

Protection Spells

AS WE DISCUSSED IN EARLIER WEEKS, ONE PROTECTION SPELL WILL NOT CUT IT. ESPECIALLY IF YOU ONLY PUT UP PROTECTIONS WHEN YOU FEEL 'ATTACKED', RATHER THAN AS A PREVENTATIVE MEASURE.

WHY DO I NEED PROTECTIONS?

MAGICAL PROTECTION IS NOT JUST PROTECTION AGAINST MAGICAL ATTACK. HERE ARE THE THINGS THAT MAGICAL PROTECTION CAN HELP PROTECTION AGAINST, WHEN COMBINED WITH OTHER MUNDANE METHODS:

THEFT

ASSAULT

BAD LUCK OR THE EVIL EYE

ILLNESS

PSYCHIC ATTACK

CURSES OR HEXES

FIRESTORMS AND OTHER NATURAL DAMAGE

STALKERS

ENEMIES OF ALL KINDS

SPIRITS AND OTHER SUPERNATURAL ENTITIES

LOSS OF INCOME

IT'S NOT THAT THE WORLD IS OUT TO GET YOU, IT'S THAT THE WORLD IS, AS IT'S ALWAYS BEEN, A DANGEROUS PLACE. PUTTING UP MAGICAL PROTECTIONS WILL SHIELD YOU FROM THE BRUNT OF IT, BUT IT WILL NEVER SHIELD YOU ENTIRELY. YOU STILL NEED TO TAKE MUNDANE STEPS - LIKE LOCKING YOUR DOORS - AND EVEN THEN BAD STUFF STILL HAPPENS TO GOOD PEOPLE BECAUSE LIFE'S LIKE THAT SOMETIMES.

ALSO, REMEMBER THAT MAGICAL PROTECTIONS ARE RARELY DESIGNED TO PROTECT YOU FROM YOURSELF, SO IF YOU SEEK OUT TROUBLE, THAT'S WHAT YOU'LL FIND.

A NOTE ON MAGICAL ATTACK

A LOT OF PEOPLE THINK THAT JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE NICE OR GOOD PEOPLE THAT NO-ONE WOULD WANT TO ATTACK THEM. WHILST THE FIRST RULE OF MAGIC PROTECTION IS ALWAYS 'DON'T ANNOY OTHER WITCHES', THE FACT IS THAT OTHER WITCHES MAY NOT BE LOGICAL, RATIONAL OR KIND. SOME PEOPLE DO FLING CURSES AROUND LIKE THEY'RE SWEAR WORDS, AND YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF THAT.

IN THIS MODULE WE'LL BE LOOKING AT ALL SORTS OF PROTECTION METHODS, INCLUDING

WARDS

ENERGETIC PROTECTION

CRYSTAL PROTECTION

REVERSAL SPELLS

ALARM SPELLS

EVIL EYE PROTECTION

WHEN TO CHANGE AND REFRESH PROTECTIONS

AND OTHER PROTECTIONS THAT YOU CAN USE.

WE'LL ALSO BE REFERRING TO THE SPELL COLLECTION THAT COMES IN YOUR BUNDLE.

STARTING PROTECTIVE MAGIC

TWO CONCERNS ABOUT PROTECTIVE MAGIC:

ONE

SOME PROTECTIVE MAGIC IS BASED IN 'INVISIBILITY' - WHETHER TO GET CRIMINALS (OR POLICE, FOR THAT MATTER) TO TURN A BLIND EYE TO YOU, OR TO HIDE YOURSELF COMPLETELY FROM SPIRITS. OVERDO THIS AND YOU MAY FIND YOURSELF WITH UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES.

JUST LIKE HAVING VISIBLE SECURITY CAMERAS AND TALL GATES, LOTS OF PROTECTIVE WORK CAN MAKE SOME PEOPLE AND SPIRITS WONDER WHAT YOU'VE GOT TO PROTECT. IN SOME AREAS, IT'S A LOT MORE DANGEROUS TO HAVE AN ALARM OR CAMERA, BECAUSE IT TELLS PEOPLE YOU HAVE SOMETHING WORTH STEALING.

SUDDENLY HAVING LOTS OF PROTECTIVE MAGIC CAN MAKE WANDERING SPIRITS WONDER WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO PROTECT. THEY MIGHT ALSO WONDER IF YOU'VE BEEN WEAKENED OR PREVIOUSLY ATTACKED, AND THAT'S WHY THE SUDDEN WARDING.

LIKE ALL MAGIC, WHEN YOU START CASTING, THINGS COME WANDERING.

BUT! IF YOUR PROTECTIONS ARE THOROUGH AND INCLUDE SPECIFIC SPIRIT BANISHING THINGS, AND YOU KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN AND DON'T WIND SPIRITS UP FOR THE FUN OF IT, MORE PROTECTION IS BETTER THAN LESS.

