

# OCCULTISM

May 2020



# Celestial Events

Sun Enters Gemini. . . . .	May 20
New Moon in Gemini . . . . .	May 22
Mercury Enters Cancer . . . . .	May 28
Full Moon . . . . .	June 5
Penumbral Lunar Eclipse . . . . .	June 5
Mercury Retrograde . . . . .	June 18
June Solstice, Sun Enters Cancer . . . . .	June 20
Annular Solar Eclipse . . . . .	June 21
New Moon . . . . .	June 21
Neptune Retrograde . . . . .	June 23
Venus Direct . . . . .	June 25
Mars Enters Aries . . . . .	June 27
Saturn Rx Enters Capricorn . . . . .	July 1
Full Moon . . . . .	July 5
Penumbral Lunar Eclipse . . . . .	July 5
Mercury Direct . . . . .	July 12
Jupiter at Opposition. . . . .	July 14
New Moon in Cancer . . . . .	July 20
Sun Enters Leo . . . . .	July 22
Full Moon in Aquarius . . . . .	August 3
Uranus Retrograde . . . . .	August 15
New Moon . . . . .	August 18
Sun Enters Virgo . . . . .	August 22

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# Special Thanks

To all our staff, writers, and everyone who submitted works. Right now everyone is in a confusing situation, and we appreciate that you have taken the time to share your knowledge and works in the witchcraft community through our small magazine.



# A Prayer to Vesta

by Ruth Gibbs

*Lady of the Firelight, you who is made of flame and flicker*

*You who grow and shrink, from inferno to ash,*

*Bless me in your cyclical nature.*

*May I burn bright enough to warm a home*

*May my fire always go to embers, never dying.*

*May I never reach the point of no return*

*May I never be banked to the point of being gone*

*Lady Vesta, Lady of the Hearth, bless my heart.*

*Lady Vesta, Lady of the Hearth, bless my mind.*

*Lady Vesta, Lady of the Herath, bless my hands.*

*When I am out, let my fires never extinguish*

*And when I am here, at home, at my hearth, let m fires replenish*

*Oh Vesta, Lady Vesta, Lady of the Hearth and Home*

*Bless me and replenish me*

*Let me be forged in your fire*

# The Productive Witch

How to turn your practice into a healthy asset rather than a dangerous liability

by Luxobscurae

*Witchcraft and the occult have been growing in popularity exponentially over the past few decades, every year more and more books hit the shelves on the subject, yet, there are very few resources on how to reconcile a magickal practice with one's daily life.*

*Historically speaking, specifically during the middle age, magick practitioners could be divided into two large groups, village witches and high magicians. The first were the practitioners living on the outskirts of town, the pellars and witches of old who would offer their services to the folk, for a price that is. More often than not they weren't terribly wealthy and depended on their clients and craft to survive. The latter were wealthy literate aristocrats such as John Dee, who could afford to spend their time studying and writing old grimoires, utilizing highly specialized tools and lengthy incantations composed of barbarous words of power.*

*While both practiced quite different forms or sorcery, they had one thing in common; their time was almost exclusively dedicated to the path, either it was their job or they didn't need one. However, with the coming of the modern age, the average sorcerer has a day job, they are writers, journalists, physicians, attorneys, entrepreneurs, and students alike. In modern society, time is a luxury very few still possess, so how can one match up, or even surpass the masters of old and stay productive in such a chaotic world?*

*The answer to that is, in fact, quite simple. Turn your craft into an everyday asset, make the time dedicated to your great work reflect positively in every area of your life, not just your spiritual one, and there are a few ways to go about it, so, shall we go down the rabbit hole...?*



**1** Wealth magick: This practice may be frowned upon by some practitioners, but it is essential nowadays. We live in a capitalist world, and whether that is good or not is entirely irrelevant to this point, because monetary funds are absolutely necessary for day to day life. So, if you dedicate part of your time in the craft to increasing your wealth, you will in turn have more resources to continue to grow it, after all, if you have to work double shifts to keep the lights on and food on the table you won't have much time left.

**2** Time management: Every successful entrepreneur or high-end worker has to deal with this issue, but it behoves anyone who will give it some thought. Assigning specific amounts of time and dates to each important activity in one's life will greatly improve productivity, by diminishing idle time, removing guess work from the equation, and allowing for proper rest, which so many of us lack.

