

The Acorn



Just for Kids...
(of all ages)

Let the Spirit Move You!

We hear about it all the time: That's the Spirit! Having a Restless Spirit. The Spirit of the Season. Spirits passing through the Veil. Keep your Spirits up! A Spirit of Patriotism. Calling Spirit from the Center. Showing your Team Spirit! The real question here is - What exactly IS "Spirit", anyway?!

"Spirit" has many meanings - & many different names in other distant parts of the world. There are four kinds of Spirit that we Pagans seem to work with most:

- 1) Beings of another kind of world, that interact with us at times (nature spirits, elemental spirits, spirits of the dead)
- 2) The fifth Element when we are calling the Quarters in Circle, the connecting one that draws the others all together
- 3) Feelings - emotions that respond to things around us. And
- 4) The very deepest part of ourselves, that inside core that is really, truly who we are - that sometimes seems okay to share & other times is kept very private.

The first two kinds above are the ones found in a lot of magickal workings. If your Spirits are "low" or "high", this is the third kind listed above. The last one is very personal, & different in every one of us. Most people spend their whole lives learning about their own Spirit...it grows & changes just like we do, & is a Mystery each of us carries always!

Beltane 2002

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Summertime is a perfect time to enjoy the company of Nature Spirits. Lay in the grass on a sunny day, walk through open fields barefoot in the rain, find stories in the shapes of the clouds, watch the sunlight dance through the leaves of trees on a windy day, or close your eyes & discover what you hear, smell, sense, & taste in the air, when you stop looking so hard! If you make some quiet time to really let yourself experience them, the Spirits of Summer will bring wonders your way...& this may very well teach you some amazing things about that Spirit that is deep inside of you, as well!



