

Imbolc 2018 Guided Visualization - Brigid's Workshop

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A solitary raven flies low over the tree tops of a dense forest as the first glimmer of light of day appears in the pre-dawn hour. The forest is shrouded in rolling mists and stretches in all directions to the furthest horizon. As the raven flies it instinctively swoops and turns as though being called by a silent but ever present familiar in the depths of the mist...

Imagine now that you are the raven, or perhaps another kind of bird, a fairy or other worldly or mythical flying creature. Each of you take a unique form and plot your own path above the forest canopy. The first rays of sun rise over the Eastern horizon and pierce the mists and soon you notice a clearing in the forest ahead and others like you approaching from different directions...

You arrive at the clearing, a small grassy patch of flat ground with forest on all sides. The trees are closely spaced with dense undergrowth making travel by ground nearly impossible, only through your gift of flight can you access this place. You swoop down into the clearing and notice a large conical structure at its center, a warm orange glow can be seen from within it...

At the moment of landing you transform back into human form, take a moment to notice what you are wearing and what you may be carrying with you. Look around and savor this beautiful place and others who are arriving in a similar fashion. You now recognize several smaller buildings, a well, gardens and many neatly stacked supplies around the central house...

The sunrise is now at its peak filling the sky with color and pushing the mists back into the woods. The house can be seen clearly, a ring of stone as a foundation with poles extending up from the ring to form a conical frame. This is covered with thatch and crowned with a clay chimney at its peak. There are several small windows and a single arched doorway...

The heavy wooden door swings open and a beautiful maiden emerges dressed in a long flowing white gown. She has bright red hair and sings as she walks to the nearby gardens. She dances as she gathers flowers, herbs and produce into a basket. The weather is always fair and springlike within this clearing and the garden is blooming with flowers and filled with all sorts of life...

Soon the maiden notices your presence and beckons you by name, she invites you to sample the produce of the gardens and drink from a nearby well. The water is clear and refreshing beyond ordinary experience. She then leads you in a dance weaving through the grounds around the house eventually arriving at the arched doorway. Carved into the door is a triquetra symbol...

At the threshold you are greeted by a motherly figure, she is dressed in a red gown, has jet black hair and speaks in a soft and nurturing voice. She welcomes you into the home by name and you seem to know her as well though you can't quite recall her name at the moment. You feel immediately at ease and comforted by her presence as she bids you to explore further...

As you tour the home you find everything that you would feel is necessary for a comfortable home, it may be of any era, culture, technology level, etc. There may be few or many rooms, large or small, all are divided up in a way that makes sense to you and are clean, well organized and neatly arranged. The space adapts to each individual guest. Take a moment to look around...

The final room you arrive in contains an open hearth or fireplace with a large but well controlled flame filling the space with gentle heat. In a nearby chair sits an elder crone, dressed in black with white hair. She carries untold life experience and wisdom in the expression on her face as she gazes back at you. Go to her now as she invites you by name to sit with her and converse...

Soon the conversation is punctuated by a call that the meal is ready. With appetite peaked you make way to a dining room with a table set for four. The three ladies are there and one empty seat awaits you. Your curiosity regarding how the crone moved instantaneously from the hearth room to the table is soon overtaken by the enjoyment of your favorite breakfast foods...

While enjoying the meal and conversation with the three ladies you finally let go of the questions about how you transformed from a bird, how the weather is maintained, how this magical house operates, etc and you open your heart and mind to the hosts. Now arrives your purpose and reason for being here, you are to be their apprentice - studying their craft, learning their trade...

They explain that the power to create, heal and inspire are all within your grasp but comes with the power to destroy, cause injury and stifle. These powers grow and evolve, requiring constant practice to wield effectively and continuous love and compassion to wield ethically. The meal and conversation conclude as you are given a talisman bearing a unique marking...

This place is a refuge of study, contemplation and practice to hone these skills and the ladies are your mentors, guides and teachers. The symbol upon the talisman is your maker's mark - the signature by which all of your works will be known. Soon visions appear in your mind of what you desire or feel compelled to create and you arise and make way to the workshop...

The four of you arrive in a workshop filled with tools and equipment, like the other rooms it may take any form, any size and draw from a wide range of culture, technology and modes of operation. You are drawn to a specific item on a workbench and study it closely with great care and detail, it is a simple link of chain. Soon you look up and the three ladies are gone...

As you look back down holding the chain link in one hand and your talisman in the other hand you are overcome with an urge to make more of these. You quickly gather materials and tools from the workshop and instinctively know how to use the equipment to forge these links. You light up with a fire of creativity and inspiration as you tirelessly pound and form link after link...

The work is arduous but fulfilling and soon you have crafted a strong and beautiful length of chain. Each link is uniquely formed yet complements the entire design. It is just the right length, weight and number of links. The final task is to form it into a loop, an exquisite piece of jewelry which you wear proudly around your neck as you depart the workshop. A job well done...