**3** Attention to the little things: So many of us think about witchcraft in terms of rituals and spells, but its roots run much deeper. A simple gesture of gratitude and small adoration/ offering daily can go a long way in establishing and maintaining a healthy, mutual relationship, be it with a deity, the genius loci, or any other aspect of the craft for that matter.

**4** Consistency: Intensity during magick is important, but having an established daily practice is also key, so if you are diligent with your work, even if it's not a lot, but aren't always able to perform long rituals, you are still going to advance faster and better than if you were to sporadically practice intensive spellcasting and essentially forget about the work completely until the next big thing comes up.

**5** Inclusion: Include magick in everything you can, this way you are less likely to neglect either your civil obligations or the craft. So maybe bless your work before starting, create sigils to help you through a difficult task, show gratitude for what you can do, and for what you will one day be able to, be it magickal or not. Essentially, use your skills, all of them, to the betterment of your life as a whole, not just the large aspects.

**6** Priorities: Be aware of your priorities and act accordingly. Plan ahead and make the best decisions you can in the moment based on the direction you want your life to follow.

**7** Seek proper counsel when needed: Being productive also means knowing when and how to seek help, instead of wasting one's precious time. So if you have an issue do not hesitate to contact a specialist, especially if it's of a medical or legal nature. Magick can and does help every area of life, but it's not a substitute for specialised knowledge and skill.

Witchcraft is a beautiful and helpful practise, that can be engaged deeply whilst remaining productive and connected to day-to-day life, if approached mindfully. It will require time and dedication, but the rewards it can bestow are beyond worth it, as it has done for many, yours truly included.

Merry Meet, Merry Part, Merry Meet Again.

# Dearly Departed

H.A. Hale

The cemetery grounds wafted with  
Deadened roses cut from their stems too soon  
The skulls of the decedents' rot with delicate

Frailty

The thorns of decay seep into the coffin  
And plant themselves  
On the head like

Horns.

A silver pocket watch rests  
Nestled within the putrefying palms  
Of an elder man

He's from old money  
And the grave robbers know it.

All is silent

Save for the creak of the  
Coffin lid in the night.

Fresh dirt coats the air with  
A soft scent of earth

And the sickly sweet smell of death  
That emanates from the still form

The first man vomits on the inside of his shirt  
Where he covered his nose- he's new to the job



# Could Study-Blogging Jumpstart Your Personal Grimoire?

by Eliza Fable

A witch should be a lifelong learner. To practice effective magic, you must grow in new directions at a constant pace. A witch should also approach magic with a sense of devotion to their own growth. I've practiced magic and divination for two decades now. The most solid advice that I can give? Start journaling, start keeping a notebook, and start studying.

Witches who keep a notebook record their research and ideas about the Craft. This helps them build a wide repository of knowledge, right there when they need it. The format and content of my notebooks changed a lot over the years, but they all helped me become the witch I am today. I devoted the bulk of these notebooks to my journey in magic, techniques to try, and lessons learned.

There are few people in modern environments who haven't studied. In school, we pour over geometry and classic literature in hot pursuit of elusive high marks. We spent time learning about our interests. Whether that's witchcraft, philosophy, or astronomy, notes are helpful. Everyone learns in a different fashion. However, studying and learning about the world remains with us, from our first breath, to the last. My Craft took leaps forward when this dawned on me. I'd always enjoyed school and I realized that I could apply the same study techniques to witchcraft and the occult.





# What’s Study-Blogging?

As a regular user of both Tumblr and Instagram, I soon came across the study-blogging trend.

Kaitlyn Tiffany of The Verge describes the study-blogging phenomenon as “a beautiful, stressful wonderland.” An apt description! But, what is a studyblog? Study-blogging hashtags like #studyblr and #studygram are popular (on Tumblr and Instagram, respectively.)

For someone just coming across the phenomenon, though? It can be difficult to penetrate this strange world. Expect calligraphic chaos, a plethora of highlighters, and fine-tuned aesthetics.

Study-blogging focuses on the quest for knowledge. In practice, study blogs share tips and hand-written notes on various subjects. Study-bloggers encourage each other to be the best learners they can be. The photos of notes, assignments, and other tasks make up the bulk of the phenomenon. Study blogs often feature photos of elaborate calligraphy and heavy illustration in note form.

Expect to see self-made diagrams of mitochondria, essays outlines on postcolonial theory with nigh-perfect bubble lettering, and vast, illustrated mind-maps of Shakespearean themes, for example. It’s a big community, and there’s room for a lot. But, room for witches? I think so!

