



QUAREIA—THE INITIATE

Module VII—The Realm of the Inner
Desert

Lesson 8: Mid-course Exam

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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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You have now reached a phase in your training where there is a slow but defined shift coming in how and what you learn: you are starting the preparation for adepthood. There has been a lot of work that details the deep, underlying principles of magical dynamics. This has given you a foundation of understanding from which you can now begin to draw for the rest of your training. You have had to do a lot of reading, a lot of thinking, and have repeatedly looked at the same dynamics from different angles and different levels of power.

Now you have reached a stage where you can practically apply and externalise this knowledge. You should now have a good understanding of what is behind a magical act, how it works, why it works, and what it draws on. You should also, by now, have a much greater understanding of the intricate details of how magic externalises, what it potentially can do, and how far its reach can be.

Before we shift gears and move on to more active, practical magic at adept level, it is time to assess how much you have taken in and understood, and how this understanding has changed your approach to magic. The best way to do this is for you to answer a series of questions to the best of your ability. This is not a 'pass or fail' type of exam; it is a pause-and-reflect, a self-assessment. If you are being mentored then it will help your mentor understand what stage of development you are at, and where you need to be refocused in terms of revision and understanding.

The questions are divided into seven sections. Each question has to do with a hypothetical situation that would potentially call for magical action. Choose at least one question per section and outline what approach you would take.

Think about the process from start to finish: how would you assess a situation to determine if action is actually necessary? What preparations would you make, what tools would you use, what precautions would you take, and if your first application of magic failed, what then? What alternatives would you try, and what follow-ups would be necessary? Then outline what clean-up work or restorative work would afterwards be necessary.

All the problems posed below are based on real scenarios that have been dealt with magically in the past. These questions are designed to make you think practically about how to apply what you have learned. They will also highlight any weaknesses in your understanding, so that you can then identify what areas of study you need to revisit.

Answer the questions on computer and save the file either for your own future review or for your mentor. When you are nearly at the end of your adept training it would be a good exercise to revisit your notes from this lesson to see whether, and how, your approach would be different in light of your adept training.

The questions include all the pertinent information presented in these real-life situations. As is the case in reality, some of the information is magically relevant and some is not. You have to sift through the information given and discern the mundane from the magical. Remember rule one: *no drama*. Don't get sucked in by the drama.

Section one

Question 1

A family moved into a house in the mountains in Colorado, USA, six months ago. The children are having intense nightmares, and the husband has started to act in an obsessive way and is starting to show signs which could indicate mental illness. The wife's periods have become especially heavy, and she has started to be constantly sick. Before

the move they were all fine. Both adults are professionals and have an interest in 'the unknown,' but they do not actually do anything magical. They have sought medical help for all the family members, but nothing is working and they are getting desperate. You live nearby and they contact you for help. What do you do?

Question 2

A family contacts you with problems they are having in their house. They have lived there for twelve years, since the birth of their daughter, and up until now the place has always been quiet and peaceful. Last year they had an extension built on the house, and since then they have been plagued with odd, and sometimes violent, occurrences in the house. Stones keep smashing windows, but they cannot find anyone doing it. They put up a CCTV to try to catch the vandal, but no one has shown up on camera. Books fly off bookshelves and hit people on the head, cupboards tip over and crash, lights keep blowing, and sometimes the daughter wakes up with a black eye and covered in scratches. The husband has reoccurring nightmares, and when he enters a room he often hears what he describes as 'whispering.' When you go to the house it has defined cold spots and areas that make you feel adrenal. On your visit you do experience a door bang, a phone flying off a shelf and hitting you, and a sense of frustration in the house. On questioning the couple, you discover that when they built the extension there was a well-spring underneath which they capped off. What do you do, and what do you think are potential causes that need looking at?

Question 3

A couple contact you as a last resort. They do not believe in inner things, but they are desperate and have no one else left to turn to for help. The wife is a church-going Christian but praying in the house and a house blessing has not worked. The husband, who contacted you, is open to help, but the wife is slightly hostile. This couple travel round the world a lot, often to third-world countries.

The wife is constantly having nightmares and appears very highly strung. She wakes up sometimes with horrific pain down her lower back. Her right leg causes her a great deal of pain but no medical reason can be found for it. She invited the church group round for weekly prayer sessions, but the problems just seem to get worse. She is losing weight and becoming weak, and her husband has a strong fear that she is dying.

