



QUAREIA—THE ADEPT

Module III—Advanced Death, Birth, and
the Underworld

Lesson 6: The Tides of Destruction

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WELCOME

Welcome to this lesson of the Quareia curriculum.

The Quareia takes a magical apprentice from the beginning of magic to the level of adeptship and beyond. The course has no superfluous text; there is no dressing, no padding—everything is in its place and everything within the course has a good reason to be there.

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So remember—in order for this course to work, it is wise to work with the lessons in sequence. If you don't, it won't work.

Yours,

Josephine McCarthy



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Lesson 6: The Tides of Destruction

Wise men learn more from fools, than fools from the wise; for the wise avoid the error of fools, while fools do not profit by the examples of the wise.

—Cato Censorius

You have come across *tides of destruction* quite a bit in this course, and looked at them peripherally a few times. With tides of destruction, as with tides of creation, an adept should know not only how they manifest, but how and when to tackle them practically or to dodge them. To do this you must pull together all your knowledge about patterns, power, tides, astrology, divination, inner contact, planetary influences, and so forth.

Destructive tides are not easy to understand, as their function is complex, and foolish dabbling can often bring their destruction straight down onto the hapless magician's head. But an adept who understands this complexity and knows when to dodge them, when to stand and face them, and when to trigger the fulcrum, can become an active worker in the constant expressions of Divine creation and destruction.

Truly understanding these tides, intellectually and practically, will inform everything in your magic, as they are the two rivers into which all magic dips.

You should know the basics about destructive tides by now, so we can delve a bit deeper and learn how to work with them practically, how to survive them, and how to flow with them when necessary. The true test of your developed understanding of this power comes at the end of the adept section, and this module will take you a lot closer to that test.

In this lesson we will look more at the dynamics and expressions of destruction; then we will move on to the practical skills necessary to work in this area of magic while keeping yourself safe.

Destruction versus death

Destruction and death are linked by their exterior expression, but their roots are different. Destruction does not automatically mean death; but death *always* means death, though it is not always destructive. Destruction cleans and clears; death ends. It is really important to understand that simple definition, and not mix the two processes in your mind. In the next lesson we will look closely at tides of death, as the approaches in practical magical terms are different.

Understanding the difference between destruction and death will shift how you think about these two dynamics. That lets you work magic that is deep, powerful, and *safe*.

The fear of early or untimely death looms large in everyone's mind who thinks about destruction, and that fear can paralyse a magician who faces destruction.

Emotion has no place in magic, particularly at this level. If you freeze from fear of death in the face of destruction then you are more likely to draw death to you. Such fear is not easily put away, as it is encoded in our very genes. We are programmed to survive, and destruction is the one thing likely to end our lives; hence the real and primal fear that it triggers.

The adept needs to learn not to suppress the fear, but to understand it and not be ridden by it. This enlightened calm in the face of destruction does not come from intellectual thought, psychological suppression, or waving magic wands; it comes from an acceptance of the fulcrum and the stability of the adept in their fate path. This stillness comes from magical work over time, and inner evolution.

The trigger of destruction in a forming pattern

In the Inner Desert, where all these patterns form, you looked at tides of destruction forming and releasing. Now let's look at the mechanism behind this. When a pattern starts to form where the Divine Breath crosses the Abyss, it triggers time, and a pattern starts to form. The fulcrum of the pattern seeks the power that will balance the need within the pattern. This fulcrum is angelic in nature, and as that power seeks what it *needs*, it calls for powers of creation and destruction.

If the pattern to be physically manifested needs destruction to completely express itself then the angelic call goes down to the Underworld and the Abyss for those destructive powers needed to complete its expression. Though the trigger is angelic—future, what answers the trigger is Underworld power—past.

Have a good think about that. As well as considering how these powers oppose each other, ponder the deeper magical implications that have to do with time and what is magically bound up by time. A great deal of understanding is hidden in this dynamic.

The Underworld's destructive powers are released by the call of necessity. They flow into the pattern and become a tide of destruction that sweeps through formation into expression. *What* destruction will express is determined by what the fulcrum needs in order to balance. *How* it expresses is determined by the already-decaying patterns at work in the physical realm: the destruction needs to fill those patterns.

It is a simple, yet powerful, mechanism; yet it is so badly misunderstood. Such ignorance serves not only to block us from a deeper understanding of creation and destruction, but, worse, it can dump us straight in the path of a destructive tide.

