

# Samhain '15 with Treibh na Tíntean

## Meditation [Scott]

Cleansing: Rosemary is for remembrance....

## Calling the Directions --

**NORTH:** The north is a place of cold, / and the earth is silent and dark. / Spirits of the earth, we welcome you, knowing you will envelope us in death. So mote it be.

**EAST:** The east is a land of new beginnings, / the place where breath begins. / Spirits of air, we call upon you, / knowing you will be with us as we depart life. So mote it be.

**SOUTH:** The south is a land of sunlight and fire, / and your flames guide us through the cycles of life. Spirits of fire, we welcome you, / knowing you will transform us in death. So mote it be.

**WEST:** The west is a place of underground rivers, / and the sea is a never-ending, rolling tide. / Spirits of water, we welcome you, / knowing you will carry us / through the ebbs and flows of our life. So mote it be.

**SPIRIT:** [*Light the black candle*] The Wheel of the Year turns once more, / and we cycle into darkness.

[*Light the white candle*] At the end of that darkness comes light. / And when it arrives, we will celebrate once more. So mote it be.

## Casting --

**[All]:** 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, heathen 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. / So mote it be!

## Invoking Goddess and God --

**Goddess:** [*All Women*] Gracious Goddess—Holy Maiden, Mother, Crone—descend upon this circle; join us tonight as we assemble once more to spin the wheel of the year. Great Goddess, Mother of us all, You have brought us to life, and You walk with us to death's door and beyond. Goddess of Life and Death, Cerridwyn, we call You home! So mote it be.

**God:** [*All Men*] Horned One, we invoke You by the moon-lit sea, by the standing stone and the twisted tree. Eldest of the Gods, we call You, Lord of the Wild Woods. Come out of the North upon the back of the Winds with Your strength and love, and join us at this sabbat. We call You, Cernunnos, to come home! So mote it be.

**Covenant** [*All*]: As we gather here, in our sacred space, a circle is formed and we are connected in spirit.

## Invitation to the Ancestors:

**[All]:** Rosemary is for remembrance, / and tonight we remember those who have lived and died before us, / those who have crossed through the veil, those who are no longer with us. / We will remember. / Whoever you may have been in life, / tonight, now, in death, you are ours as you watch from the other side, / at least for a little while. Be welcome! [*Take food from dinner and pictures to memorial altar in middle of labyrinth.*]

## A Visitation ~

*[Foo]* Along with the spirits of our loved ones, we have the Goddess and God to pose questions and to gift you with their wisdom. First, we hear from the Goddess....

*[Denise comes forward and moves around the circle as she explains who the Maiden, Mother and Crone are at Samhain. Then she goes to the circle entrance with her bowl of herbs.]*

*[Foo]* You will be approaching the aspects of the Goddess. She will be asking you a question and giving you a gift. What is it? It is a handful of healing herbs—they have virtue, but have served their purpose. *[One of us should go first to model how it is done!]*

So, now come forward and hear the question of the Goddess. Receive a handful of herbs; consider the answer to the question. Put the energy of your answer into this handful; then, release it into the fire.

*[Folks hold herbs and transfer whatever crap they are getting rid of to them. Then when they are ready, toss in fire. When done, Denise will retire to the circle.]*

*[Scott]* Now we hear from the aspects of the God. *[Dave comes forward and moves around the circle as he explains who the Trickster, Magician and Sage are at Samhain – or a variation of such. When he finishes, he goes back into the entrance of the circle with his bowl of tokens.]*

*[Scott]* You will be approaching the God. He will ask you a question and give you a gift. What is it? a token, a seed of light.

*[Dave will ask people what seed of light they will carry into the darkness—what is their goal for the New Year—and give each one of the tokens.]*

*[The Watchman comes forward and speaks his Samhain truth and leads us into the cone of power.]*

*[Richard]* To aid us in keeping our New Year’s resolutions, we are going to raise a cone of power and charge our tokens. ... Hold it in your left hand, the one that is joined to the next person’s, as we chant. One of the Elders will call “release” when the cone is ready. Here’s the chant—it’s short and sweet: “Seeds of light into the dark.”

Communion: *[Jenna explains that as we pass the chalice, we will say, “I am [name]—[relation] of [departed ancestor]. Hail!” (Can include pets or old ideas....) Go around once.]*

*[And, at the end, Jenna will say: “This is the cup of remembrance. / We remember all of you. / You are dead but never forgotten, and you live on within us.”]*

*[All]:* So mote it be!

### Thanking the Ancestors --

Go home now, to the mother of winter. / Go home now, to your springtime home.

Go home now, to the mother of summer. / Go home now, to your autumn home.

Sleep, oh sleep now. Sleep, oh sleep. / Sleep against her sacred breast.

Sleep, oh sleep now. Sleep, oh sleep. / Sleep this night, let her give you rest.

~Medieval Irish death chant

### Thanks to Directions and God & Goddess:

NORTH: As the New Year is born in the cold and dark, we are all reborn with new hopes and dreams.

EAST: As we pull in breath, let us also pull in your guidance as we have in the past.

SOUTH: Transform us with Your strength, courage and knowledge.

WEST: Remind us that as we try to fulfill our goals, success ebbs and flows like the tides

SPIRIT: Keep the flame lit in our hearts for the memory of our beloved ones.

*[All]:* We give thanks, Lord and Lady, for Your presence here and Your continued blessings. We give thanks

for the Earth, Air, Fire and Water all around who are also a part of us. Walk with us, Lord and Lady, abide in our steps, now and always. Blessed Be.

The circle is open, but unbroken. Merry meet and merry part and merry meet again!

**Prose Of The Season~**

Druids would not know this night / And Witches would in wonder gaze  
To see the festive costumed souls / That dash about the night in play  
Where ancient magick ruled the land / Children's laughter fills the soul  
Yet in this way the night is honored / Much like the ancients long ago.  
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Dance!