



NON MORIERIS

Our great teacher is the cunning serpent who beguiled Eve

The Land which is Mother to all is our true Mother

ELPHANE

The Witch Cult Reborn

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We honor the Great and Dark Power that moves all things;
We surrender to it and yearn to know its mysteries.
It shall be forever as the Shadowed Matriarch is forever.
None are more like unto it than the Old Serpent Forefather.
The Lords and Ladies of Hell are its undying ministers.
It is the Storm whose mighty winds compel us to and fro:
Let us become wise to the Darkness that weaves woe and delight.

-Elphane Liturgy

Cultus: Shadows of the Deepest Sharing

The Elphane Witchdom is foremost a *Cultus*, a cultic association of human persons who reverence the mysterious powers, forces, and beings which indwell the Unseen World. The humans of this association share a common vision of *who* and *what* some of those mysterious forces are; they also share a common language and ritual response to them, which grows in power by being shared. The mutual ritual dimension of the *Cultus* allows for certain preternatural forces and spiritual beings to arise and be present or experienced on different levels in the lives of the members.

This is the historical and ancient essence of *Cultus*: a shared experience of the numinous, achieved by a group of people who hold certain secret rituals and techniques of esoteric effort in mutuality. They may also share certain covert doctrines in common, and a covert history, too.

The Elphane *Cultus* is an esoteric *sub-cult-ure* existing alongside the Western over-culture that dominates our world. It is devoted to historical spiritual forces and beings that are not recognized or approved of by our over-culture.

This being the case, its rites and doctrines are kept secret; but it is no secret that the members of the *Cultus* wish to experience those spiritual forces and beings in vivid, transformative ways. It is more than simple desire for those kinds of experiences that drive the members of the *Cultus* towards ritual efforts; those spiritual forces also compel the members to these ends. The true powers in the Unseen do not wait for human choices to decide or govern how They (or other important things in the world) will be; the true powers Unseen **make needful things come to pass.**

In certain real ways, those spiritual forces *come to be* through the rites and rituals of the Witchdom. They exist, and have existed in timeless, strange ways since forever, but they *come to be again* each time the Witchdom's ritual system is brought to life strongly enough. It is these spiritual forces that influenced the human founder of the Witchdom to shape it such that it *could* act as a means for them to express aspects of themselves, as they sometimes do.

At key times, the members of the Witchdom are *possessed* by these forces, moving in ecstatic accord with something deeper than the modern human world has the eyes to see or the ears to hear. This is not a new reality; such groups of ecstatically impacted human beings have existed in every age of the world. This present age is very unfriendly to such things, though, and so what *must be done* is also done in a covert manner.

The covert approach **preserves spiritual dignity**. Owing to the uncrossable gulf of understanding that lies between a mainstream over-culture and smaller groups that embrace genuine Mysteries, no *Cultus*-soul can survive a full revelation of its myths, symbols, and its most central understandings to public view.

This inevitably draws suspicions of the worst sorts from the outside; the *Cultic secrecy* is assumed to conceal villainy of some sort. What it conceals, however, is a hidden dimension of human experience that the over-culture either denied and discarded long ago, or which it *never knew* and thus never made space for within its accepted boundaries.

Witchdom: The Hidden Commonwealth of the Soul

The Elphane Witchdom was inaugurated by **Jaudaret**, who has spent the last 30 years developing in his visionary spiritual vocation and writing various books, articles, and courses under the name *Robin Artisson*. The Witchdom is an initiatory society which, in keeping with a very old pattern of initiatory experience, offers three initiations to those who become a part of it.

Initiations within the Witchdom are referred to as **attainments**. Those receiving the first attainment become *bound apprentices* to a Master or Mistress of Instruction who also acts as their initiator. Upon receiving the second attainment-initiation, they receive the title *Witch* or, more poetically, *Witch by the Serpent's Grace* or *Wise Ones of the Elphane Craft*. Those who go further to seek the third attainment-initiation gain the ability to initiate others into the Witchdom and act as Masters of Instruction.

Those initiators thereby become *Line Founders* of the Elphane Witchdom, honored as *Foremothers*, *Forefathers*, or *Antecessors* to the society. Not all members go so far as to receive the third attainment, and indeed it is extended only to those who show the most exceptional talent and devotion, and who are

thought fully capable of faithfully transmitting the inner essence, aesthetics, and spiritual mysteries of the Elphane Witch *Cultus* to others.

Initiations are only done in person. Those who locate an initiator near to them who is willing to engage with them will meet their initiator/Master of Instruction for these experiences, and for instruction in the mysteries, sorceries, and ritual realities of the Witchdom found in *The Charmowar*, the Witchdom's private grimoire.

Those who engage in distance learning with an initiator will still have to travel to meet them at least twice for initiation rites. A tangible chain of initiation exists- physically passed and mediated- that connects all members of the Witchdom.

Members of the Elphane Witchdom who meet regularly for the enlivening of its mysteries or rituals are considered *Covens* of the Witchdom. Covens can be created by any association of members that meet in person. They are headed by those in the Coven-creating association who have seniority in the Witchdom. The leader of a Coven is called the *Devil* or *Master* of the Coven if male, or *Queen* of the Coven if female.

Not all members of the Witchdom will be in Covens or work with others to shape one, but it is an important activity that can bring many benefits.