When an earthquake levels a badly-built, overpopulated, decaying city, its people may cry "why has God done this to us?" This desperate phrase not only shows a total lack of understanding of power and nature; it also keeps those people locked in the path of destruction.

If you do not learn that an earthquake will happen at some point, and that it is not personal to you as an individual or species, then you will never see that where and how carefully you build, and whether your community manages itself in a balanced manner, will determine whether

or not destruction wipes you all out. It is nothing to do with an emotional, anthropomorphic deity, and everything to do with common sense.

Certain things make it very hard for magicians to get their heads around this stuff. Often a religious upbringing, or being raised in a culture whose thinking is derivative of a religion, controls the magician's thinking far too much.

It comes back to *know thyself*, a phrase which really becomes a practical reality in adept magic. The adept must learn to recognise their programming, then start the long and hard process of deprogramming, so that they can observe, experience, and be around destruction without reverting back to childhood thinking.

This allows you to protect yourself properly from unnecessary destruction, and to surrender to necessary destruction. The trick is to know the difference between the two. This takes us to the issue of recognising the tides of destruction when they express out in the world.

In your apprentice and initiate training, you spent a long time looking at the wider picture of destruction and how it expresses out in the world—and god knows we currently have enough massive destruction around to look at. So we do not need to go over that again. Now you need to look at the inner signalling that heralds these tides and the subtle outer signs that let you spot them. Then you can act as necessary to avoid, sidestep, or immerse yourself in them.

Recognising a tide expressing in the physical realm

In the apprentice section, you did a lot of work developing your inner senses to the extent of your potential for them. We also looked at augury, signs in nature, signs in populations, and so forth. This will have laid a foundation for you to learn, now, how to spot the powers of destruction, death, creation, and others, as they gather before expressing.

The tides of destruction can be seen earliest in the inner worlds in the Desert. We have talked about this before and looked at how they can express as storms raging there, or firestorms, tides of fire, or large destructive beings climbing out of the Abyss and striding off towards the physical world. This stuff is hard to miss when you are in vision; and when you see it in the Desert then you know destruction is coming. But you don't know when, how, or where.

I have said this before, but I will say it again, as it is so very important: when you see these destructive expressions in the Desert, do not engage with them, do not dive into them, do not go near them. You will become part of the pattern if you do. They will destroy you, and they may turn you into a destroyer to boot. You would not become a cool mass murderer or super soldier (this sentence included for any stupid, unstable reader); rather the destruction would flow through you as it also destroyed you. Think in terms of contracting smallpox and infecting others as you suffer a slow and agonising death.

Observe, get out of the way, and do not engage. Most of the time when a very destructive pulse flows through the Desert you will be barred from entering. I, and many other adepts, have experienced this. Always remember that gates slam in your face in the inner worlds to protect you, and to protect whatever they guard from you.

Once the destructive pattern crosses over the threshold into the physical realm, the pattern starts to seek an outer vessel to contain it. That vessel can be a landmass, a group of people or creatures, a society, an event, a planet, the sun, an ocean, a group mind, etc.

Anything in the physical realm, whether physical or a consciousness, can become a vessel for such a tide to fill. It will seek something to express through. This can translate into a disaster or collections of smaller events; or it may work through scattered vessels like individual people.

Once the tide locks onto a vessel for expression, a strange dynamic happens: the whole set of patterns of life around the vessel, or part of it, shift to accommodate the tide. This shift is energetic, and beings' inner senses will pick up on it.

Everything in life has inner senses as well as outer ones—spiders, trees, oceans, hills, birds, dogs...everything. Everything can pick up on that energetic shift, adepts included: their inner senses will pick up on the energy changes, and they will also notice the responses of the creatures, land, and so forth.

Not all tides of destruction play out through large events; a tide may also express through scattered individuals across a landmass, in which case it will play out through their various fate patterns.

It can also fill a mass of people's collective consciousness, where instead of outing physically it will express through their mental and emotional processes, creating a mass shift in their thinking. You have looked at this in the past in terms of the beings attracted to, and work

within such a tide of destruction.

When tides like these release, people, creatures, and the adept pick up on the shift and feel something is wrong. Most people these days ignore those feelings or medicate them, assuming them to be issues with their own mental health. But an adept who knows how to use their inner senses will get a sense of the shift and feel that something is ‘not right.’ Or if the tide is strong enough then they will have a sense of fear, but not know where it is coming from.

