



## November Newsletter

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## Important November Dates

(All times are CDT/CST)

### October 31– Samhain (Crossquarter November, 7)

#### Samhain

**Animals/Mythical Creatures** – bats, cats, dogs, pooka, goblin, medusa, beansidhe, harpies

**Gemstones** – black stones, jet, obsidian, onyx, carnelian

**Incense/Oil** – frankincense, basil, yarrow, lilac, camphor, clove, wood rose, wormwood, myrrh, patchouli, apple, heliotrope, mint, nutmeg, sage, ylang-ylang

**Colors/Candles** – black (ward off negativity), orange (good luck), indigo, homemade apple or mint scented herbal candles to light jack-o-lanterns or for altar candles

**Tools/Symbols/Decorations** – black altar cloth, Halloween items, jack o’ lanterns, oak leaves, acorns, straw, balefire, besom, black cat, black crescent moon, cauldron, divination tools, grain, magic mirror, mask, bare branches, animal bones, hazelwood, pictures of ancestors

**Goddesses** – The Crone, Hecate (Greek), Cerridwen (Welsh-Scottish), Arianrhod (Welsh), Caillech (Irish-Scottish), Baba Yaga (Russian), Al-Ilat (persian), Bast (Egyptian), Persephone (Greek), Hel (Norse), Kali (Hindu), all Death & Otherworld Goddesses

**Gods** – Horned Hunter (European), Cernnunos (Greco-Celtic), Osiris (Egyptian), Hades (Greek), Gwynn ap Nudd (British), Anubis (Egyptian), Coyote Brother (Native American), Loki (Norse), Dis (Roman), Arawn (Welsh), Sacrificial/Dying/Aging Gods, Death and Otherworld Gods

**Essence** – magick, plenty; knowledge, the night, death & rebirth, success, protection; rest, new beginning; ancestors; lifting of the veil, mundane laws in abeyance, return, change

**Dynamics/Meaning** – death & transformation, Wiccan new year, wisdom of The Crone, end of summer, honoring, thinning of the veil between worlds, death of the year, time outside of time, night of the Wild Hunt, begin new projects, end old projects

**Purpose** – honoring the dead, especially departed ancestors, knowing we will not be forgotten; clear knowledge of our path; guidance, protection, celebrating reincarnation

**Rituals/Magick** – honoring/consulting ancestors, releasing the old, power, understanding death and rebirth, entering the underworld, divination, dance of the dead, fire calling, past life recall

**Customs** – ancestor altar, costumes, divination, carving jack o’ lanterns, spirit plate, the Feast of the Dead, feasting, paying debts, fairs, drying winter herbs, masks, bonfires, apple games, tricks, washing clothes

**Foods** – apple, pumpkin pie, pomegranate, pumpkin, squash, hazelnuts, corn, cranberry muffins, bread, ale, cider and herbal tea

**Herbs** – allspice, broom, comfrey, dandelion, deadly nightshade, mugwort, catnip, dittany of Crete, ferns, flax, fumitory, mandrake, mullein, dragon’s blood, sage, straw, thistles, oak (leaf), wormwood (burn to protect from roving spirits)

**Element/Gender** – water/male

**Threshold** – midnight

To learn more about this and other Sabbats, get our Sabbats eBook at

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### November 4 – Daylight Savings Time Ends

Remember to set your clocks back one hour.

## **November 6 – Election Day (US)**

On Election Day, all voices are equal.

## **November 7, 10:02 am – New Moon**

This New Moon in Scorpio makes helpful aspects to Neptune and Pluto. This points to a spiritual transformation through empathy and forgiveness. This is a good new moon to apologize for past mistakes so you can follow your dreams free of guilt or shame.

The new moon activates a challenging fixed star which brings the potential for loss, disappointment and wrongful accusation. Other more positive new moon aspects make it easy to recover from any setback. They are also excellent for fixing relationship problems or finding your ideal partner, your dream lover.

Activation of the challenging fixed star Zubeneshamali may bring loss or disappointment. If so, helpful new moon aspects to Neptune and Pluto bring understanding and empathy from others. This fosters faith and optimism to recover and set new goals. You may be accused of something you didn't do, or you may discover you have wrongfully accused someone else. In this case, the new moon aspects make it easier to forgive and to be forgiven.