## Study-Blogging for Witches?

In witchcraft, our grimoires function much like a non-magical student’s study notes. The content may differ, but the principles are the same. The quest for an aesthetically-pleasing grimoire stymies many a beginner (and not-so-beginner) witch. The wise remind us that our grimoires needn’t be complex. Functionality is more important than aesthetics in most cases.

That said, there is something worthwhile about keeping a grimoire that suits you. A grimoire can speak to your soul, both by way of aesthetic appeal and by your own abilities. For some of us, this might mean a lavishly-illustrated tome, while others might find minimalist styles more resonating. It varies.



The truth is that, yes, your grimoire needn’t look a certain way or be perfect. Still, a level of aesthetic appeal can help with information retention. It can also boost your magical productivity. Humans respond in an intuitive fashion to that which they consider beautiful. Aesthetics can help put you into a liminal state, which can be a powerful tool in self-improvement. This, in turn, is useful not only for normal studying, but also for the Craft itself.

If you see art as part of your life path, you might find that approaching your grimoire as a work of art helpful. Part of this means realizing that it won’t be perfect, but also always striving to learn and grow. Study-blogging, as a community, showcases a lot of excellent notebook and journal-keeping techniques. Study-bloggers often provide tutorials and guides to effective learning methods.

This is, of course, all while celebrating the joy of learning itself. Traditional studying methods can apply to magical topics. I have found that the techniques of the study-blogger can help with keeping a useful grimoire.



## Ask Your Intuition if Study-Blogging is Right for You!

Will studyblogging help you? For some students, lurking or keeping a study blog inspires and motivates them and increases accountability. By posting their goals and progress, study-bloggers have an impetus to progress. In a way, it's a bit like live-streaming a video game - it makes the experience more challenging, and also more exciting. The difference is that, in this case, your game is learning! And the notes? Many find the calligraphy, fancy scripts, and illustration soothing. It can be a way of making otherwise impenetrable subjects more captivating.

Without a doubt, aesthetic presentation improves information retention for some people. Humans have a positive response to beautiful imagery. Some folks find the gorgeous landscape of studygram and studyblr overwhelming and anxiety-inducing. Gorgeous calligraphy notes, after all, aren't easy for most people. For some, posting about your studies on a blog might only increase worry. We're all different, and study blog techniques are hardly universal in form.

You should use your intuition to decide whether to dip into this community. Ask yourself whether an audience will help your quest for deeper knowledge. Will you feel empowered or nervous about it? If you struggle with comparing yourself to others, you might find study-blogging discouraging. I, myself, am somewhat of a perfectionist. For me, though, the artistic aspects of note-taking and information illustration soothe me. Study-blogging suits me, but will it help you?

You should tailor your learning experience to your own strengths. If that means study-blogging won't help you, be honest with yourself and don't chase the anxiety of it all. Find another method of learning. Browse some existing study blogs. Ask yourself how it makes you feel. Do the images and writing seem inspirational?

Would you enjoy sharing your work with the world? Study-blogging might become an ally on your magical path!

## Taking the Plunge

So, how do you start a study blog? How do you get involved in the community? The most popular study-blogging platforms are Instagram and Tumblr. Instagram lends itself to posting tons of pictures and very short-form posts. Tumblr favors longer prose.

When I started study-blogging, I created both a Studyblr and a Studygram. I recommend starting a new account on the site of your preference for study-blogging. Follow some existing study-bloggers as a way of introducing yourself to the community! Also, follow the hashtags #studyblr and #studygram, to start.





## What to study?

Study-blogging features students focused on all kinds of topics. I've been study-blogging for over a year and, in case you're wondering, it's rare for someone to complain about my witchy take on study-blogging. You'll find the study-blogging community very welcoming, in most cases.

But what will you study? I always recommend witches focus on only one or two things they'd most like to learn at a time. Study-blogging lends itself well to in-depth topical research. This can mean learning the signs and language of astrology or the basics of gemstone magic, for example. Topics like shadow work or personal Tarot readings might be a bit too personal to blog about. Those might be better suited to normal, private journaling rather than a blog. My own study-blogging tends to focus on my writing preparation, astrology, and Tarot.