Any adept who pays attention may also see odd behaviour in the creatures around them. Cats often start clinging to their owners or seeking cupboards to hide in; or if the tide is working more through life’s inner landscapes then they will sleep a lot more than normal and be groggy when they are awake. More than any other pet, cats pick up on such tides; and if their human is under inner threat then they will demand to sleep at the head or foot of the human at night, protecting them.

If you pick up on a sense of danger or a sudden shift then feel into it. Those with good inner senses may get a visionary snapshot of what is happening. You can also use divination to pinpoint going on, the practicalities of which we will look at below. The skill here is in the questions and interpretation.

If you get warnings from nature then it can be more confusing, as decoding those signals can be hard. Again we have looked at this before, but here are some pointers to help.

Decoding the shift

When you get a danger signal regarding an incoming destructive tide, what in nature warns you will indicate how to decode the message.

Think in terms of the timescale or lifespan of whatever has given you the warning. A tree has a lifespan of a few hundred years, so its time is different from ours. A day is a second to a tree; a year is a split second to the sea. Birds and animals, on the other hand, have a more immediate sense of timing which is similar to our own.

So you can start to see the problem of decoding. I have had earthquake warnings from birds literally two minutes before it struck. I have also had

earthquake warnings from trees, where the earthquake hit that exact spot (epicentre) a month later.

Sometimes when destruction is finding a way to release through a population, rather than in some big disaster, it will fill individual fate patterns like water. These are extremely dangerous for a magician, because anything in your own fate pattern that needs clearing away will provide an opportunity for the destruction to seep into.

Such seeping, impending disaster will trigger your alarms, and will show in the faces and behaviour of the people around you. Their faces will look dirty or odd, the streets will feel dirty or odd, and people will start acting out. Whereas destructive behaviour is normally kept under control, when facing such a tide people will often lose control and act out in destructive ways.

Now this happens to most people at some time, usually when threatened or under stress. But when everyone around you is acting that way, then one of these tides may be sweeping through.

The small seeping tides tend to happen frequently and are part of normal life: they are like pressure release valves to bring things up to the surface to be seen and dealt with. If the affected people deal with the issues raised by the seeping tide, then the bigger tides have no need to come in. However, in modern society, such a response to these tides rarely happens. Modern society tends not to clean up its shit; instead it moves it around and projects it outward.

Identifying the tide

For the most part, an adept can dodge such a tide unless it is deeply written in their fate path, which means they need to go through it for some reason. If you do have to go through one then sometimes you get no warning and sometimes you do. The key to standing up through a tide of destruction is to let it take what is necessary to leave you—and to submit to this willingly. Never bulk yourself up against an unavoidable destructive tide heading straight at you: learn to roll with the punches, and be proactive about what you need to let go, or what needs to be experienced—again, we have talked about this before.

Moving in and actively partaking of destruction by letting go of what it needs to take not only lessens the impact considerably, but it also turns

the destruction into something useful to you. Think of it like painful but lifesaving surgery.

Having said all this, many of these tides you do not need to paddle in. Here, divination can be a useful, accurate tool to help you step out of the way. As an adept, you are more visible to the consciousness and beings of such tides, and you will be more aware of them than a mundane person; but on the bright side you also have the skills to deal with them.

Sometimes the warnings come to you very clearly and urgently, and often when disaster is imminent. You will be told through inner senses to go home, get out of the way, or do something. But for the most part these tides, which come in different speeds and strengths, can be dodged, stood in, or deflected.

Here is one divination method you can use in such situation. It works with the Quareia deck. Out of curiosity, if you wish, you could also try the same layout with other decks to see how their different vocabulary interacts with it. These are the readings you would do if you picked up on a warning or feeling. You can do them anyway in this lesson, just to get a feel for the questions and answers. If you are not in a tide then it will say so.

Divination steps

Tree of life spreads for a yes/no answer.

- am I in physical danger from a destructive tide?
- Am I in inner/energetic danger?
- What sort of power is it? (elemental root power like fire etc.)

Landscape reading

- If I do nothing to avoid it, how will it unfold in my life?
- If I take evasive action, how will it unfold for me?

Timeline reading

- when is this likely to manifest?

Let us look at each of these reading methods and how you would approach follow-on readings.

In the first reading you are trying to ascertain whether the danger will manifest physically or through inner power. If the first reading shows a destructive or dangerous card for the last card, then it may very well affect you as physical destruction.

Before you dissolve into major panic, remember that destruction is not death; it is destruction. This could mean getting ill, having an accident, suddenly losing your home, breaking something, having bad arguments that cause a breakup, or being attacked... the range of possibilities and the strength of how things may affect you largely depend on a complex pattern of power weaves.

