs from the 100 mythic names of Odin which he translates and interprets magically and from Icelandic magical alphabets symbols that connect Icelandic magic to the ancient runic tradition

Slavic Witchcraft Natasha Helvin, 2019-08-06 A practical guide to the ancient magical tradition of Russian sorcery and Eastern Slavic magical rites Offers step by step instructions for more than 300 spells incantations charms amulets and practical rituals for love career success protection healing divination communicating with spirits and ancestors and other

challenges and situations Reveals specific places of magical power in the natural world as well as the profound power of graveyards and churches for casting spells Explores the folk history of this ancient magical tradition including how the pagan gods gained new life as Eastern Orthodox saints and shares folktales of magical beings including sorceresses shapeshifting into animals and household objects Passed down through generations the Slavic practice of magic witchcraft and sorcery is still alive and well in Russia the Ukraine and Belarus as well as the Balkans and the Baltic states There are still witches who whisper upon tied knots to curse or heal sorceresses who shapeshift into animals or household objects magicians who cast spells for love or good fortune and common folk who seek their aid for daily problems big and small Sharing the extensive knowledge she inherited from her mother and grandmother including spells of the Old Believers previously unknown to outsiders Natasha Helvin explores in detail the folk history and practice of Russian sorcery and Eastern Slavic magical rites offering a rich compendium of more than 300 spells incantations charms and practical rituals for love relationships career success protection healing divination averting the evil eye communicating with spirits and ancestors and a host of other life challenges and daily situations with complete step by step instructions to ensure your magical goals are realized She explains how this tradition has only a thin Christian veneer over its pagan origins and how the Slavic pagan gods and goddesses acquired new lives as the saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church She details how the magical energy for these spells and rituals is drawn from the forces of nature revealing specific places of power in the natural world as well as the profound power of graveyards and churches for casting spells She explores the creation of amulets and talismans the importance of icons and the proper recital of magical language and actions during spells as well as how one becomes a witch or sorceress Offering a close examination of these two thousand year old occult practices Helvin also includes Slavic folk advice adapted for the modern era Revealing what it means to be a Slavic witch or sorceress and how this vocation pervades all aspects of life she shows that each of us has magic within that we can use to take control of our own destiny **Elemental Magic**

Nigel Pennick, 2020-09-22 Learn how to use the principles and practices of natural magic for personal development and spiritual empowerment Offers detailed descriptions of the magical properties of minerals animals plants and the earth's cycles and how to use them in your own practice Explores the magical laws of nature and how to guide your inner energy to work in concert with cosmic energies Details how to design your own ceremonies practice elemental meditations and craft your own magical talismans wands and divining rods An expert on European rural folk magic traditions author Nigel Pennick presents a comprehensive introduction to the principles rituals practices and magical tools required to draw on the magic inherent in the natural world He explains how people throughout the centuries have built a relationship with the elemental energies around them using simple everyday practices in order to attune themselves to nature the seasons and the cosmos for magical purposes The author explores earth mineral and plant magic as well as the magical properties of the earth's cycles and concentrated places of power within the landscape He examines magical workings with animals drawing on

authentic traditions such as the Toadsmen or Toadswomen whose power is given by toads and the Berserker qualities conferred by magical bondings with wild animals like bears and wolves He explains how to craft your own magical talismans wands and divining rods design your own ceremonies practice elemental meditations fortify your health with herbs and crystals and set an altar with the right food and drink for your intention Pennick also describes how the practical techniques of natural elemental magic work through interactions between the inner world of the mind and spirit the outer world and the otherworldly He shows that having a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of all things and the inner power of these magical elements strengthens the practitioner s harmony with nature and thus their power By harnessing the elemental energies around us we can work with nature for personal development spiritual empowerment and the successful achievement of our desires

The Witches' Ointment Thomas Hatsis,2015-08-17 An exploration of the historical origins of the witches ointment and medieval hallucinogenic drug practices based on the earliest sources Details how early modern theologians demonized psychedelic folk magic into witches ointments Shares dozens of psychoactive formulas and recipes gleaned from rare manuscripts from university collections all over the world as well as the practices and magical incantations necessary for their preparation Examines the practices of medieval witches like Matteuccia di Francisco who used hallucinogenic drugs in her love potions and herbal preparations In the medieval period preparations with hallucinogenic herbs were part of the practice of veneficium or poison magic This collection of magical arts used poisons herbs and rituals to bewitch heal prophesy infect and murder In the form of psyche magical ointments poison magic could trigger powerful hallucinations and surrealistic dreams that enabled direct experience of the Divine Smearred on the skin these entheogenic ointments were said to enable witches to commune with various local goddesses bastardized by the Church as trips to the Sabbat clandestine meetings with Satan to learn magic and participate in demonic orgies Examining trial records and the pharmacopoeia of witches alchemists folk healers and heretics of the 15th century Thomas Hatsis details how a range of ideas from folk drugs to ecclesiastical fears over medicine women merged to form the classical witch stereotype and what history has called the witches ointment He shares dozens of psychoactive formulas and recipes gleaned from rare manuscripts from university collections from all over the world as well as the practices and magical incantations necessary for their preparation He explores the connections between witches ointments and spells for shape shifting spirit travel and bewitching magic He examines the practices of some Renaissance magicians who inhaled powerful drugs to communicate with spirits and of Italian folk witches such as Matteuccia di Francisco who used hallucinogenic drugs in her love potions and herbal preparations and Finicella who used drug ointments to imagine herself transformed into a cat Exploring the untold history of the witches ointment and medieval hallucinogen use Hatsis reveals how the Church transformed folk drug practices specifically entheogenic ones into satanic experiences