Though I've been reading for over twenty years, there is always something new to learn about Tarot. Astrology, like Tarot, is a lifelong discipline. Though I've only recently made my first steps into it, there is much to learn. My writing, especially the book I'm working on, has its own notebook. Possible topics include, but are in no way limited to:

- **Crystals and gemstones**
- **Astrology**
- **Spellcraft**
- **Mythology and legends**
- **Magical history**
- **Energy work techniques**
- **Seasonal and Lunar cycles**
- **Herbology**
- **Tarot, Lenormand, or oracle deck divination**

It is important to choose topics that interest you in a personal way. At the same time, try not to get distracted. Witchcraft includes many paths of study. Try not to jump from topic to topic - finish what you start!

## Supplies

If you're in school, you may already have a lot of the tools necessary for studying. If not, you can get them for an affordable price in most cases.

Paper matters! You'll want a notebook or loose leaf binder paper. For hardbound notebooks, you can't go wrong with a Leuchtturm 1917. That popular notebook boasts dot grid paper, includes page numbers and a place for an index. Seeking something more aesthetic? Check out the Paperblanks series from Peter Pauper Press. You might also like the notebooks you can order from Citrus Bookbindery. For me, a binder (I use A5 size) works best, because I can add and remove pages as necessary.

You can find some great guides out there about organizing grimoires. Much of that advice applies here. Your notebooks will soon fill the role of a grimoire. They will contain your notes, research, and more. It is usually best to have one notebook (or binder) for each subject you're studying. As you move forward, you'll have a collection of grimoire notebooks on different topics.

You'll also need pens or pencils. Really, you only need one. If you feel like getting fancy, you can get multicolored fineliners. I prefer Sakura Micron pens. They use waterproof micro pigments that don't bleed when you highlight over your writing.

Highlighters are fun! These add color to your notes and help emphasize the important things. If you want nice highlighters, I recommend Mildliners. Any highlighters will do, though - choose colors that appeal to you. I recommend several different colors, because that allows you to color-code your notes.







## Plan!

Plan out, at least in a rough fashion, how you'd like to organize your notes. This can be rather freeform, or complex, depending on your preference.

When I began my astrology journey, I knew what sections I would include in my stars grimoire. I also created a rough map of the path I'd take in my research. I began with the simple Zodiac signs. I then moved forward through the planets, houses, aspects and transits. My organization, loose though it was, benefited from my use of a binder which allowed me to add and remove pages.

No matter the notebook, it is important to have, somewhere, a rough idea of where you're going. You will also find it important to set attainable, realistic, and measurable goals. For me, this was things like memorizing the astrological house system. I set the goal of reading my astrology textbooks completely and summarizing them. This kind of goal leads to personal accountability. I also created a set of astrological flashcards for my Tarot-related work. It can be motivational to post your goals on your study blog in some form. Then, you can provide your followers with regular updates on your progress.

## Start posting!

Once you feel ready, go ahead and introduce yourself to the study-blogging community! An introductory post, explaining who you are, your goals, and methods, will help others get to know you. I also recommend tagging your posts with study-blogging hashtags. Also include some witchcraft-related tags! This will help you connect with other witches who might be helpful on your journey.

Don't be shy when it comes to posting photographs (taken with a phone or other camera) of your notes! You might not feel that your notes are as neat or pretty as other bloggers, but regardless, they're unique and might resonate with others! If you're taking notes about a very personal topic, like shadow work, you might want to forgo the pictures. Some bloggers obfuscate or blur potentially sensitive parts of their notes. You'll likely find nothing but encouragement for sharing your research topics, though!

Some study-bloggers will also photograph their study space. Some of us even use photos of fun things like their breakfast or pets to illustrate their updates. If pictures don't suit you, post regular bits about your life and your progress towards your goals.

**Get to know other bloggers! This is important, whether they're witches or from the study-blogging community. Both can be helpful!**

Watch or read some of the tutorials you'll find in the study-blogging community. These focus on things like calligraphy, organization, and memory techniques. While your notes needn't have fancy headings, calligraphy can be fun to learn. I don't currently use calligraphy in my notes, but am learning it on the side, so to speak. I find it relaxing, and you might enjoy it too. If not, don't feel bad - not everyone uses fancy handwriting, and that's okay!