Then you would do the second reading and compare the two. Are they both destructive-looking, or only one? This starts to narrow down where the potential impact may strike.

Then looking at the power itself in the third reading should give you a much better idea of how this destruction may manifest. The root power will often give you a glimpse of the bigger picture, which gives you a clue about dodging it. For example, Warrior of Fire can often turn up for destructive illness or a violent incident, a riot, a war starting, or a raging argument: notice the power ranges that one card can depict.

Next you need to know what area of your life will be filled with the tide's power if it runs its course. You cross-reference this with the previous readings, which is why you always write down each reading. If the first card put down in the landscape reading is also destructive, and you had indications from your first reading that it may well manifest through your body, then you know you are possibly looking at a sudden illness or an accident.

However, be careful not to jump to conclusions. You may just get a bad cold, which will feel horrible but not be dangerous, while the tide is filling something else in your life. Hence you look at the possibilities from different angles. If in the landscape reading the destruction shows in home and hearth, but nothing else, then the tide will probably not hit you directly, but will instead manifest through your community, family, or through 'the people' of your society.

An illness that is not part of the tide is simply affected by the backwash of the power. For example, as I write this, a tide is outing itself. It came on after a two-month build. I began to feel it at the end of February. It was

not a sudden, adrenal tide; it built slowly. I started to lose energy, which is my signal for something not being right, and when I did readings it showed ill health and destruction. Great.

But when I looked deeper, the illness turned out to be just a transient virus I had picked up, and the disaster was not going to directly affect me. The destruction showed in the Inner Temple position as the card Destruction, and the Warrior of Fire was in the Home and Hearth position. In the River of Dreams position was Fellowship: I was working in my sleep. But my base card—first position, the path ahead, and the longer-term future were all fine and dandy.

This told me that I was connecting with something destructive, but it would not directly affect me; instead I was to be put to work. Sure enough, at the beginning of last week I started to have broken dreams, sudden jumps that woke me up throughout the night, and in the mornings I felt like I had been fighting or carrying bricks all night.

The tide began to manifest in the last few days as a series of large earthquakes around the ring of fire. I have connections with many of the countries currently being affected, which is why I picked up on it at an inner level. After the first big earthquake, four days ago as I write this, my health suddenly picked up and my energy rushed back in.

So don't assume the destruction is always coming at you. You have to take your time with readings, and have no emotional reaction but look at them logically. If, however, the landscape reading shows disaster or bad cards in your first position, your path ahead, your Grindstone, etc., then you probably are standing in its path. So before you start to look at how to dodge the storm, you need a timeline.

Timeline reading

First start with months. As you shuffle, focus on a timeline of six cards in a row, one card for each month, with the first card being the calendar month you are currently in.

If one of these shows a destructive card then focus on that month. Do the same again, but this time let each card represent a week, the first card being the first week of the month. Define in your mind which day starts the week.

If nothing shows at all then the destructive month card you saw may have been a red herring, so go back to months and widen things out to twelve months.

At times I have picked up on a tide, and the timeline reading showed it would manifest in nine months time...and it did. I have also found that the further away you are from the event that you are picking up on, the more powerful it will be when it outs. In this case I had nine months warning and got out of its way, so it outed down a different route, away from me, and when it did manifest I was safely out of its path.

Once you have an idea of the timeline then you can start to look at how to avoid it, what to change in your life to shift your fate path, and so on. This is what we will look at now.

Dodging the tide

There are various ways to dodge one of these tides. Much depends on how its magnitude, how widespread it is, and whether it will manifest physically or work through energies and consciousness.

Small tides tend to flow fairly regularly, and for the most part you will not really notice them unless you are directly on the receiving end. Some of these are cyclical and can be predicted by the time of the year, so you can prepare for them each time they come round. Others are huge and only come round in wider periods of destruction.

The larger ones can come as a one-off tide, or they can be a series of repeating tides that visit until the job is done. This can take a few years. Some are confined to a small area; others can be worldwide. When such a tide comes the adept must use all their inner senses, divinatory skills, knowledge, and experience to figure out how to get out of its way, or live through and survive it.

This can all sound very dramatic, but you have to put it in context: these tides are a natural part of life on this planet. They are like bad weather, and when a large hurricane is heading at you, you don't sit and panic or do protection rituals, you just get out of its way. What we don't understand terrifies us; what we do understand we can cope with. It is all part of surviving life.

Like a hurricane, a destructive tide flows through an area, kills some people, injures others, wrecks houses, destroys vegetation, and so forth.