TO GO BACK TO THE MATERIAL ANALOGY, IT MAY BE BETTER TO BUY A BIG, LOUD DOG THAN IT IS TO SPEND THOUSANDS ON A SECURITY SYSTEM THAT SIMPLY SCREAMS 'I HAVE THINGS WORTH STEALING!'

WARDING

WARDS ARE THE BACKBONE OF YOUR PROTECTIONS. THINK OF THEM AS SHIELDS - THEY DEFLECT OR ABSORB MOST OR ALL OF A BLOW. THEY DON'T REVERSE ANYTHING THAT COMES FOR YOU, THEY JUST GET RID OF IT.

WARDS ARE PROBABLY THE EASIEST PROTECTION SPELLS TO LAY, AND YOU CAN BUILD ON TOP OF WARDS AS YOU GO. THE DANGER LIES IN NOT RENEWING THEM, WHICH ISN'T ALWAYS AN ISSUE IF YOU'RE CONSTANTLY BUILDING NEW ONES, BUT IF YOU FORGET A FEW MONTHS IN A ROW THINGS CAN SLIP IN.

SOME OF THE PROTECTIVE WARDS ARE LISTED IN THE SPELL COLLECTION, OTHERS ARE HERE IN THIS MODULE.

PROTECTIVE PLANTS

GROWING PROTECTIVE PLANTS LIKE ROSEMARY, LAVENDER OR THORNY ROSE BUSHES GIVES YOU A LIVING LAYER OF PROTECTION THAT'S HARD TO PENETRATE, ESPECIALLY IF YOU HAVE CAN MAKE A HEDGE OF IT, LIKE BLACKTHORN OR HAWTHORN. BUT BEWARE - IF THE PLANTS SICKEN AND DIE, SO WILL YOUR PROTECTION. HONOUR THEM WELL.

PROTECTIVE INCENSE

YOU CAN ALSO BURN THE SAME PLANTS, AND ALSO RESINS, AS INCENSE TO CREATE A 'SMOKESCREEN'. PROTECTIVE INCENSE LENDS STRONG BUT TIME-LIMITED PROTECTION, SO IT'S BEST TO USE SOME AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK. SOME PEOPLE LIKE TO BURN INCENSE EVERY DAY FOR THE SMELL, AND IF THAT'S YOU, YOU CAN USE DIFFERENT PROTECTIVE BLENDS TO GET DIFFERENT SMELLS - YOU MAY AS WELL BURN SOMETHING THAT'S USEFUL TO YOU! GOOD LUCK BLENDS OF INCENSE ARE ALSO GOOD FOR THIS, BUT WE LOOK AT LUCK LATER IN THE COURSE.

CRYSTALS

WE SPOKE ABOUT CRYSTALS IN THE LAST WEEK, BUT YOU CAN ALSO USE CRYSTALS AND CRYSTAL GRIDS FOR PROTECTION TOO. CHECK OUT THE CRYSTAL GRIDS IN THE SPELLBOOK.

EVIL EYE SYMBOLS

THE 'EVIL EYE' IS A CONCEPT THAT SEEMS TO RUN ACROSS MANY CULTURES. IT'S KIND OF ANOTHER TERM FOR 'BAD LUCK'. IT'S NOT A CURSE, BUT CAN BE PUT ON YOU DELIBERATELY OR NOT BY ANOTHER PERSON. THE BEST PROTECTION IS TO USE EVIL EYE SYMBOLS, CHARMS OR ORNAMENTS. YOU CAN PAINT 'INVISIBLE' EYES ON CERTAIN SURFACES USING CHARMED OILS, IF YOU'RE BOTHERED ABOUT SEEING THE EYES

SALT WARDS

REGULAR SALT WARDING, WHETHER BY SCATTERING SALT OR BLACK SALT, OR EVEN SALTWATER AROUND YOUR BOUNDARY LINES, OR USING A SALT LAMP REGULARLY. REMEMBER THAT SALT, BLACK SALT IN PARTICULAR, ‘SUCKS IN’ NEGATIVE ENERGY AND HOLDS IT. YOU MUST DISPOSE OF YOUR LOOSE SALT! SALT LAMPS ARE DESIGNED TO TRANSMUTE NEGATIVE ENERGY INTO POSITIVE ENERGY.

WRITTEN PROTECTIONS

WRITTEN PROTECTIONS CAN BE THINGS LIKE PSALMS, OR SIGILS, OR MAGIC SQUARES. EVEN WRITING DOWN ‘I AM PROTECTED’ LIKE AN AFFIRMATION IS A GOOD IDEA. WE WON’T GO INTO SIGILS OR MAGIC SQUARES SINCE THEY’RE WORTH A COURSE ON THEIR OWN, BUT CONSIDER SYMBOLS LIKE A CROSS OR PENTAGRAM.