## Moving Forward

*If, after a few weeks, you find yourself really vibing with study-blogging, stick with it! Most witches would agree that there's no real wrong way to be a witch. To me, though, there are wrong (and right) ways for you, yourself, to learn and grow in your craft. You need to find what works for you, what adheres to your soul and keeps you connected. If study-blogging ends up helping you, and I hope it will, keep going!*

*After a while you might find yourself ready to move onto another topic. We all end up "graduating" forward onto other subjects. You'll quickly find that your grimoires will be an invaluable record. They will contain not just your gathered information, but also your intuition, insight, and more. Cherish your notebooks - they will come to reflect your essence!*

Some information received from Kaitlyn Tiffany's 2017 article for The Verge



# A Calling Poem

by Ismo Latham

*When I'm going through hard times or turbulent changes are happening in my life, I find that asking for guidance and comfort from my deity, the Green Man, is very helpful. The following poem is a verse I say for when I need to go somewhere busy; I'm autistic so my senses can get overwhelmed and I don't notice important things so this verse asks the Green Man to help keep me vigilant and aware of what is around me.*

*Your rosehip crown and laughing eyes  
As lightning lights up the skies  
My eyes and ears you can borrow  
So that I can be protected from sorrow*

*I repeat this until I feel my deity's warmth while stimming with a purple smooth rock as I associate that colour with divinity. I hope this can help others and it can be adapted to suit your beliefs. May new growth come to you~*



# Witch Burnout: What to do During a Slump

by Ruth Gibbs

Many of us have been there- you've been practicing a while, you may have just finished a big spell or ritual, and you suddenly feel drained. The recovery period is lasting longer than you thought it would, and you can't quite get the fizz back into your fingers. Fear not, you haven't lost your abilities and the gods (most likely) haven't abandoned you, but you may be experiencing what many witches and magical persons call Witch Burnout.

Many things can cause Witch Burnout. Perhaps you overestimated your abilities and have pulled your metaphorical magical muscle and need a resting period. Maybe you've been doing too much every day and need to cut back a bit. Perhaps mundane life has just overtaken you generally and you've fallen out of the swing of things. You likely can't just flip a switch and get back to your wicked ways, but here's a few things you can do to start the ball slowly rolling again.

- 1** **Meditate.**  
This is the most obvious place to start, both for your magical and mental health. Pick a comfortable place to sit and for ten minutes a day try and quiet your mind to get back into your good place.
- 2** **Read.**  
But don't just read anything! Pick something you might not normally read on your own. Only into astrology? Try a book on tea leaf reading. Mostly into new-age things? Look at the history books and check out your roots. Really into kitchen witchcraft? See what you can find on chaos magic. You don't have to practice what you read, but learning about your fellow witches can help ease you out of a rut.

- 3** **Reconnect with your tools... and replace a few.**  
It's possible your tools have lost their charge along with you, so now's a good time to charge your crystals, talk to your wands, and re-shuffle your tarot. It's also a good time to see what still works for you and what doesn't. Maybe hematite isn't your jam anymore and you need to branch out, and give ol' rocky a rest.
- 4** **Take a real break!**  
If you practice incredibly regularly, maybe it's time to take a day off. Make some tea, kick your feet up, and just listen to yourself and the world around you. Set aside one day a week where your magic can be passive and let your batteries recharge.
- 5** **Re-up your wards**  
When you have no energy, neither do your protections. Put up your shields, re-charge your wards, cleanse your space and maybe sweep up a little.
- 6** **Don't push it.**  
Everyone recuperates at their own rate, and Witch Burnout can take time depending on how tired you've made yourself. Ease yourself back into things and don't be upset if you're not exactly the same as you were before you got tired. Witchcraft and magic are constantly flowing and fluxing. Things change, things grow, and so do you!

# *Smoke Sage Moonlight*



by H.A. Hale

*Smoke from sage  
Dust from time  
Scrolls of words  
Unrolled that rhyme  
In the room they emanate  
From moonlight  
These quaint things ablate  
As above and so below  
These witchy things  
Reap what they sow  
By the smoke  
Of sage burned fresh  
The ash lies on the witch's flesh  
The witch's mark  
Is what they call  
A burn from embers  
Big and small  
The fair mundane refuse  
To see  
What is stark reality  
We witches dust  
And sweep with brooms  
We do not ride  
In the sky by the moon  
Our practices you think  
You know  
Are false perceptions  
Stupid hoe*



# Witchcraft and Productivity

Michael Davis

There is an old Rosicrucian motto that goes, “Whatsoever thou resolvest to do, do it quickly. Defer not till the evening what the morning may accomplish.” It is based on a (less flowery) saying attributed to Benjamin Franklin, which simply warns against procrastination: “Don’t put off until tomorrow what you can do today.” It’s a great sentiment and we all probably agree with it in theory. But in practice, well, things get more complicated.