Then the sun comes out and people start to pick up the pieces. Look at these tides like storms: for some you just secure things outside your home, for others you need to board up the windows and get in supplies, and for the really fierce ones you need to evacuate. How you respond depends on their strength, their duration, and their potential to cause damage.

Your storm preparations would be to put destroying deities to sleep for a while, or with a deity like Sekhmet to give her red port wine to drink each day. Any aggressive or Underworld artwork should be taken down and put away until the tide has passed. Essentially, anything in your living space or life that could be a vessel for destructive power should be put to sleep. Box things up, put them in cupboards, or wrap them carefully and store them away from the living space.

One thing that seems to happen with all these tides is minor, unpredictable changes to your fate path. If your fate path and a tide look likely to intersect—something you identify through divination—then often making small changes can cause huge shifts. Taking a different, unusual route to work; cancelling a trip or going elsewhere; making a long-term decision that is unusual or unexpected... these in particular are great at moving fate paths.

Small tides

Small tides of destruction can be useful for helping to clear stagnant things in your life, for making you focus on keeping everything in order, and for when you have to do something involving destruction. You channel the energy through whatever you are doing so that it outs in a constructive way.

With any of these tides, no matter how big or small, how you as an individual adept act will depend on how it will manifest or pass over you.

For instance, I have used these smaller tides to write about destruction, to break up old furniture and burn it, to spring-clean the house, and to do clearing work out in the garden. It can be that simple. Or you can ride them out and learn from observing how you react to it and what happens to people around you.

The key to riding out these small tides is not to get filled with them. If you find your emotions becoming negative and argumentative then step

back, be still, and recognise what is happening. Learn to wait it out and not have your destructive buttons pushed. You will learn a great deal as an adept by not dodging the small tides, but simply observing them and learning how to stand and be calm as they swirl around your legs.

Ever had a week where you seem to be constantly coming across car crashes, things collapsing, people arguing and fighting, everything in your house breaking, and your temper constantly on the edge... and then a sudden destructive or violent event happens in your town or neighbourhood? A building collapses, someone shoots somebody else, or a storm rips in and affects an area? You get the idea. This is part of life, and when you see these sorts of events all clustered together then you are looking at a small destructive tide outing itself.

If your readings show that you are not directly in its path then do nothing. Ride the waves and watch. If you are, then do something you had not planned to do—and therefore was not in your immediate pattern. It must not be a normal thing for you to do, and it must be something with destruction in its action. Go off to the local park and pull up weeds, break up an old cabinet, clear out cupboards... get rid of what needs culling. Some action of taking away, letting go, breaking up. Do it for a few days. For those days, be unpredictable in your actions. This lays down new pathways of possibilities in your short-term fate pattern. That mechanism alone, used in different ways, can get you out of all sorts of things.

Medium tides

Medium tides can be a bit more dangerous and need a bit more attention. Again, these tides are naturally occurring they sweep things clean in many different ways; but for the adept they can be a bit of a problem, as magic tends to make you more visible to them.

This is one of the many reasons why you spend a great deal of your time balancing, and keeping both creation and destruction as part of your life and magical work. If you regularly and willingly let go of what no longer needs to be in your life, and you step up to the harder lessons that life throws at you, then there will probably be little in your pattern that truly needs the tide of destruction to fill it. If you do it yourself, the tides don't need to.

But even then, the sheer energy of these tides can still cause an uncomfortable ride and leave you battered. For the most part, if you attend

to your shit—which means emotionally, physically, and in your life and surroundings—it is much easier to get out of the way of these things. Some of them are cyclical and others seem to come at random—usually when a landmass, society, or something else is seriously tipping out of balance. They are part of a natural balancing act.

First, identify the tide, how it may affect you, and what area of your life it may play out in. Then look at the various layers you can deploy to dodge it. Your first layer to deploy would be the ‘storm preparation.’ Then should come minor changes in your routine and life actions.

The other thing you have to look at, particularly as an adept, is making sure that no magic is being slung at you that could be energised and boosted by the tide. This can and does happen. As an adept, particularly if you teach, write, or head a community, you will make enemies. It just happens. If someone happens to send destructive magic your way and it coincides with a destructive tide, then the tide will fill the pattern of the magic and can potentially turn it into a monster of an attack—even if the original magic is weak or poorly constructed. In such a situation you should take care of the original magic and get rid of it before doing anything else.