Creating Places of Power Nigel Pennick,2022-11-29 An exploration of the traditional rites of auspicious building and crafting Explains the ceremonial beginnings and Hermetic

principles in the laying out of foundations not only for sacred buildings like temples but also for homes and barns Examines the principles and ceremonies of electional astrology and details how to compute natural time as opposed to clock time Shares examples from ancient Egypt Iran India and Europe that range from the Stone Age to the Renaissance and include secret societies When we make things whether a building a sacred space or a magical object there is a precise moment when the artifact comes into being as a separate entity That moment in time possesses its own unique quality and because of this there is a right time to do something and a wrong time And as Nigel Pennick reveals we have the power to select favorable moments for our creations just as our ancestors did Illustrating ancient principles of divination chronomancy and electional astrology Pennick examines all the factors behind the ancestral art of geomancy the auspicious creation and alignment of sacred buildings as places of power Sharing examples from ancient Egypt Iran India and Europe that range from the Stone Age to the modern day including secret societies like the Rosicrucians and the Freemasons he explains how many cities were constructed on specially selected sites and founded ritually at precise predetermined moments Looking at the traditional rites of creating places of power Pennick explains the ceremonial beginnings and Hermetic principles in the laying out of foundations as well as the use of sacrifice in the building of many notable structures Examining the role of sacred geometry in geomancy Pennick explains the Hermetic meaning assigned to each direction in traditional European cultures as well as the principles of natural measures and the science of understanding lucky and unlucky days Revealing how geomantic principles are rooted in the structure of the world and the cosmic patterns of space and time the author shows how they transcend the ages and are just as meaningful today as they were to our ancestors

The Nepalese Shamanic Path

Evelyn C. Rysdyk, 2019-02-19 An experiential guide to the shamanic spiritual practices of the Himalayas shared by a 27th generation Nepalese shaman Presents step by step illustrated instructions for authentic Himalayan shamanic practices including physical and spiritual healing shamanic journeys and ceremonies Includes exercises to meet the ancestors in your shamanic lineage techniques to use your voice as a shamanic tool and practices for negotiating the spirit world safely Details shamanic chants and rituals how to create an altar and the sacred objects of the shaman along with exercises and techniques for using them properly There are few areas of our world where shamanic traditions have been preserved in their original context and form Nepal is one of these rare and special places In the shadow of the Himalayas Nepalese shamans known as dhamis or jhankris are still consulted for healing and divination as well as for providing comfort and maintaining harmony Following the devastating earthquake in Nepal in 2015 shamanic teacher Evelyn Rysdyk and 27th generation dhami Bhola Nath Banstola decided it was time to safeguard Nepalese shamanic knowledge for future generations by recording the practices in a book With this comprehensive experiential guide to the ancient spiritual traditions of Nepal Rysdyk and Banstola present step by step instructions for authentic Himalayan shamanic practices including techniques for physical and spiritual healing shamanic journeys and advanced ceremonies such as the Kalchakra Katne a shamanic ritual for removing

toxic energies from an individual They include exercises to help you meet the ancestors in your shamanic lineage techniques to use your voice as a shamanic tool and practices for negotiating the spirit world safely They detail shamanic chants and rituals how to create an altar and how to use the sacred objects of the dhami jhankri including the mala the magic mirror the drum and the Khurpa the shaman s magic dagger Rysdyk and Banstola also examine the importance of Nepalese cosmology in shamanic ritual and spiritual deities such as Hanuman Garuda and the Nagas Illustrated with photos and Rysdyk s artwork the book also explores the history of Nepal its culture and myths and the different ways Nepalese shamans serve their communities Written specifically to share the traditional Himalayan shamanic method with the Western world this guide not only preserves these ancient teachings but also reveals how they are still relevant in the modern world