ENERGETIC PROTECTIONS

ENERGETIC WARDS WORKS THE SAME WAY AS PHYSICAL WARDS, BUT THEY ARE PRODUCED DIFFERENTLY. ENERGETIC WARDS ARE SOMETIMES CALLED ‘SHIELDS’ OR ‘SHIELDING’. ONCE YOU’VE GOT THE HANG OF IT, YOU CAN SHIELD ANYWHERE AT ANY TIME. IT LASTS FOR A SHORT TIME, YOUR ENERGY NOT BEING INFINITE, WHICH IS WHY IT’S A MISTAKE TO RELY SOLELY ON ENERGETIC WARDS.

HOW TO SHIELD

VISUALIZE A SHIELD MADE OF LIGHT. SOME PEOPLE LIKE TO THINK OF A LITERAL SHIELD, I PREFER A ‘COCOON’ MADE OF LIGHT. VISUALIZATION DOES NOT COME EASY TO EVERYONE, AND IF YOU PREFER THINKING OF YOURSELF AS SURROUNDED BY TALL TREES OR HOLDING WINGS AROUND YOURSELF, THEN THAT WORKS TOO.

REVERSAL SPELLS

REVERSALS ARE A SPECIFIC TYPE OF MAGIC THAT’S DESIGNED TO SEND ANY NEGATIVE ENERGY OR HEXES TO THE SENDER.

YOU CAN EVEN CREATE ONES THAT MAGNIFY THE ENERGY THAT IS SENT BACK. YOU CAN ALSO DO A SPECIFIC KIND OF REVERSAL THAT TRANSMUTES ANY NEGATIVE ENERGY SENT YOUR WAY INTO POSITIVE ENERGY. TRANSMUTATION IS VERY TRICKY MAGIC, AND I TEACH THAT IN A HIGHER LEVEL COURSE, BUT REVERSALS ARE EASY ONCE YOU'VE GOT THE HANG OF IT.

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF REVERSALS - ONES THAT ARE SET UP ALL THE TIME, AND ONES YOU CREATE WHEN YOU REALISED YOU'VE BEEN CURSED. IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO HAVE A REVERSAL SET UP ALL THE TIME, BUT IT'S IMPERATIVE TO KNOW HOW TO UN-CURSE YOURSELF IF THE OPPORTUNITY EVER OCCURS. AGAIN, PREVENTION IS ALWAYS BETTER THAN CURE, BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW TO CURE YOURSELF. WE'LL LOOK AT BOTH REVERSALS SPELLS THIS WEEK, BUT WE LOOK AT SPECIFIC CURSE REMOVAL IN WEEK SIX.

ALARM SPELLS

ALARM SPELLS ARE EXACTLY WHAT THEY SOUND LIKE - SPELLS TO ALERT YOU THAT YOU ARE UNDER ATTACK. SOMETIMES, ESPECIALLY IF YOU DO HAVE A LOT OF PROTECTION, IT'S NOT EASY TO TELL IF SOMEONE IS TRYING TO COME FOR YOU. WHY DO I NEED TO KNOW THIS?

WELL, WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW IF THERE'S SOME KIND OF SNAKE IN THE GRASS? YOU CAN SET ALARM SPELLS UP TO RING AS SOON AS A CURSE LANDS, WHETHER OR NOT IT ACTUALLY DID ANY DAMAGE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS EXERCISE IS NOT TO MAKE YOU PARANOID, BUT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT A) SOMEONE'S UPSET ENOUGH WITH YOU TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, AND B) SOMEONE IS COMING FOR YOU, AND CLEANSING AND EMERGENCY REPLENISHMENTS ARE IN ORDER. YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO WORK OUT WHO'S DONE, YOU MIGHT USE DIVINATION, YOU MIGHT NOT CARE - BUT FOREWARNED IS ALWAYS FOREARMED.

TIP: IF YOU'RE EVER WONDERING WHO'S CURSED YOU, LOOK FOR THE ONE THAT'S TAKING JOY IN ANY MISFORTUNE, OR IS SUDDENLY MORE CONFIDENT AROUND YOU, AND MORE LIKELY TO PUSH BACK OR TAKE UP YOUR SPACE. CURSING MAKES PEOPLE MORE CONFIDENT, BECAUSE THEY TEND TO THINK IT'S LANDED, WHETHER IT HAS OR HASN'T. DON'T FORGET THAT PEOPLE CAN PUT THE EVIL EYE ON YOU BY ACCIDENT, AND THIS SHOULD STILL TRIP YOUR ALARM SPELLS, SO DON'T ALWAYS ASSUME SOMEONE'S DONE SOMETHING ON PURPOSE