Another layer of dealing with such a tide is invisibility. In this age of social media, making yourself invisible is almost unthinkable to many: people post pictures of their altars, their homes, etc., and they constantly post their life happenings and emotions to the point of being silly. None of this is generally a good idea for a magician. Keep a presence, but have boundaries.

Magical invisibility comes through suspending all magical work except rebalancing, tuning, and any necessary protection work. Do no readings for anyone, and only do absolutely necessary ones for yourself. Stop any visionary work: only do exteriorised service work. Temporary talismans can also be very useful, as can engaging with a protective deity in the house—but only do this if you are already working with them.

Exterior service work can be writing, gardening, cleaning a spring. . . something with magical purpose but firmly rooted and done in the physical world. If you keep busy with magical service then you automatically get a lot of protection around you. It also changes your vessel pattern: as you are busy working in an outer dynamic of creation, destruction, or both, your pattern is already engaged, and does not need filling with the tide.

The deities, guardians, spirits, and tuned gates within your home also confer a layer of protection. They will deflect some of the tide and

also give you warnings. If, however, you have filled your home with skulls, bones, and statues of Underworld destroying spirits like Pazuzu, Lillith, or Kali, then they will draw the tide in and fill your house with it. Destroying is what they do—and they will be a large magnet for such a tide.

This is why anything remotely magical in your house should rarely be permanently positioned somewhere and never moved. Deity statues, guardians, objects, and so forth often want to move to another place or be put to sleep in the cupboard for a while. We have looked at this before. When they ask for something like that, one of the reasons can be a tide coming. If your inner senses are not good enough to pick up on the direct message, then the coming pattern of destruction will start to drag on your energies, making you exhausted all the time. That is when you use divination to see whether something in the house needs to change: magical 'houseguests' often pick up on an incoming tide much earlier than we do, so pay attention to them!

Keep your house still and tuned during a tide. Use high frequency plainchant daily to keep it still and focused, and keep a candle burning at night in the bedroom. If you can, tune the work space and keep a constant vigil flame going there, on the central altar.

If your readings for how it may manifest in your life show your body, then you know it will try to out through your health. So do health readings, look at your diet, and see if you need to make a temporary change to what you eat. See if you need to fast for a day to prepare the body, or whether a virus is smouldering away that you need to attend to. This is where you have to draw from what you learned as an apprentice and initiate. Remember your herbs, remedies, ritual cleansings, etc., so that there is nothing for the tide to fill. Use readings to figure out which options look best.

You are essentially building an unpredictable picture that is clear and clean, and that says to the tide "nothing to see here, nothing happening, everything has been dealt with, move along." This mechanism is used a lot by adepts, as it is much easier than trying to use ritual magical utterance, which will just get you squished like a bug. It would be like an ant facing off against a seven-foot giant. You just go invisible and sidestep it.

You will know when the tide is withdrawing as two things tend to happen: your energy levels go back up, and something breaks. There is always an out somewhere. For me it has been things like a car breaking down, the washing machine dying, dropping and breaking something

precious... the power is expelled through something that can break.

If you go back over your old work then you will see all sorts of subtle mechanisms that can be used around the house and around yourself. You will also see tips on how to act that will take you out of such a tide's sightline.

Once you think you have everything in place, do a four-directional reading with the six cards and ask if you are still in any danger. Look at the powers in the centre, east, and south, to see if they are still active. If the tide is leaving then it will show in the north; if it is in its final stages of activity then it will appear in the west or the card crossing the centre card.

Then move the timeline forward to see what it looks like in four weeks' time. If it all looks good then you are working your way successfully through it. If it still looks bad then you need to look further into taking action. Remember, any actions should be ones that make you invisible, that change your intended path, that sidestep, or that hold you in balance.

Medium tides can last from a few days to a few weeks. Be ready to tread your way through them over a series of weeks, and keep up with what you are doing. Do not get obsessive with readings, as this will draw the tide's power to you. Only do what is necessary and no more.

Some medium and strong tides come in very short, powerful pulses. These tend to out through disasters like bombings, earthquakes, powerful storms, etc. When one is coming, as a magician you will often get a warning. These sorts of tides tend to tie in with hotspots and out themselves through one.

The warning may be swift and strong, so you have to learn to listen to your inner senses and contacts. Sometimes you will think you are getting a warning, and it is just you; other times it will be a contact.

The other learned technique that you can use, when you feel a strong tide coming at you, is to stop whatever you are doing and tune to the directional pattern of your work space. Again, this takes training, and a novice could not do it successfully as it takes continuous work within that pattern to reach the point where you can just switch it on. Seeing the pattern of the gates around you, the powers above and below, and you as the adept power pattern in the centre, will create an oasis where the tides can wash around you.