This New Moon is good for setting goals to make your dreams come true, but first you may have to make amends for previous wrongs. This is also a good new moon for resolving relationship problems through compassion and forgiveness. You can then follow your dreams free of guilt or regret.

## **November 11 – Veterans' Day**

### The Long Deployment

For weeks, I breathe his body in the sheet  
and pillow. I lift a blanket to my face.  
There's bitter incense paired with something sweet,  
like sandalwood left sitting in the heat  
or cardamom rubbed on a piece of lace.  
For weeks, I breathe his body. In the sheet  
I smell anise, the musk that we secrete  
with longing, leather and moss. I find a trace  
of bitter incense paired with something sweet.  
Am I imagining the wet scent of peat  
and cedar, oud, impossible to erase?  
For weeks, I breathe his body in the sheet—  
crushed pepper—although perhaps discreet,  
difficult for someone else to place.  
There's bitter incense paired with something sweet.  
With each deployment I become an aesthete

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of smoke and oak. Patchouli fills the space  
for weeks. I breathe his body in the sheet  
until he starts to fade, made incomplete,  
a bottle almost empty in its case.  
There's bitter incense paired with something sweet.  
And then he's gone. Not even the conceit  
of him remains, not the resinous base.  
For weeks, I breathed his body in the sheet.  
He was bitter incense paired with something sweet.

~ Jehanne Dubrow

### **November 16, 7:33 pm to December 6, 3:22 pm – Mercury Retrograde**

From November 16 until December 1, messenger planet Mercury will be traveling retrograde through fiery Sagittarius, before backing into secretive Scorpio for the duration of this retrograde which lasts until December 6. The truth will inevitably come to light during this phase, as mysteries are revealed and skeletons are forced out of the closet. We may also be asked to review situations that happened a year ago (December 3-22, 2017), when Mercury was last retrograde in Sagittarius. The good news - If similar mishaps and misrepresentations crop up, we'll be better prepared to face them proactively than we were in 2017.

While Mercury wants to analyze every detail and follow facts instead of fiction, Sagittarius wants to skim over the boring parts and skip right to the fun, no matter how foolish this impulse may be. Because Jupiter-ruled Sagittarius wants to embellish stories and make things more interesting than they really are, Mercury's job of doling out hard evidence is made that much more difficult.

To remind you of all that can go wrong during Mercury retrograde, it's normally a time when communication blunders, transportation errors, and technological mishaps happen frequently. This is the perfect time to really think twice before taking action, to complete one thing at a time, and to plan way ahead.

Because Sagittarius is known for its blunt and brutally honest attitude, it would be wise to be as thoughtful as possible during delicate conversations. This fire sign is also known for its visionary mindset which can cause them to put the cart before the horse, so make sure that you try your best to think practically and realistically.

Mercury Retrograde ends on December 6 in Scorpio. Mercury retrograde is often feared by those who follow astrology, but let's not forget that it's only temporary. It's also important to remember that a lot of good can come out of a retrograde period. After all, it's when a planet reverses course, taking us back in time and guiding us through a period of difficult, yet necessary introspection.

While Mercury retrograde begins in expansive Sagittarius, it will station direct in deep-thinking, passionate, and genuine Scorpio on December 6. Because Scorpio makes Mercury more concerned with the truth that lies behind the facade, influence from this fixed water sign will transform the retrograde into something far more thoughtful. Expect uncomfortable information to arise, betrayals to be made apparent, and if you're wondering who you should and shouldn't trust, Mercury Retrograde in Scorpio will definitely let you know.

Although Mercury's backwards tailspin can leave wreckage in its wake, it can also be an opportunity to settle scores, understand the truth, and rethink aspects of your perspective that may not be working. When Mercury turns direct in Scorpio for the second time this year, your intuition will be extremely strong.

## **November 22 - Thanksgiving**

### The Pumpkin

Oh, greenly and fair in the lands of the sun,  
The vines of the gourd and the rich melon run,  
And the rock and the tree and the cottage enfold,  
With broad leaves all greenness and blossoms all gold,  
Like that which o'er Nineveh's prophet once grew,  
While he waited to know that his warning was true,  
And longed for the storm-cloud, and listened in vain  
For the rush of the whirlwind and red fire-rain.