A Celtic Book of Dying Phyllida Anam-Áire, 2021-12-21 Describes the Celtic rituals of honoring death and dying and offers prayers meditations and blessings for the time of transition Offers reflective questions and exercises to explore your beliefs attitudes and fears around your own death Includes the sacred meditation of traveling with the dead as offered by an anam ire or Celtic soul carer THE CELTS BELIEVED in the transmigration of the soul in the magical rhythm of life with a particular order of coming and going for each soul As they celebrated every new stage of their lives with a ritual they also honoured the passing of a soul the death of the physical body In her decades of work with the dying Phyllida Anam ire has revived the ancient Celtic tradition of watching with the dying and traveling with the soul after death Integrating the wisdom of her Celtic ancestors with modern knowledge of the death process she shows how a peaceful transition for the leaving person is possible and how this process can be consciously supported by relatives or friends Reflective exercises and meditations help us become aware of our beliefs and fears around dying and acknowledge our own death as a natural transformation allowing our essence to move on into love Once we come to terms with our own mortality we will find it easier to assist family and friends in their last hours in this life Rituals prayers and blessings in this guide offer compassionate support for the one transitioning and for those left behind Phyllida also shares the sacred meditation of traveling with the dead as held by a Celtic Anam ire or soul carer In addition she addresses many practical questions around the care for the dying and their environment during and after the process stressing the importance of silence A practical yet soulful guidebook A Celtic Book of Dying deepens our spiritual understanding of the internal journey of the dying and the adventurous afterdeath journey still to embark on Dying is the most natural step we will ever take

Magic in the Landscape Nigel Pennick, 2020-05-05 Learn to cultivate a traditional beneficial relationship with the land by embracing the forgotten practices of our ancestors Details the ancient art of geomancy and Earth magic including how to work with ley lines astrology and the four directions to honor a space and make it a place of power Explores the magic of the land around us and how our ancestors interacted with Earth energies and the forces of Nature Discusses the power of boundaries and magic circles the proper feng shui of graveyards and cemeteries and magically powerful places such as crossroads fairgrounds and the mystic triangles found in no man s

lands Our ancestors were deeply aware of the magical power of their local landscape no matter where they lived Every interaction with their environment from building to farming to the layout of ancient cities took into account terrestrial energies ancestral memory and the many seen and unseen presences in Nature They developed sophisticated procedures for orienting their living spaces and respectfully working with the magic of the landscape Yet much of the art of geomancy and of working with the forces of Nature has been forgotten by modern builders architects foresters gardeners and homeowners The treatment of land as mere property has led to a loss of its meaning for those who dwell upon it Our landscape has become disenchanted In this book geomancy expert and scholar Nigel Pennick details the ancient and sacred practices of geomancy and Earth magic and reveals how we can reenchant and reconnect to the sacred landscape that surrounds us whether you live rurally in the suburbs or in cities Pennick begins with a vivid look at our modern wasteland and what he calls the ensouled world with specific examples from Britain and Iceland of our ancestors way of perceiving the world they lived in Exploring the art of geomancy he examines how its techniques work with ley lines astrology and the old understanding of the four directions and the eight winds to honor a space and make it a place of power He looks at the power of boundaries and magic circles including laying ghosts and dismissing spirits as well as the proper feng shui for cemeteries and graveyards The author then takes the reader back into the traditional landscape to discuss magically powerful places such as crossroads the occult nature of the fairground and the mystic triangles found in what are popularly known as no man s lands Revealing how the landscape can be reenchanting Pennick shows how the magic of place is a living system that each of us can interact with

The Atlas of Christmas Alex Palmer,2020-10-06 Discover the fascinating and sometimes downright odd ways that people and nations celebrate the holiday season and share this festive compendium s unique traditions together with family and friends Do you know that in Guatemala there s a Burn the Devil tradition to kick off the Christmas season where revelers gather to set fire to devil pi atas In Sweden a popular figure in Christmas traditions is the Yule Goat a rowdy menacing character who demands gifts And in Japan a big bucket of Kentucky Fried Chicken has become the classic Christmas Day feast These and many other global Christmas traditions are featured here in this delightful book From decorations and activities to feasts and special treats there s a wide range of both lovely and unusual traditions from around the globe

The Ancestral Power of Amulets, Talismans, and Mascots Nigel Pennick,2021-05-04 Looks at the age old spiritual principles folklore and esoteric traditions behind the creation of magical objects as well as the use of numbers colors sigils geometric emblems knots crosses pentagrams and other symbols Explores hundreds of artifacts such as hagstones Norse directional amulets car hood mascots objects made from bones and teeth those connected with plants and animals charms associated with gambling and religious relics Includes photos of artifacts from the author s extensive collection Offering an illustrated exploration of the origins and history of amulets lucky charms talismans and mascots including photos of unique and original artifacts from his extensive collection Nigel Pennick examines these objects from a

magical perspective from ancient Egypt to the present He looks at the age old spiritual principles folklore and esoteric traditions behind their creation as well as the use of numbers colors sigils geometric emblems knots crosses pentagrams and other symbols Pennick explores magical charms and objects manufactured from bones teeth claws and horns and those that include symbols of the human body He also discusses religious relics as well as the combining of charms to make more powerful objects from the bind runes of the Norse and the crowns of ancient Egypt to the Mojo hand and the medicine pouch Revealing the lasting power of amulets talismans charms and mascots Pennick shows that these objects and symbols have retained their magic across the centuries

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