The key is knowing what to do and when. This comes from your adept knowledge, as each manifestation of these powers are different,

and so need different reactions. Do you get out of the way, stand in the flow as an oasis, go invisible...? You must learn from experience. The difference between an adept and mundane person is that you get a warning, and you learn to translate that warning and act accordingly. You are not an unaware victim of the tides; you step out of that and into being aware, active, and safe.

Large and prolonged tides

In the secret of the tabernacle he will hide you...

Large and prolonged tides are rare and tend to be a generational thing. They can be worldwide or regional, but either way they change societies and can go on for years. A heavily overpopulated society, or one that is corrupt, oppressive, and ripe for change, can only reach a certain level of that before it triggers a tide of destruction to start to unravel it.

For an adept this tide is very different from the other types, as you cannot get out of its way unless you move to a totally different continent or distant country—and sometimes not even then, if the tide is worldwide. So the adept must learn to stand their ground and live through it. In such circumstances you often find adepts forced, by various life situations, to move where they live or to withdraw from public life: they are taken through circumstances and fate to a safe place.

These tides are often a decade long, and they strengthen and weaken over that time. They are very interesting to observe, as they do two things: they unravel degeneration and trigger regeneration where a spark of a balancing power.

Here is where the magician comes in. A major, prolonged tide will express as repeated natural disasters in some area along with a rise in oppression, violence, war, and conflict. Everything seems to be centred on one country or small group of countries, and everything that could go wrong does.

If the society is rotten then it will become heavily unbalanced. But if an adept works within it, through repeated use of balancing rituals, fulcrum and cleaning rituals, and regeneration rituals—the working of Osiris, for example—balancing the tide's patterns and working in vision in service doing cleanups, tuning places to the fulcrum, etc., then such

work creates a shift within the tide like a small catalyst. This allows regeneration to begin to form. This takes some of the power from the destructive tide and feeds it into regeneration in whatever way needs to happen.

No waving of wands or elaborate rituals can be done to change the tide: it is simply a vast force of nature that you must learn not to be pulled along with. They change the consciousness of people and they change the landscape. An adept learns not to be pulled along with the destructive shift in consciousness, but treads water and stays afloat and centred. Get on with your work, and do not allow anything in your life to be open to such a tide.

However, you can do some practical magical things to learn about these tides. You can observe them, study them, and form your own unique way of dealing with them when they are in your path. In practical terms, never actually do anything other than *learn* when a tide is hitting somewhere not nearby. Don't try to be a saviour and work magically with distant lands and peoples to save them: you can get your fate path seriously entangled with it, and it could take you out.

But if you find yourself in the path of a dangerous tide, and you have studied them and have formed your own working methods to survive it or dodge it, then you will deepen your own magical knowledge considerably: you learn by experience.

Extended training

I will set a series of tasks to put you on the road to individual learning and experience. Expand on them as appropriate.

Choose one or more of these tasks to expand your knowledge and skills by direct experimentation and exploration.

Visionary Viewing

Working in the Inner Library, go to a viewing platform where you can observe the inner power around the Pacific Ring of Fire. If you do not know what that is then look it up.

You are looking for the Underworld powers that emerge in that ring, and seeing how they attract the tides. Once you have seen what you need to see, shift your visionary sight to look at how beings flow through and around the ring when a tide is active.

Also look at the different islands and landmasses that connect to the Ring of Fire, and how the spiritual, mystical, and magical actions of the people of those different places interact with the spirits of those lands. See the interplay and, if appropriate, step from the platform to one of those places and talk with the deities and spirits about the tides and how they view the people that live around them.

Then shift your vision again to look at how the tides manifest as disasters, both natural and societal. Watch what happens, and see how the inner flows and outer people mingle. Take notes, and type them up.

Alternatively you can do this with another area you know has a destructive build-up or tide flowing through it: do the various tasks and centre them on your chosen location.

Divination

Do readings with the Quareia deck using the landscape layout, the four-directional layout, and the Tree of Life layout. See if an active tide is around or near you, and if so, what its length of time and strength? What will the result of it be?

Then look to see if it will affect, or is affecting, you directly. If so, how? Use the readings to work out if you need to do anything, and, if so, what. Look at your longer-term future, over three years, to see what would happen if you did nothing. Take notes and type them up.