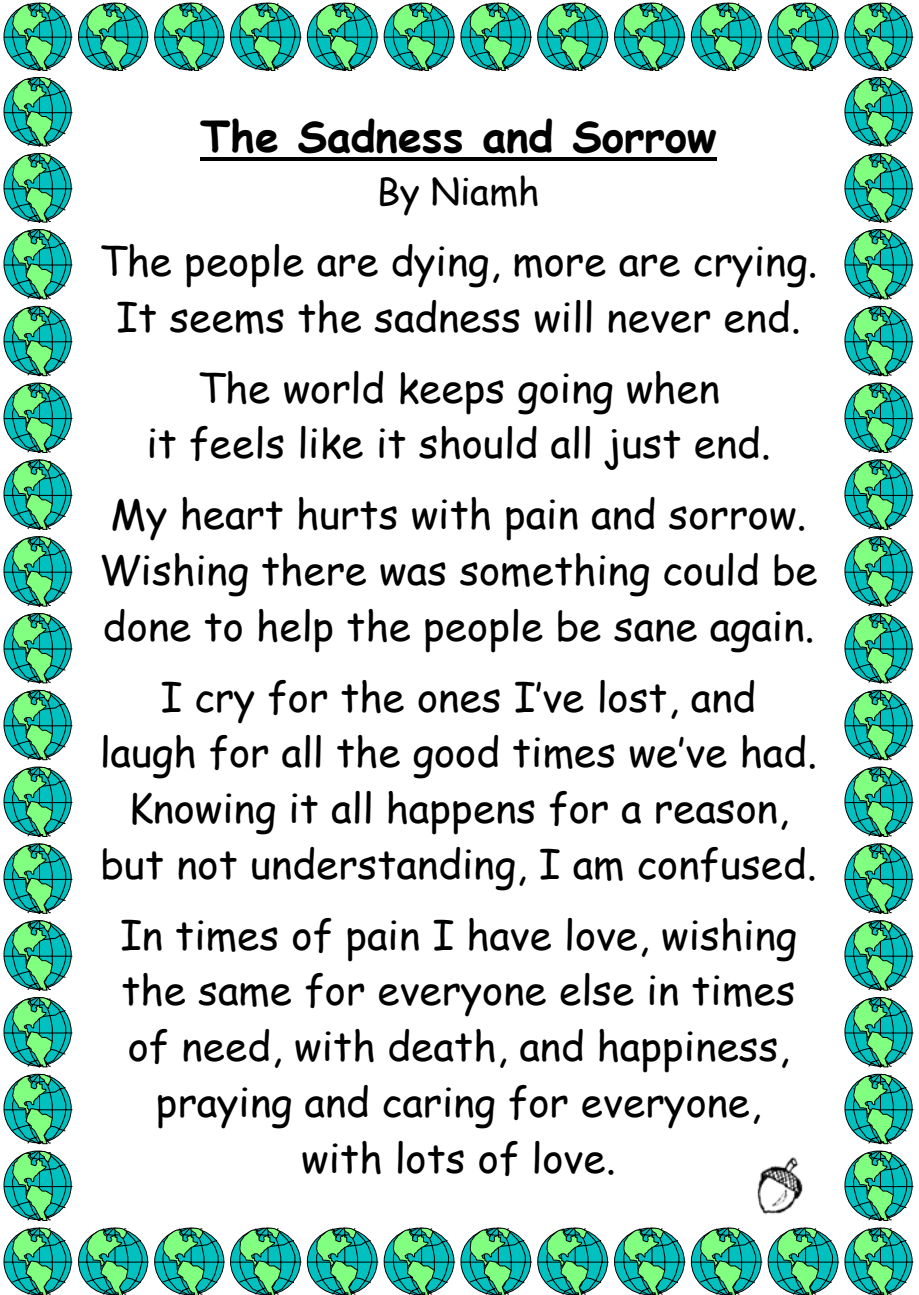
p f b T o

Which Spirit is Which?

See if you can match up the spirit (or spirit-related item) on the left with its best-known definition or "finishing thought" on the right!

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. The Spirit is willing | A. Shaman |
| 2. Casper | B. of a Chance |
| 3. Tribal "Spirit-Speaker" | C. Low-Spirited |
| 4. Earth my body,
water my blood | D. but the flesh is weak. |
| 5. Not a Ghost | E. Ghost |
| 6. Dryad | F. air my breath
& fire my spirit. |
| 7. Melancholy | G. Ghost-Busters! |
| 8. Give up the | H. lies a-mold'ring in the Grave |
| 9. John Brown's body | I. Tree Spirit |
| 10. Ghost Busters! | J. the Friendly Ghost |

(Answers on Page 38 of The Oak Leaf)



The Sadness and Sorrow

By Niamh

The people are dying, more are crying.
It seems the sadness will never end.

The world keeps going when
it feels like it should all just end.

My heart hurts with pain and sorrow.
Wishing there was something could be
done to help the people be sane again.

I cry for the ones I've lost, and
laugh for all the good times we've had.
Knowing it all happens for a reason,
but not understanding, I am confused.

In times of pain I have love, wishing
the same for everyone else in times
of need, with death, and happiness,
praying and caring for everyone,
with lots of love.

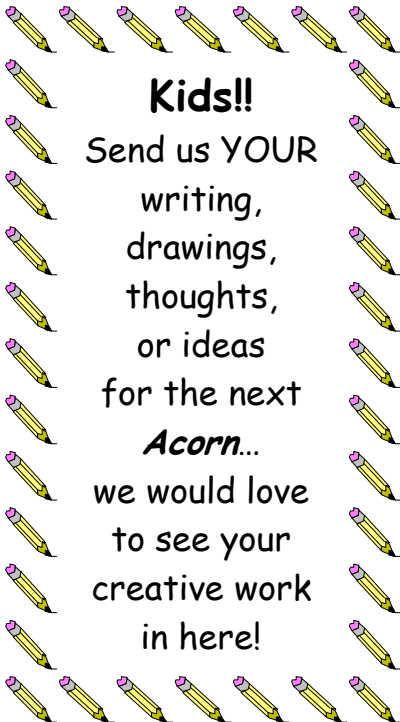




*****Kidspirations!*****



“Da-Da”
(a.k.a. COȘO’s
First Clergy –
Happy Birthday!)
Killian, Age 3,
of Akron



Kids!!
Send us **YOUR**
writing,
drawings,
thoughts,
or ideas
for the next
Acorn...
we would love
to see your
creative work
in here!



Dena, Age 11,
of Akron



Pagan Parents & Kids - Is Pagan Scouting the Path for You?

