

Beltane 2012 with Treibh na Tintean! (deluxe edition!)

Gathering

(Drummers begin quiet rhythm softly and the chant slowly grows. Everyone is encouraged to drum, clap, shake rattles, dance, etc.)

Gathering Chant

ALL: *People are returning to the ancient ways . . .*
[The Goddess is our Mother and we celebrate . . .
Counterpoint: The Goddess Returns, the winter abates
The power of Love will always conquer hate!]
(Repeat for several minutes until all have gathered.)

NARR 1: *In ancient Celtic cultures, there were only two seasons: winter and summer. Winter arrives with Samhain, and summer arrives with Beltane. Samhain is the beginning of our new year, and the seeming death and darkness of the winter represents the “eve” or preparation time for the light, hot, steamy season of summer. That season is almost here!!*

NARR 2: *Fires are essential to both Samhain and Beltane. Right now, the Winter fires lit at the beginning of the year at Samhain are still burning; our duty is to make the transition from that Winter fire, based on external, human technologies of fire, hearth & furnace to the natural fires of Summer heat, based on natural sources: both the outer warmth of the sun and inner heat of passion and soul fire.*

NARR 1: *Having tended and stoked both our hearths and inner fires all winter, now is the advent of the passionate expression of that fire in the outer world. All acts of love and pleasure are Her rituals!*

Meditation

Cleansing

Invocation

NARR 1: *We begin in the darkness of winter. All lights and fires have been put out. Take a moment to reflect, in the dark, on the steadily growing light & life begun at Imbolc, balanced at Ostara, and ready to spring into fullness with the coming abundant growth of summer. May the spirits of the five directions guide us and guard us in this rite!*

EAST: *Feathered winds come dance with me / Lift me from the ground.
Join my waltz, my spirit, freed / as we're upward bound.*

SOUTH: *Tongues of flame come jump with me / Ye purifying fires,
Join my joy, my playful glee / As we move yet higher.*

WEST: *Tears from seas, come sing with me / Roll from out the caves,
Join my verse, my body cleansed / In your healing waves.*

NORTH: *Mother Earth come laugh with me / Set aside your toils,
Join my chant of forests green / Secure me in rich soil.*

ALL DIRS: *Earth and Air, Fire and Sea / I call you all, come dance with me!
Grant me now a sacred space / while working magic in this place.*

(Jenna and perhaps a helper, and David and perhaps a helper step outside the circle to await their rebirth!)

Calling the Goddess

NORTH: *Friends that in the circle stand, heart to heart and hand to hand, bringing Beltane to the land.*

All: ***Let the sleeper awake!***

SOUTH: *Let the flames of Beltane burn, may the Old Ones now return. May we of their magick learn.*

All: ***Let the sleeper awake!***

EAST: *Let the streams and fields be pure, Earth and sky be clean once more, love and laughter long endure!*

All: ***Let the sleeper awake!***

WEST: *Forests spreading, peace returning, Where the Pagan fires are burning, now the inner light discerning.*

All: ***Let the sleeper awake!***

N & S: *May the Lady's touch again, Rest upon the barren plain,
With the sunshine and the rain!*

All: ***Let the sleeper awake!***

E & W: *Beltane magick here we sing, chant the rune and dance the ring,
Joy and blessing shall it bring,*

All: ***Let the sleeper awake!***

Goddess Chant (Begin first chant, then repeat second one 3 x):

Women: *The Goddess is alive and magick is afoot . . .*

Men: *We all come from the Goddess, and to US she shall return
In her summer splendor, rising through the earth to us!*

(The Goddess emerges from the foliage to stand under the sky once again. [Jenna will enter the circle and process clockwise, letting us all admire her!])

NARR 1: *The Goddess is here, Summer is here! She is the Gracious Goddess, Who gives the gift of joy unto the hearts of men and women. Upon Earth She gives knowledge of the Spirit Eternal; and beyond death, She gives peace, freedom and reunion with those who have gone before.*

NARR 2: *Nor does She demand sacrifice, for behold! She is the Mother of all things living and Her love is poured out upon the Earth. Invoke Her with your arms open wide, Her winds caressing you, teasing you, going through you and all around you.*

NARRs 1&2: *She is here! Summer is here! (And there was much rejoicing!)*

Calling the God

NARR 1: *As we assisted the Goddess up through the earth, we must now help the God back from death with the Earth chant.*

Earth Chant (3x):

ALL: ***Breath of the stone is strange to me / I know it lives as I can't see
Force of the earth is strong and free / Sustenance and beauty be

Born of the stars and sprung from the ground / Mother, Goddess all around
Wheel must turn as the seasons show / What lies dead shall surely grow!***

(The God emerges and processes clockwise around the circle [David now lets us admire him!].)

ALL (3x): ***Long live the king!***

NARR 2: *Come, people of the Tribe, let it be so, for He is among thee, and maketh things grow!*

Sargeant: *Ye ladies and gentlemen, give out a cheer / for He that is born again year after year.
He brings the wildness of life ever near; yes, the God is buying the beer!
So dance, be merry, and drink your fill, / let not tomorrow give pause to think ill.*

Good Fairy: *But trust in the Goddess and live for Her will, for the God has just paid the bill!*

NARR 1: *He is the Sun of creation, the Spirit of the horned stag in the wild, and the endless harvest. The yearly cycle of festivals are His birth, death and rebirth.*

NARR 2: *He is the spark of life, the giver of peace and rest and sends His rays of blessings to warm the hearts and strengthen the minds of all.*

Union of the God & Goddess

(Jenna and David reenact the Great Rite with the athame & chalice.)

ALL: ***From Your mating shall spring forth life anew;
a profusion of living creatures shall cover the lands,
and the winds will blow pure and sweet.
Ancient Ones, we celebrate with You!***

NARRs: *NOW summer WILL come!!*

ALL (3x): *Welcome Summer!*

Full Moon Cone of Power

Communion

Thanking Directions, God & Goddess

ALL DIRS: *Earth and Air, Fire and Sea / We are glad that you could be / in sacred space with us tonight. / Dance away if you must, or stay if it's right!*

NORTH: *Mother Earth we thank you too / for all that's green and dark and deep, / For root and rock and silence through / the sanctifying Winter's sleep.*

WEST: *Seas & tears released our fears / and cleansed us through and through, / Now it's time to have some beers / to celebrate the summer new!*

SOUTH: *Tongues of flame we'll jump with you. / Your purifying light / will burn in us the summer through / and warm us day and night.*

EAST : *Feathered winds we thank you now / for dance and freedom's sound./ Our waltz begun, we must now bow,/ connecting to the ground.*

ALL: *Lord and Lady, May Queen and King--united though apart
Guide us in the dance love--that singular joyful art*

*Summer's here and we extend our grateful thanks to you
For showing us that love IS life. May we all make that true!*

*The circle is open, yet unbroken—as the energy of summer infuses itself
into all of the world and into the very core of our being!*

Merry meet, and merry part, and merry meet again!