As a witch and a recovering Rosicrucian, I like the first saying for the way it sounds, but as someone who values getting things done, I respect the second for its directness. Between these two communication styles runs the entire spectrum of individual effort, from procrastination to productivity, from flowery to pragmatic.

Each of us has a personal approach to work that falls somewhere between these two extremes—flowery-dreamy creativity versus a ricky-tick-bullet-pointism that gets things done no matter what. But witches (especially tree-worshipping, dithering, star-gazing ones like me) tend to fall disproportionately toward the flowery-dreamy side. What can I do? I like my chamomile and my moon bathing.

Really, if you spend very much time leading a witchy introspective life, you’ll start to develop the same problem as trombone players, stand up comedians, poets, and oil painters. You’ll discover that your chosen art form does not directly pay the bills, but it can still be an all-consuming obsession that occupies the better part of your mind space. Getting critical tasks done quickly and effectively becomes an issue when you’d rather be off playing with your invisible friends, reading your cards, and raising cones of power to hex the patriarchy.

Sure, you can draw money with magic. You can push nasty things out of your life and pull wonderful things into it. You can justifiably charge people for tarot

readings. You can bless your friends, curse your enemies, and see the results of those workings in real time. You can dress up like Fairuza Balk and freak out the fundies for fun and profit. You can even juice up that Big Lotto candle to the point where it might actually reduce the odds from one in eighteen million to one in twelve million. But you’re still going to need a consistent inflow of funds. And that, my dear friend, is a hard thing to accomplish with sorcery alone. Dare I say you will eventually need a day job? Unfortunately, I think that will be in your future if it isn’t already in your present. And Hogwarts isn’t hiring.



Even if you’re a baby witch, a teen witch, a young dependent witch living off the last reserves of parental largesse until the end of high school and early onset adulting, you’re going to have to actually do things in the mundane world that seem unmagical and downright tedious. This is when you’ll stop repeating the thees and thous of faux-Elizabethan Rosicrucianamundia and get down to the nuts-and-bolts of Ben Franklin: “Don’t put off until tomorrow what you can do today” because tomorrow comes with its own raft of problems and demands.

It’s unavoidable. Even a gifted trombone player may have to work at the quickie mart for a while. Maybe, she’ll have to work there full time for her entire career in order to keep doing her tromboning at night. So mote it be, eh? If she does A, she gets to do B. It’s a capitalist devil’s bargain most artists have to make in some form



or another, even those who open occult shops or teach magic for a living.

There is, however, a different solution to this, a way to make it all seem a bit less depressing. Even if we have to play late-stage capitalist ping-pong with our lives in order to survive, we are witches and occultists. We do magic. We can command (or maybe politely request) the forces of the universe to make our lives better.

## Can't there be a magical solution?

Yes, indeed, there can be, but it takes some work: make your mundane life magical. Enchant the copier to bring good luck to anyone who uses it. Put a sigil by the grill at work such that every burger served is an offering to Nyarlathotep. Draw down Mercurius or Peitho to help you make your sales quota. Wear a glamour and stroll into the board meeting with such a warm aura that everyone wants to make love instead of war. Bring henbane beer to the office party and send everyone on a mystical voyage by the time they get home. Seduce your boss (if you like them). Give a fern laced with GTFO powder when you have to be the secret Santa for someone you despise.

The possibilities are endless. And the point is not to become a black magician (unless you want to—I don't judge). The point is to make the un-magical magical, to un-disenchant what should never have been disenchanted. To walk in beauty, like the night and seduce the world into being a more mysterious and lovely place. We're magical people. So if we don't do it, who will?

That is how to avoid feeling like you'd rather be doing anything but what you have to do. Make it all part of your occult work. Nobody has to know. But you'll know. And when you accomplish your tasks, when you've stopped putting off for tomorrow what you had to do today, you'll not only be a productive, pragmatic witch, but you'll also be one who has not had to suspend living magically just to get by.

Make one-hundred percent of your life magical. Then doing what you have to do is no longer a chore. Then mundane life will stay where it belongs—with those who prefer the daily grind.

# The Offering

H.A. Hale

Take in the roses laid for us  
With love and for dear death  
Let not our sorrows taint our lusts  
Feel life with every breath

With love and for our deaths  
Blood is let each dark December  
Feel life with every breath  
Our souls and likes you will remember

Blood is shed each dark December  
We take the roses to the grave  
Our souls and likes you will remember  
And run the path we've yet to pave

We take the roses to the grave  
Let not our sorrows taint our lust  
And live the path we've yet to pave  
Take in the roses laid for us