Astrology

At this time and over the last few years, Japan has been in the direct path of a massive tide of destruction. See if you can identify when this first started to express. Using that time, build an astrological chart for the beginning of the tide.

Using Japan as ground zero in the chart, look at the transits for February, March, and April of each year from 2011 to 2016. Look at what is happening astrologically both in the wider sense with the slow planets, and in the narrower sense with the movements and alignments of the faster-moving planets. Compare this with the various disasters that have visited Japan that you know about.

You can also, if you wish, go back in vision to view those points in time and see the inner dynamics of what was going on. Write down or type up your astrological findings and any notes.

Planetary spirits

Go to the temple of the planetary spirits and call for the spirit of Saturn. Talk to the mediator of the spirit of Saturn that will also appear (the mediator is usually a human or humanoid figure you can communicate with) and ask them about the astrological roles that come into play when a destructive tide is in action. If you do not understand what they say, ask them to show you. Afterwards, type up your notes. Go a few times if you need to, as communication with these powers can be difficult.

Patterns

In your ritual work space, open the directions and gates and tune everything in, then recall what you saw when viewing the Ring of Fire. Focus on Japan—to stay with the theme in learning—and think about one point in time over the timespan you looked at astrologically when there was a disaster. Tune yourself into that time. Spend time really getting the feeling, in meditation, of that point in time. What happened, what did it look like from an inner point of view? If you have chosen to work with another location, then do this work for that location.

When you have it clear and focused, get up and go to the east.

Talk to the contact that comes to the threshold. Ask them what the inner tide brought to that land at that time. Hold your arms out. They will put something in your hands: the pattern of that tide for that country at that time. Stand in the east and feel into the pattern: how does it feel

in your mind? How does it make your body feel? What purpose can you feel in it—its focus?

Step back, still holding the pattern, and go to the south. Close your eyes and hold the pattern out to the contact in the south. As you hold it, focus on the fulcrum within you and the adept power pattern around you. Seek the fulcrum of the pattern with your mind. Where is it, and what does it feel like? If the pattern has no fulcrum then strengthen your sense of your own fulcrum, and let that sense flow into the pattern so that it can trigger a fulcrum within it.

Once you feel the fulcrum in the pattern, strengthen it. From the fulcrum, trigger the Light Bearer to the left of the pattern and Restriction to its right. Let the poles of creation and destruction express equally in the pattern.

The pattern may start to change and shift in your hands. If it does, let it: it is seeking balance. You will know when the pattern is ready to be handed over, as the future path in the south will suddenly become brighter and more formed. Hand over the pattern and look at the path: what do you see?

Now go to the west. Stand before the west altar and seek, in your mind, the goddess of the ocean and seas around Japan. When she appears on the threshold—or if one of the beings that works with her appears in her place—bow to them, and talk to them. Ask them about the disasters, and what needs to happen.

Make sure you tell them that you are not of that land, nor are you on that land; but that you are trying to learn, and are also willing to help in a small way if you can do anything. When you have finished, bow, step back, and go to the north.

Stand before the north gate. Again focus on Japan, and call on the ancestors of that land. See if one or more of them is willing to step forward. If they do then ask them their advice for the current people of Japan. You may get a sensible or mystical ancestor who gives a message to be passed on to the people, or you may get a layer of ancestors who are more down-to-earth and want vengeance, honour, and so forth.

If you manage to tap in and connect with a mystical ancestor, and they give you a message, then no matter how strange, garbled, or incomprehensible it may be, remember it or its feel.

Bow to them, step back, go back to the east, and step through the east gate to the Inner Library. Go to a viewing platform that takes you the

threshold of Japan. See the islands beneath you. Utter out to the wind whatever the ancestor said to you, and ask the wind to take it to the ears of those who will hear.

When you have finished spend some time in the Inner Temple, rebalancing. Type up your notes.

Talismans

Create a design for a talisman that is the directional pattern with the adept power pattern in the middle. Make it personal to yourself. Either engrave it yourself or take the pattern to an engraver and have it put on a silver disk.

When it is ready, work in your work space. Focus the intent that the talisman is for protecting you from destructive tides, and also to give you necessary warnings about incoming destruction. Take it around the directions, then take it into the Inner Temple, and repeat the process. Tune it to the two places, to each direction in the places, and any powers and contacts that come forward.

Keep it safe, close to your scales; and when a tide comes in and you have been warned, put it on. Take it off when the tide has passed. You can also use it for dangerous situations, inner and outer. This type of talisman is not plugged into your energy; it is plugged into the patterns. Use it only when needed.

QUAREIA

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