Pan-Daemonium: The Root Powers and the Mighty Ones

It is impossible to fully explain the beliefs of a *Cultus*, for so much of what we call "belief" now is the repetitive embrace of dogmatic information that comes to assume an authoritative emotional position, largely in the unconscious minds of people. In terms of a historical *Cultus*, though, the basis of "belief" is an emotional connection between humans and the other-than-human world born from ecstatic experiences.

As far as it can be rationally imparted, the Elphane Witchdom holds that all of Nature is indwelled by a powerful motherly force, poetically referred to as the *Veiled One* or the *Matriarch*, who is the true source of all lives and all beings.

This Matriarch's first offspring- and thus the Great Grandfather of life- is *The Serpent*, a being whose vital power is coiled within all the landforms, wind-forms, and water-forms of Nature, and inside of all living beings and all spiritual beings, too. This Serpent-power, both a *being* and a *power*, is the **inciteful source** of preternatural strength that 'stirs all things up' and drives all things into fertile interaction for weal and for woe, and is also the source of wisdom and creativity.

These "Root Powers" or paracosmic forces are very ancient and vast- timeless even- and difficult for human minds and souls to understand or experience, even though they can certainly be *felt*.

The Witchdom believes that in a time before history, certain powerful men and women became wise enough and mystically *transformed by the Root Powers* in such a way that their souls persisted after death with great strength. They persisted with a great ability to interact with those still alive and communicate with them in special ways.

These beings, it is believed, often appeared in historical times as the *Tutelary Spirits* of Witches and sorcerers, and were even sometimes worshiped as Gods or Goddesses by Pagan peoples at certain points in history.

After the great transformation of the Western world at the hands of Christian cultures, these beings- whom the Elphane Witchdom calls *The Mighty Ones*- were declared demons and devils. *Daimons* they surely were, in older Pagan terms; but they are not beings of moral evil or turpitude as claimed by later cultural engineers. They are ageless and wise beings who might still express some aspect of their Persons or their wisdom to people today who can put themselves in the proper conditions to receive them.

The Witchdom holds in sacred trust the Names of eight of these *Mighty Ones*, four *Lordly* spirits, and four *Queenly* ones- and it was one of those *Lordly* beings, **Christsonday**, who imparted to Jaudaret some of the teachings and visionary experiences that led to the creation of the Witchdom, as well as Jaudaret's work *Upon the Rood Day*. Those many *Mighty Ones* whose names are not known to the Witchdom are still revered as a collective of wisdom-granting and sorcerous power-granting beings.

Within the Witchdom unfolded four *Mysteries* which its members are devoted to realizing: one mystery that can never be spoken of, and three that can. Those three are the *Mystery of the Nameless Power*, the *Mystery of Spirit Familiarity*, and the *Mystery of the Mighty Ones*. The *Cultus* is devoted to unlocking these spiritual labyrinths and the special experiences they might provoke in a human life.

Forest of Andred: The Candlelit Path into the Witchdom

The Witchdom now has a contact point at Serpent Hall Institute, giving information on available initiators. The names and locations of initiators who are willing to work with others to join the Witchdom are given there.

Those interested in the Elphane *Cultus* are free to contact them, but it must be understood that initiators have full discretion to choose to work with whom they will. They alone decide if they will or will not engage with others and bring their own personal standards of discernment to bear. As more initiators complete their pathway of attainment and choose to be made public, they will also appear to public view.

Those wishing to join the Elphane Witchdom are **not** required to complete the *Upon the Rood-Day* course taught at Serpent Hall Institute, but this course certainly encapsulates and imparts many ideas and

practices that are held to be useful or important by the Witchdom. Some of its contents will be taught to Apprentices if they have not taken the course.

Mysteries are never a matter of human requirement. Greater Powers than humans compel people one way or the other, towards or away from Mysteries. Even those within the Elphane *Cultus* access its Mysteries as compulsion takes them. The Witchdom itself exists to help its members to grapple with Mysteries, but also to engage in the “ordinary” and long-attested practices of sorcery or Witchcraft, as one might expect.

The Witchdom is open to all persons of legal majority who **unreservedly reject** the spiritual and cultural hegemony of Abrahamic religions and their ideologies. Interested persons of legal majority who come from a cultural background of the *Hindu* or *Sanātana Dharma* must unreservedly reject any patristic and misogynistic elements of those spiritual paths before looking further into the Elphane *Cultus*.

Acceptance by an initiator is never assured; that is worked out between interested parties and the available initiators themselves. Those who contact initiators must prepare to be patient; the initiators have their own schedules and pace and will respond accordingly. *Do not assume an immediate response.* They will not respond to emails that are inappropriate or otherwise unanswerable, and they will not respond to emails sent from services that create anonymity for senders nor to people who hide their locations by virtual means.

It is a requirement that verifiable legal names and addresses be given upon joining. The confidentiality of the organization itself, its activities, its private information, and the identities of its members are all protected by legal means in the US, the UK, and Canada. The privacy and safety of the Witchdom’s members is our highest priority.

“It is the Old Serpent Forefather, the most cunning of all beasts in the ancient meadow, that has ultimately done this by setting into motion the primal arts of wisdom and power-gaining in the bodies of nascent humanity.

There is nothing moral- or immoral- about the birth of a Witchdom, a *Witch-cult*, no matter how vividly opulent and healing or rampagingly cruel its outcomes might be. The Great and Dark Power and all its ghostly and tangible formations are welcomed in the hallowed precincts of such a place, and human opinions and desires must step aside to receive truths that defy opinions, and to know deeper and better desires than any that have been known before.”

-Jaudaret, from *The Witch-Cult, Part I*