As you walk round the house you notice artefacts from countries all

over the world, all mixed together. They live in five acres of woodland and the husband has a hobby of wood carving: he cuts down local trees and carves them to sell. He is also an avid gardener and has been brush-clearing the woodland to set down a lawn. What are the potential reasons for their problem, and what do you do?

Section two

Question 1

A person who does magic contacts you. Everything round them suddenly seems to be going wrong: they have lost their job, they are getting sick, they have just gone through a divorce, and they feel stuck and depressed. When you talk to them they tell you that even though their house costs are high, they do not want to move. As you sit and talk to them you notice that the house is full of stuff: they seem to have all sorts of expensive things in the house. As the person talks to you, you discover that they are working ritual magic and have done spells and rituals for financial stability. They confess to you that they are a bit of compulsive shopper, and they also seem to obsess over the partner they have just been divorced from. They feel someone is attacking them magically, and that if they could solve that problem then their life would be much better. They ask you to do magical work to get them a job and to get them their partner back. What is actually going on here and what do you do?

Question 2

A woman contacts you for help. She is a strong empath who works shamanically with the nearby land. Two years ago she started to get sick and lose energy, but no medical reason could be found for it. She has nightmares about past mistakes, but many of the dreams seem to have no connection to her actual life and past. She has started to get an irrational fear of death and sometimes wakes up in the middle of the night feeling as if something is pulling on her right foot.

Her house seems clean and balanced. Her husband is fine apart from being worried about his wife. As you wander round the house you get no particular feeling of anything, but when you do a directional reading for the house, the wall adjoining the house next door is repeatedly represented by destructive cards. When you look at the wall nothing in

particular stands out, but through the window you notice crows gathered in a tree in front of the house next door.

You ask about the neighbour next door; the wife tells you that a little old lady lives there alone. She tells you that when the old lady moved in two years ago she was very weak and ill, but now she is much better and seems to have tons of energy for an old lady. What do you think is causing the problem and what potential solutions can be offered?

Question 3

A magician contacts you in desperation. He works magically in a few different systems, including with Babylonian/Sumerian deities, Santeria, and Nordic magic. He is mid-thirties, normally healthy and of sound mind. Recently he has been having trouble sleeping. He cannot digest food, is constantly afraid, and has been having a series of freak accidents that have nearly killed him. He mentions that a year ago on holiday he went for a reading from a local Bruja in Mexico. The meeting with her did not go well after he made fun of her and of what she did. He had a car crash the week after, and since then his life seems to have gone to shit. He has tried all sorts of spells to put things right, as he feels she may have cursed him. His spells only seem to have made things worse. What could be going on here, and what possible solutions can you offer?

Section three

Question 1

A couple contact you because their teenage son is very ill and may be dying. He has contracted a rare and severe infection and is in an intensive care unit with heart failure. They ask you to come to the hospital and help. What do you do?

Question 2

Someone contacts you because their sister is in a coma and has been so for two weeks. She was in a car crash and has multiple injuries, but her brain stem is still showing activity and the MRI and CAT scans are

hopeful; yet she has not woken up. They ask you for help. What do you do?

Question 3

You are sitting in a café having a coffee when another customer starts choking. The situation quickly deteriorates and the person dies while you are there. When you get home you feel very drained and upset. Then your heart starts to flutter and beat out of rhythm and you feel light-headed, as if you were going to pass out. You know this is more than a stress reaction and your energy is draining off quickly. What could be happening and what do you do?

Section four

Question 1

You move to a new job and find a place to live. After you have been there a few weeks, even though the area is pretty, it feels wrong. The people in the town all seem angry and depressed, and everything feels sticky. Your new house has a garden but nothing grows well in it. The whole area feels rotten, sad, and bad. You cannot sleep well and you keep catching colds or not feeling well. Everyone in the neighbourhood is the same. You cannot leave your job and you cannot move, but you cannot cope with the energy of the area. What could be going on and what do you do?

Question 2

As you travel to work and back, and when you go out and about in the town where you live, you start to notice images and names that keep referring to a particular deity. Wherever you go you keep seeing the same thing. You also start seeing depictions or names related to the deity in media, magazines, shop windows, and so forth. Then someone gifts you a museum copy of that deity. What is going on, what do you do, and how do you approach it?

Question 3

Until recently everything had been fine in your life, but you have come to feel that you no longer fit in your job or that your job is horrible. You feel blocked, unable to move forward in life in general, and you have tried to look for other jobs to no avail. Your magical work also feels stuck and you are generally unhappy. This situation is new to you and you do not understand why it is happening. You are healthy and good at your job, but you suddenly feel that you do not belong, or you feel trapped. What could be going on and how do you deal with it?