On the banks of the Xenil the dark Spanish maiden  
Comes up with the fruit of the tangled vine laden;  
And the Creole of Cuba laughs out to behold  
Through orange-leaves shining the broad spheres of gold;  
Yet with dearer delight from his home in the North,  
On the fields of his harvest the Yankee looks forth,  
Where crook-necks are coiling and yellow fruit shines,  
And the sun of September melts down on his vines.

Ah! on Thanksgiving day, when from East and from West,  
From North and from South comes the pilgrim and guest;  
When the gray-haired New Englander sees round his board  
The old broken links of affection restored,  
When the care-wearied man seeks his mother once more,  
And the worn matron smiles where the girl smiled before,  
What moistens the lip and what brightens the eye?  
What calls back the past, like the rich Pumpkin pie?

Oh, fruit loved of boyhood! the old days recalling,  
When wood-grapes were purpling and brown nuts were falling!  
When wild, ugly faces we carved in its skin,  
Glaring out through the dark with a candle within!  
When we laughed round the corn-heap, with hearts all in tune,  
Our chair a broad pumpkin,—our lantern the moon,

Telling tales of the fairy who travelled like steam  
In a pumpkin-shell coach, with two rats for her team!

Then thanks for thy present! none sweeter or better  
E'er smoked from an oven or circled a platter!  
Fairer hands never wrought at a pastry more fine,  
Brighter eyes never watched o'er its baking, than thine!  
And the prayer, which my mouth is too full to express,  
Swells my heart that thy shadow may never be less,  
That the days of thy lot may be lengthened below,  
And the fame of thy worth like a pumpkin-vine grow,  
And thy life be as sweet, and its last sunset sky  
Golden-tinted and fair as thy own Pumpkin pie!

~ John Greenleaf Whittier, 1807 – 1892

## **November 23, 11:39 am – Full Moon**

### Sage Moon

The last Gray Lady under the Full Moon this year is sage (*Salvia officinalis*), also known as culinary sage. How fortunate that this Full Moon comes so close to Thanksgiving in the United States this year. Gardeners who manage their landscape by lunar phases believe a Full Moon is a perfect time to harvest herbs.

Rubbed sage is lighter and fluffier than ground-up sage. Make your own rubbed sage by drying fresh sage leaves in low heat. Pick up several of the leaves and rub them briskly between your palms. Do this until all of the leaves are crushed. Sift the rubbed leaves through a colander or a strainer. The end result is ready to use. Don't discard the courser material. Brew a strong tea with one tablespoon of sage to two cups of boiling water. Allow to cool. Use as a gargle for a sore throat or to help heal inflamed gums.

Sage is an herb of wisdom. For blessings of health and wisdom, make small bundles of sage and juniper for friends as holiday presents. When the herbs have dried in about a month, they can be burned to cleanse the home.

~ JD Hortwort in *Llewellyn's Witches' Datebook*

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**Witch SuperCenter November Sale Items**

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Sale Price \$14.99

Large Abalone Shell for smudging - Regular Price - \$17.99,  
Sale Price - \$15.99

Magickal Correspondences eBook - Regular Price - \$5.99,  
Sale Price - \$4.99

Lemon Chamomile Herbal Tea - Regular Price - \$5.99,  
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Deluxe Wicca Starter Kit w/Money Spell - Regular Price \$99.99, Sale Price \$84.99



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## Herb of the Month



**Sandalwood** – Air/Moon; Gender – Feminine; Parts Used - Wood, Resin; Magickal Properties - Protection, Cleansing, Meditations and Healings; Uses - Burn to enhance your meditations and healing wishes; use the wood also for a healing wand or tie a piece on a healing wand; burn to cleanse and purify yourself or the home by passing the smoke over your body or through the house; may be used with other herbs

when developing your spirituality.

To learn more about this and other herbs, get our Magickal Herbs eBook at [http://witchsupercenter.net/store/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=84&products\\_id=260](http://witchsupercenter.net/store/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=84&products_id=260)

## Stone of the Month

**Fire Agate** – Fire agate is a stone of courage, protection, and strength. Mystical lore says that it relieves fears, halts gossip and even reflects any threat of harm back to the source. Fire agate can help with spiritual advancement and progression. It promotes and enhances energy, including meditation, ritual, and spiritual healing energies. It also balances masculine (active) and feminine (receptive) energies. It is also said that it can take the edge off the emotional charge of problems. Fire agate is often used in spells to increase skills in communication in writing and speaking. It can also heighten creative visualization. It can be used for amplifying psychic talents. It has been used by shamans for stimulating clairvoyance and in order to evoke images and memories of other lives. In healing, it is considered to increase the natural talents and abilities of healing. Metaphysical healing lore professes that fire agate assists with healing of the circulatory system, lymph system, intestines. Fire agate is associated primarily with the sacral and root chakras.



