

Covenant of the Goddess
Northern California Local Council
Recommended Reading List (1999)

This reading list was assembled nearly ten years ago, but most of these titles are still available. These are titles that many leaders of COG covens recommend to their students.

Adler, Margot. *Drawing Down the Moon: Witches, Druids, Goddess-Worshippers and Other Pagans in America Today*. Penguin, revised edition, 1997, 2007 \$16.95.

A well-known journalist's study of the modern Pagan movement. Dated on some topics, but still an essential classic.

Amber K. *Covencraft*. Llewellyn, 1998, \$17.95.

Invaluable reference for anyone interested in starting or running a magical group. Covers mundane subjects, such as applying for tax-exempt status, and magical ones, like initiation requirements and rituals, in equal detail--a rarity.

Amber K. *True Magick*. Llewellyn, 1991, \$4.95.

Introduction to the basics of magick, written in a readable, clear style. Excellent choice as a first book, or as an overview for non-Wiccan relatives or friends.

Anderson, Cora. *Fifty Years in the Feri Tradition*.

A personal memoir and introduction to the Feri Tradition. To order send \$10 check or money order to Cora Anderson, 1529 153rd Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94578.

Anderson, Victor. *Thorns of the Blood Rose*.

The devotional poetry of the founder and grand master of the Feri Tradition. To order send \$10 check or money order to Cora Anderson, 1529 153rd Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94578.

Ardinger, Barbara. *A Woman's Book of Rituals and Celebrations*. New World Library, 1995, \$12.95. Basic eclectic rituals.

Budapest, Z. *The Holy Book of Women's Mysteries*.

Wingbow, 1989, \$17.50. Classic of Dianic Craft. Rollicking, inimitable and packed with misinformation.

Campanelli, Pauline. *The Wheel of the Year: Living the Magical Life*.

Llewellyn, 1989, \$12.95. Seasonal activities and recipes. We can't all live in the country, but we can dream about it.

Clifton, Chas. S., editor. *Witchcraft Today*, published by Llewellyn.

Volume I: The Modern Craft Movement, 1992, \$9.95.

Volume II: Modern Rites of Passage, 1993, \$9.95.

Volume III: Witchcraft and Shamanism, 1994, \$9.95.

Good essays on topical issues in modern neo-Paganism: despite the title, not specifically Wiccan.

Cunningham, Scott. *Wicca for the Solitary Practitioner*.
Llewellyn, 1990, \$8.95. A BOS and guide for the solitary beginner. General eclectic Craft principles and ethics.

Crowley, Vivianne. *Wicca: The Old Religion in the New Age*.
Thorson's, revised edition 1996, \$16.00. An excellent introduction (from the perspective of a Witch who is also a Jungian therapist) to British Traditional Craft.

Currott, Phyllis. *Book of Shadows: A Modern Woman's Journey into the Wisdom of Witchcraft and the Magic of the Goddess*.

Broadway Books, 1998, \$25.00. Insightful and helpful beginner's book.

DeGrandis, Francesa. *Be a Goddess!*

Harper San Francisco, 1998, \$14.00. Practical do-it-yourself mysticism.

di Prima, Diane. *Loba*. Goddess poetry.

Penguin Poets, 1998, \$14.95.

Di Prima is an occultist and leading light of San Francisco poetry since the 1950's.

Farrar, Janet and Stewart. *The Witches' Way*.

Bookpeople, 1984, \$27.95

and

Eight Sabbats for Witches.

Bookpeople, 1988, \$16.95.

Materials from the authors' Alexandrian Tradition. These two titles have also been published in one paperback volume, *A Witches' Bible Compleat*, by Magickal Childe.

Farrar, Janet and Stewart. *The Witches' Goddess*,

Phoenix Publishing, 1987, \$14.95, and

The Witches' God,

Phoenix Publishing, 1987, \$15.95.

Basic mythological background for Wiccans.

Green, Marian. *The Elements of Natural Magic*.

Element Books, 1997, \$9.95 and

A Witch Alone: 13 Moons to Master Natural Magick,

Thorson's, 1991, \$16.00.

Green provides an outstanding introduction to natural magic and solitary work.

Guiley, Rosemary. *The Encyclopedia of Witches and Witchcraft*. Facts on File 1990, \$22.95.

Contains unique information not available elsewhere.

Leland, Charles G. *Aradia: Gospel of the Witches*.

Phoenix Publishing, 1989, \$6.95. A classic collection of witch lore collected in Italy over a century ago. The first edition was published in the 1890's.

Orion, Loretta. *Never Again the Burning Times*.

Waveland, 1995, \$ 13.50. A study of modern Pagan belief systems, often used in anthropology or sociology classes.

Simms, Maria Kay. *The Witches' Circle*.

Llewellyn, 1996, \$19.95. The author, a professional astrologer, tells her personal journey to find Wicca. Details how she began her own circle, which revolves around astrology. Original rituals and instructions on making robes and masks.

Starhawk. *The Spiral Dance: A Rebirth of the Religion of the Great Goddess*.

Harper, 1979, 1989, \$17.00. This classic of feminist spirituality has been a bestseller among Witches since 1979.

Starhawk, Anne Hill, Diane Baker. *Circle Round : Raising Children in Goddess Traditions*.

Bantam Doubleday, 1998, \$25.95. A comprehensive parenting guide for people of all faiths and beliefs, based on the Goddess tradition's appreciation of the Earth (the Goddess) and the view that life is a never-ending cycle of birth and death.

Starhawk, M. Macha Nightmare and the Reclaiming Collective. *The Pagan Book of Living and*

Dying. Harper, San Francisco, 1997, \$17.00. Practical rituals with prayers, chants, blessings, meditations, essays, and insightful personal stories to offer understanding of death and a powerful new approach to the various stages of dying and grieving.

Valiente, Doreen. *Natural Magic*. Phoenix Publishing, 1985, \$11.50, and

An ABC of Witchcraft Past and Present. Bookpeople, 1988, \$16.95. Both are excellent introductions, composed of short interesting essays on a wide variety of witchy topics.