



1. Wishes

WITCHES, OUR wishes, and the many ways we make them...

Having blessed the ribbons, infusing them

with her energies and imprinting her desires upon them, she took them to the strongest branch of a beloved tree friend. She knew this friend would welcome working with her, for their relationship has been forged over many, many moon cycles. She knotted the ribbons once, twice, thrice to bind in the magicks. And, the tree leant in and whispered to her that it would gather its energy and send it to her wishes. In return, it asked that she continue to be a friend to the growing world.

In years to come, the ribbons will be raised higher and higher, become frayed and tattered with rain and wind, and be taken by birds to create nests. As that happens, those dreams and wishes will be woven into her life.

Trust the trees with your wishes. They will protect them and help them grow until they are so everyday that you almost forget how they were once no more than dreams. For now, they are real. Thank the tree — your ally, your magickal co-creator of a beautiful life.

Meaning: Time to make wishes. Cloutie spells and charms. Working with the trees.

Reversed: Dreaming and wishes. A lack of understanding that contemplation alone will not bring about what you desire. Hoping that all any witch must do is think, not act, make things so.



2. Her Herb Garden

SHE SEES THE RESULT of many years of quiet work. Some said this was

an impossible garden: the wrong soil, too much wind, not even water. Nothing much could grow here, so they said. But she persisted, and nurtured, and tended, and cared, and over time, these elements were woven into a place that could support the green life she longed for.

Here, there are herbs to burn for clearing a home of energy that stills its life force. There are herbs that bring peace at night and deep, sweet sleep. Between these, there grow herbs to ease sore throats, to brighten the eyes, to soften the skin, to bring about desire, to make love last, to protect a sailor when storms come, and to help a traveller return safely home. She has grown all of these, crooned to them under moonlight, as though to children who need love and guidance

to grow strong and well. And now she sees what she has created, and plans for the first harvest, and the many potions and teas, smoking bundles, and hair washes she will create. But first a moment to thank the Great Mother for giving her the foresight to grow nearly all she needs.

The abundance that is the earth's gifts her strength and a true sense of being able to care for herself and how to help the world grow through her gentle hands, broken-nailed, coarse, and full of power.

Meaning: Herbal magicks. Growing a garden. Self-sufficiency in magick. Herbs grown with love and integrity for magickal works.

Reversed: Thinking you could never grow anything. Feeling a garden is too hard, too time-consuming. Buying ingredients without thinking of their source.



3. The Beltane Lover

AT BELTANE, A LOVER comes. She knows this, as surely as she knows

the moon will rise and spring rain will fall. She has woven the Beltane garland and placed it on the door, fragrant with rose, honeysuckle, and jasmine. She has glimpsed her lover from time to time in the dark mirror of the lake at night ... dark of hair, and tall, with a serious face.

She knows they will come as Beltane approaches and stay for a moon cycle, as they are called to do. They will spend less time talking than touching. They will feel deeply. Theirs will be the communion of two bodies entwined as one for a moon and a day. They may choose to be handfasted, but even if they do, she will always be free to take another lover, at another time. If they choose to be true, only each to the other, then this will be decided as the moon begins

to wane; and there will be no guilt in the decision to remain free unto themselves, and yet close to each other. She knows that love is truest when it comes freely, and that faithfulness is only needed when each requires that singularity.

At times she has, and at others, she has not. But she knows the lover will come, so she prepares the mead made with honey and herbs. She makes the love cakes they will feed to each other. She has sewn the red dress she will wear as the Beltane Maid. And she looks forward to the day she glances through the window and sees them coming towards her, and hears the knock at her door, and knows that for a time, she will be seen in her wild and unbridled desire for pleasure, to be held, to be known, to be tasted.

Meaning: Honeymoon. Time of romance. A lover. Sensual pleasure. Freedom to choose a lover, and to let them go if you desire.

Reversed: Feeling that lovers are no longer yours to have. A relationship that has lost its sensual bliss and sense of adventure and freedom. A need to rekindle your own physical sensuality and to bring pleasure and self-nurture back into your life. Guilt around uncommitted relationships. Feelings of shame around having sex,