## Rune of the Month

**Laguz** (L: Water, or a leek.) – Flow, water, sea, a fertility source, the healing power of renewal; Life energy and organic growth; Imagination and psychic matters; Dreams, fantasies, mysteries, the unknown, the hidden, the deep, the underworld; Success in travel or acquisition, but with the possibility of loss. Laguz Reversed or Merkstave: An indication of a period of confusion in your life; You may be making wrong decisions and poor judgments; Lack of creativity and feelings of being in a rut; Fear, circular motion, avoidance, withering; Madness, obsession, despair, perversity, sickness, suicide.

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## Tarot Card of the Month

**Five of Swords** – The Five of Swords sees you engaging in conflict or finding yourself disagreeing with others, leading to tension and hostility. Despite thinking you have won, you may still end up the loser because you have hurt or annoyed others and have subsequently isolated yourself. You try to pick up the pieces and act as if the conflict is now in the past but others have now lost faith in you and do not want to be around you. This might be one of those times when it feels like everyone is against you and you may lose some friends along the way. You will need to make a decision about whether your point of view is so important to you that it is ok to put your relationship with others in jeopardy, or whether you can compromise and try to see eye-to-eye with others.



The Five of Swords can also represent conquest. If you have been aggressive in your struggles, then you will soon accomplish your objectives. However, if you have been passive, you may need to compromise on your personal interests, giving in to the wishes of the opposing force. You will feel that there are more obstacles ahead, and you will not want to face the ordeal you know you must if you are to have what you want or the way you want it. Overall, you are in for a struggle and there is more work or problems ahead than you are aware of now. Things will not go as well as they should, and you will have conflicts or clashes of will with others.

Thus, the Five of Swords is a card representing ambition but in the negative sense. Too much ambition without regard to the consequences to yourself or others results ultimately in a situation of loss for everyone. You may be represented either by the callous winner or the dejected losers. In any case, there is a negative connotation. If your focus is solely on winning your goals at any cost, you will eventually discover to your own dismay that the price of winning may not have been worth the reward. Arrogance and pride often go hand-in-hand with a difficult triumph such as this, and you

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must be careful not to think you are invincible. You have overcome a challenge, and you have the right to feel proud but know that there will be other rivals to face and that some of them will eventually defeat you. Boasting to others that you are invincible is an invitation for someone to prove you wrong. If your victory was won through cheating or unethical conduct, beware of an attempt at vengeance.

To learn more about this and other Tarot Cards, get our Basic Tarot Card Reading eBook at

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## Correspondence of the Month



### Mythical Creatures

**Centaur** – the arts, creative inspiration, divination

**Dragon** – protection, transformation, spiritual guide, long life, strength against fear

**Gargoyle** – silence, shadows, freedom

**Griffin** – spiritual clarity, faith, understanding

**Leviathan** – influence, foresight, time for meditation

**Manticore** – embodiment of evil, dark force, powers working against you

**Minotaur** – defense against harm, protection, power, fertility

**Pegasus** – inspiration, astral travel, divination, romance

**Phoenix** – rebirth, reincarnation, new beginnings, courage, adaptation

**Unicorn** – prosperity, adventure, purity, of gentle nature, mental strength

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## Spell of the Month

### Witch's Bottles

The following are the ingredients for a Witch's Protection Bottle and it works in two ways. It not only protects you, but it will deflect the harm towards you back to the originator. Get a glass jar such as a Mason jar, or even a baby food jar, anything that has a lid to it. Fill the jar halfway with small sharp objects such as pins, metal scrapings, broken glass, razor blades, etc. Be



careful when you are filling the jar! Once the jar is half full with these objects, fill the jar up with a holy water mixture of salt and water. Put the top on the jar and be sure it's secured. This jar should be buried in the ground at least twelve inches deep. As long as the bottle remains in the ground, you will be protected from harm that is sent your way. If you bury the jar somewhere away from home, and you won't know if it will still be there in a year (City Witches don't always have backyards!), then be sure to repeat this process each year.

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