

Magic – The Path That Takes Us Home

The use of the word ‘magic’ and ‘magician’ in esoteric terms conjures popularized images of men in flowing polyester robes, waving crystal tipped wands and uttering badly pronounced Hebrew as they attempt to command the different forces of nature that surround them. This never sat well with me, and as a woman who was trained from the tender age of 10 yrs old in the skills of classical theatre/ballet; following yet another over dressed drama queen did not equate with attempting to understand the universe and connect with it.

It is this rejection of dressing as a ‘truth’ on any spiritual path that can lead an enquiring mind to a rarely used door to the Mysteries. Don’t get me wrong, ‘dressing’ can have its place and is a needful tool for many on the path of spiritual exploration; but like psychology, it is only a tool of magic. Once the dogma, dressing and self analysis is stepped over, the magician reaches deeper into depths of magic and comes face to face with the bare bones of the structure we call the living universe.

Religions and magical structures throughout time and around the world all have the same basic ingredients that make up an interface through which we can reach beyond ourselves and attempt to touch the Mysteries. Those structures teach us how the breath or utterance is used, how the mind is used and how we can begin to re connect or commune with all the different types of consciousness that surrounds us. We find our place within a structure and begin to learn with an eventual view to being of use, to be of service to the universe in some way or other.

Magic talks to the consciousness of everything that is around us, above us and beneath us. It makes no moral judgment; rather it looks to the mechanisms that operate through the worlds and puts us in direct contact with the various types of beings that flow in and out of existence.

For many years I was uncomfortable with the approaches that were often taken in occult magic, an approach of domination and the commanding of spirits or the other approach popular in magic which is to define everything as originating from within oneself. The former I found abusive and the latter I found sadly lacking in real spiritual depth.

As a result, I began to explore more ancient methods of magical approaches used in the ancient near eastern religious systems. These were systems, particularly the ancient Egyptian method, which acknowledged the role of every being, every deity and every spirit; everything had a living consciousness and a function. The role of the magician was to find their place, their function within the living complex pattern of consciousness and to actively take that place. That role is still relevant to this day.

Divinity flows through the pattern and the magician becomes an active bridge in the constant dance of creation and destruction of the universe. The role of the magician is that of a bridge, which is defined in esoteric terms as ‘working with and mediating inner contacts’; that is to say working through ritualized patterns, formed visions, a disciplined mind, and using the imagination as an interface to connect to and commune with beings.

We define those beings as ancestors, deities, land spirits, angelic beings, faery beings depending upon what culture, magical system or religion we are working in; consciousness that has no physical manifestation that we presently understand. We take our place in the grand convocation of consciousness and perform service that can be as simple as tending a patch of land, guarding a burial, or as complex as calling angels into action or mediating the voice of a deity. Magic holds up a mirror to ourselves, and then reconnects us on the path that leads to the Garden; magic takes us home.

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