

Bealtane '13 with Treibh na Fintean

GATHERING – from Rumi

MEDITATION

CLEANSING

CASTING—We cast this circle as sons and daughters, / Spinners and weavers, Toolmakers, potters; / As dancers and dreamers, / Fixers, changers, / Singers and screamers. / We cast this circle with our ancestors and guardians, / God and Goddess too, / You who teach and who speak true, / Who plant, who reap, / Who soar, who creep, / Who cook, who drum, / Who have been and yet to come, / Unreasonable women, / Unmanageable men. / We cast as pagan, druid and witches, / Loving hearts or furious bitches. / We are sweet water, we are the seed; / we are the storm wind to blow away greed. Into this circle we bring to birth / the love that reclaims our earth.

DIRECTIONS:

SPIRIT—The life the Goddess brings you is a circle of life, death and rebirth; and from the darkened earth, the circle begins.

EAST—Breaking through into the gentle breezes, the seedling unfurls its new leaves to feel the wind, stretching higher towards the sky. Spirits of Air, be here now! So mote it be!

SOUTH—With the warmth of the sun, the seedling blossoms into color, standing tall and proud beneath the radiant Sun. Its glory is loved by all. Spirits of Fire, be here now! So mote it be!

WEST—But soon the bloom withers and fades away. The petals fall way to fruit, nourished and ripened with the falling rain. Spirits of Water, be here now! So mote it be!

NORTH—The seed, planted deep within the earth, awakens; its roots pushing downward into the rich darkness; its stem thrusting upward into the world above. Powers of Earth, be here now! So mote it be!

SPIRIT—And the seed-laden fruit, when succulent and full, will fall away to the ground below, to be consumed by the earth once more. As we become one, we are one. As we are one, we become one with the Lady and the Lord.

ALL—So mote it be!

COVENANT—As we gather here, in our sacred space, a circle is formed and we are connected in spirit.

INVOCATIONS:

Goddess [Men]—Lady, we invoke You, / Evening Star, soul of infinite space! / Let Your image be perfect Love. / Show us Your heart of radiant fire. / Dance the moon to fly with sun. / Dance the wind, hear harmony of heaven. / Dance the soul and we are one. / Dance the heart and the veil is lifted! / By moon and tide, earth and bud, / flower and fruit, do we invoke You! / Beloved, be present among us! So mote it be!

God [Women]—Lord, we invoke You, / Lord, Secret of the Sun! / You, who are the flame that burns / in the heart of every man, / and who contains the power of the fertile forest— / by rod and blade, hoof and horn, seed and stem, do we invoke You. / Beloved, be here now! So mote it be!

CROWNING:

God—*[Faces the Goddess in front of the altar]* You are the earth, the womb of all creation. / Within You, new life grows each year. Water is Your blood, air Your breath, and fire is Your spirit. / We give You honor, and celebrate the new life within You. *[Take up flower crown and place on Goddess' head. Pause for rejoicing!]*

Goddess—*[Faces the God in front of the altar]* You are the Great Stag, the seed, the energy of life. / You are the mighty oak that grows in the forest. We give You honor, and celebrate new life with You. *[Take up ivy crown and place on God's head. Pause for more rejoicing!]*

[God and Goddess take each others' hands while being blessed by North and South.]

NORTH & SOUTH—Weave the dance of perfect love, / by the horn and by the dove, / weave the laughter and the joy. / Blessed the union of their love.

[Take the God and Goddess over to the maypole and get them situated to lead the dance!]

MAYPOLE:

[Spirit gets the couple started...] If you survive the night of madness, / if you survive its crazy spin, / then you shall dance around the pole, / take what's tattered, make it whole, / and the pattern of the world you weave before you will unfold.

Chant: Dance around the pole, / take what's tattered, make it whole.

COMMUNION:

EAST—Do not keep Her waiting...

WEST—The Goddess wants you to taste the honey!

THANKING:

SPIRIT—The seed swells, sprouts and begins its journey to the sun and air as the circle begins again.

NORTH—The seed has awakened and leaves the earth's darkness, but the roots stay deep in the soil. Spirits of Earth, thank you for your presence. Blessed be!

WEST—We are all nourished, grow and soon will ripen with the falling rain. Spirits of Water, thank you for your presence. Blessed be!

SOUTH— The seedlings blossom with the warmth of the sun, standing tall and proud. Spirits of Fire, thank you for your presence. Blessed be!

EAST—The seedling unfurls its new leaves to feel the wind, stretching higher in the gentle breezes. Spirits of Air, thank you for your presence. Blessed be!

SPIRIT— The Wheel of the Year is the circle of life, death and rebirth; and from the fertile earth, the circle continues.

God & Goddess— Be loyal to the Lord of the Wild Wood, / be true to the Lady of the Stars, / be true to your own self besides, / true to the magic of Nature above all else. Lord and Lady, thank you for witnessing our rite and dancing in our circle. Blessed be!

SPIRIT—A living circle cast in Love,/ with friends and strangers as one voice,/ a bond that's stronger, far, than steel,/ we project an ancient will,/ sending power all around the world...

ALL—Protect, Renew and Heal! So mote it be!