Section five

Question 1

A friend contacts you for help. They have a couple of young children and a child attacker appears to be active in their neighbourhood. The police have not yet found him and your friend is terrified that his daughter will be attacked. He asks for magical help to protect his child. What do you do and how do you do it?

Question 2

You have been magically attacked by a group of disgruntled and very capable magicians. They are using Western ritual magic to stop you doing magic and to destroy your life. Their results are manifesting to you as nightmares, weakness, everyone round you misinterpreting what you say and becoming aggressive, animals attacking you, a constant sensation of your body burning, and an inability to start any magical work. You have done divination which clearly shows an attack and you have a good idea who they are. The leader is a very unbalanced individual with whom you have clashed in the past, and he/they are using magic for revenge. The magic they have used is a long-term pattern to shut you down and isolate you. What steps do you take, and how do you approach it and over what period of time?

Question 3

Someone contacts you. They are a soldier and have been deployed for a tour in an active and very dangerous war zone. They are interested in magic but do not do magic themselves. They ask you to do magical protection on them, like a talisman, for while they are away. What do you do and how do you do it?

Question 4

You are approached for help. Someone was very badly physically attacked and raped. They are going through the medical and psychological healing process but something deeper seems to be happening to them and they are slowly losing the will to live. They seem to have suddenly aged, they have no vital force, and their body is just not healing. Psychologically they have become withdrawn and have been put on antidepressants. They ask you if you can do anything to help the healing process. What do you do?

Section six

Question 1

Your bathroom seems to have acquired a ghost. Every time you go in there you get a sense, out of the corner of your eye, of someone standing in the corner. The feeling round them is terror. This keeps happening so you do a reading. It indicates that you do indeed have a ghost in your house. What do you do, and how do you approach it?

Question 2

You are contacted to help in an investigation. A child has been missing for three days and the trail has gone cold. You agree to help. What do you do, and how do you go about it?

Question 3

The country where you live is going through political turmoil. The government is getting more and more extreme and repressive, and is turning the country into a totalitarian state. People are being arrested or just vanishing, more and more oppressive laws are being enacted, and certain minority groups are being heavily targeted by the state. There is a huge military buildup which seems to be aimed at the people of the nation. Think in terms of pre world war two Nazi Germany. There are a few magicians that you know in travelling distance of your home: you all work roughly in the same system and you know each other well. You all agree that as a group you need to take some sort of action to protect the integrity of the nation and restore some semblance of balance. What do you do, how do you approach it, and over what timescale do you work?

Question 4

The weather forecast says that an epic storm is about to hit your area. It could easily become a tornado or hurricane that could kill a lot of people. You go outside to talk to the wind and you get a very strong sense of immediate danger, of death coming at you and the people nearby at high speed. It is an angry feeling and you can feel the hands of your HGA on your shoulders. What do you do, and how do you do it?

Section seven

Question 1

You go on holiday to a beautiful area and on the third night you have a strong dream. You dream that you are standing in a school and an elderly person comes in. They tell you that the land you are sleeping on is heavily poisoned and they ask you for your help. When you wake you do some internet research and find that yes indeed, that area was a dumping ground for nuclear waste and old munitions from the 1960s. The river that runs through it was, and occasionally still is, a dumping ground for a major chemical factory upstream. You go out for a walk and notice that many of the trees look as though they are dying, and the birds seem to have a lot of deformities. None of what you see is obvious: you didn't spot it when you first arrived. You are only going to be in the area for a week. What do you do, and how do you do it?

Question 2

You are in vision in the Inner Desert or Inner Library when a contact appears and asks you to look at something. They take you to a viewing platform where you see an ancient sacred site or the ruins of a temple in travelling distance from where you live. It has a dark fog round it and lots of parasites hanging about. When you come out of vision and do some research you find that a lot of disturbing things have happened there over the last few hundred years: murders, suicides, and so forth. When you go back further in history, you find that there was a massacre there. What do you do and how do you go about it? And for how long do you work on it?

Question 3

You are asked to guide a small group of people in beginning magic on a regular basis. They all have some understanding of magic from books and online classes, but nothing much, and what they do know is a mixture of Wicca and Thelema. They all have different ideas about what magic is and what it is used for. They want lessons for twelve months. What do you teach them, how do you teach it, and how do you approach the varied opinions, ideas, and intentions of the students?

QUAREIA

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