

SEAX-WICA  
SELF-DEDICATION  
RITUAL

by  
Phillip Walker

SUPERNATURAL FOLKLORE  
LYNWOOD MONTELL  
TTHF 10:30

The following is an eye witness account of a self-dedication ritual for the Seax-Wica coven located in New Paltz, New York. Several names have been withheld. I witnessed this while I was on spring break this semester. A friend of mine who was with me tape recorded the event which was how I was able to go into so much detail.

The ritual was performed at midnight in the woods. The dedicatee was completely naked wearing no jewelry of any kind. On the alter, which was made of a tree stump, was a small dish of anointing oil between a bowl of water and a bowl of salt. The ritual area was set up so that it would be facing east. There was a circle surrounding the area made of stones. The dedicatee sat in front of the alter with his eyes closed for several minutes. He then stood and pointed his finger down at the circle and moved slowly east around the circle "drawing" it with his finger. He went completely around and back to the alter where he lit the alter candle and some incense. And with that candle he lit the east, south, west and north candles. He then continued back around the circle to the alter and replaced the candle. Then he placed his forefinger in the salt and said, "Salt is Life. Let this Salt be pure and let it purify my life, as I use it in this Rite, dedicated to Horus in whom I believe." He then took three pinches of salt and dropped them in the water. He stirred the water three times round with his finger and

said, "Let the Sacred Salt drive out any impurities in this water that together they may be used in the service of this deity; throughout these Rites and at any time and in any way I may use them." He took the Salted bowl of water and walked east sprinkling it on the circle and returned it to the alter. He then took the censer and walked around the Circle to the east swinging the censer along the line then returning it to the alter saying, "Sacred is the Circle about me. I am here of my own free will and accord, in Peace and Love." He dipped his forefinger into the salted water and marked a cross in a circle on his forehead, in the position of his third eye. Then he marked a Pentagram on his chest, over his heart and said, "I now invite Horus to witness this Rite I hold in his honor." He held out his hand with his finger pointing up in salute as he said, "Horus; Lord; Father of all life, Guard me and guide me within this Circle and without it, in all things. So mote it be." He kissed his hand to the Lord then took the goblet and spilled a little of the wine on the ground as an offering to the God as he said, "To Horus!" He then took a drink and replaced it on the alter and said, "Now is the Temple erected. I shall not leave it but with good reason. So be it." He kneeled before the alter with his head bowed and meditated for a few minutes and then stood and lifted both hands high above the alter and said, "Horus hear me now! I am here a simple pagan holding thee in honor. Far have I journeyed and long have I searched, seeking that which I desire above all things. I am of the trees and of the fields. I am of the woods and of the springs; the streams and the hills. I am of thee and thee of me."

He lowered his arms and said, "Grant me that which I desire. Permit me to worship the gods. And all that the gods represent. Make me a Lover of Life in All Things. Well do I know the creed: That if I do not have that spark of Love within me, then will I never find it without me. Love is the Law and Love is the Bond. All this I honor above aught else." He kissed his right hand and held it high and said, "My Lord here I do stand before you, naked and unadorned, to dedicate myself to thine honor. Ever will I protect you and that which is yours. Let none speak ill of you, for ever I will defend you. You are my life and I am yours, from this day forth. I accept and will ever abide by the Wiccan Rede: 'An' it harm none, do what thou wilt'. So be it." Then he took up the goblet and poured the rest of the wine on the ground while saying, "As this wine drains from the goblet, so let the blood drain from my body should I ever do aught harm to the gods, or those in kinship with thier love. So mote be it!" With this he dipped his fore finger in the oil and again made the sign of the cross in a circle on his forehead, and the Pentagram on over his heart. Then he touched the oil to his genitals, right breast, left breast, and his genitals again. Then he said, "As a sign of my rebirth I take unto myself a new name. Henceforth I shall be known as..(name withheld)..; for my life within the Craft. So mote it be!" After this he sat and meditated for about fifteen minutes,

after which he sang a song in a language I did not understand.

After the song, he stood up and raised both hands high and said,"I thank the gods for their attendance. As I came here in love of them,I now go my way. Love is the Law,and Love is the Bond. So be it! The Temple is now closed." After the ritual, we went to one of friends home and had a celebration feast which consisted of Dandelion Wine,Honey Mead,Indian Pumpkin Bread and various other types of specially prepared meats and vegetables.