SpiralScouts is a nationwide Pagan-oriented scouting program begun more than a year ago by the Aquarian Tabernacle Church of Seattle, WA.

Designed for girls & boys working, playing & learning together, *S*SI* supplies leadership handbooks, awards, merit badges & pins, embroidered shoulder patches, & activities handbooks.

Based on Pagan beliefs & practices,
*S*SI* has a unique approach to scouting.

Each group is led by both a male & a female adult, creating the balance that is so central to Paganism. In addition to the usual fun activities and woods lore, camping and the customary scouting activities, SS also teaches many mythologies of the ancient world. In addition, it includes a component new to scouting - life strategies and skills for teens.

The three levels of *S*SI* membership:

FireFlies (preschoolers-8)

SpiralScouts (8-14)

PathFinders (14-19)

Groups are organized into Circles, which may be made up of Hearths for the different age groups. Parents remote from other Pagans who want their children to benefit can charter* single-family Hearths. This is believed to be the only Pagan oriented scouting program in existence.

SpiralScouting has spread throughout the U.S., Canada, Australia, the U.K. & South Africa, & more requests to charter* arrive daily.

Interested in leading or sponsoring a group?

Find us online at www.SpiralScouts.org or

Write to *SpiralScouts International*, c/o ATC, Post Office Box 409, Index, Washington 98256-0409 for information.

***NOTE:** To operate an *S*SI* Circle, you must officially charter through **SpiralScouts International** - Please contact us for details!



Crafts by Starlite ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ 

☾ **Beltane - May 1st**  **Litha - June 21st** 

Beltane & Litha both are times of celebration, when people dance & skip about Maypoles & bonfires, & Faery Magick seems to be everywhere! Last year at COSO's Beltane I brought along some craft items to let people make crowns. We used a wire-type garland for the base, & wove it with flowers & ribbons. Some mothers worried about the wire's edges & their smaller children, so I had a challenge for this year - finding a way to make sure little people would have safe crowns!

Braided Crowns

Long Pieces of Cloth (Knits and not Raffia Fabric, Suede)
Ribbons of all Colors
Fun Foam Sheets (available at Craft Stores)
FF Cut-Outs of Flowers and Leaves
Beads

Cut the Cloth into narrow Strips about $\frac{1}{2}$ " or less wide. Braid Ribbons & Strips together - or Strips alone & then wrap Ribbons around the Braid. Leave some of the ends unbraided for a tail of ribbons in the back if wanted, or add Ribbon ones when you finish. Punch two holes into FF Shapes, or cut other designs out of Fun Foam. String Ribbon through the holes in Shape & wrap around Crown to hold them on - several times if needed, & tie tightly. Tie ends of Crown together to fit your head!



Fairy Wands

Small Dowel Rod (cut into short length, maybe 8-12")

Ribbons

Sequins

Glitter

Star for Top - Fun Foam, Cardboard

Glue a Star to top. Decorate, paint, or leave Dowel Rod its natural color. Glitter, Ribbon, and Sequins to Dowel Rod. Ribbons can also be tied tightly (with a spot of Glue added for staying power) just beneath the Star or further down the Wand toward the other end, & left to dangle so that they dance through the air when the Wand is waved. For a less "glitzy", more natural-looking Wand - leave Wand its wood color (or add green leafy-type designs on it), leave off Glitter & Sequins - instead use fabric vines & flowers in greens & browns or soft colors. Top it off with a natural object - a Gemstone or Seashell.

Do whatever the Spirit of Summer moves you to do.....Have Fun!



The Fox's Den



Outside with you, I say!!! This is a wonderful time to take advantage of the summertime weather...& I do mean ALL of it! If it is sunny, go out & enjoy the gifts of warmth & light...play in the sun, lay in the sun, spend the whole beautiful day in the sun! (Wisely...sunscreen IS your friend!) If it's rainy, go out & revel in the rain coming down, washing you & the whole world clean. After the rain, take off your shoes & dance through the mud puddles. At dusk, sit on the porch or in the grass, & taste the evening air as it arrives. In the darkness, open yourself to the sounds of nighttime's mystery. Welcome the Magick in!

