In 1996, “The Craft” was released in theaters and a new standard for movies about witchcraft was established. This was in part due to the technical advice of Pat Devin, an Elder and the first officer of the Southern California local council of C.O.G. (Covenant of the Goddess) established in California in 1975, an incorporated, religious, non-profit organization.

While much of the technically correct information in the movie was a fresh relief for many of us, Hollywood also had filled the movie with the normal amount of special effects. You know, the kind that have nothing whatsoever to do with “real magick.” In the past few years, large numbers of people after seeing “The Craft” turned towards Wicca with the impression that the movie was a real reflection of what they could learn. This misconception was further in-forced by a number of new Television shows and more Hollywood movies. Never had a little bit of truth created so much confusion. ~ Parker Torrence

What is Wicca?

“Basically, Wicca is an evolving religion which originated from paganism, the oldest religion in the world. ... It's an earth-oriented religion which has a consciousness towards ecology, not domination of the earth. We are part of everything that is going on around us. Humans have a responsibility for their actions and how they treat the earth, plants, animals, birds, fish and even rocks.” ~ Pat Devin
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this work is dedicated
with love to my lady wolfrose

“Whatever you
send out, comes
back times three!”
Greetings, and welcome to the “Grimoire of Eclectic Magick,” and yes this is a book about real magick!

What is Magick, & why read this book?

“Magick is the Science and Art of causing Change to occur in conformity with Will.” ~ Aleister Crowley

Or in more modern terminology: Magick is the methodology of attracting to one’s self, those events required for the achievement of a goal. Read this book if you want to know the truth about casting a circle, and crafting a spell. Read this book if you want to learn how to achieve your goals. Read, and discover the Joy of Magick!

What should you learn/know first?

This is just my opinion, but I believe that the single most important thing you can learn in regards to magick, is the Wiccan Rede and the Three Fold Law!

Bide the Wiccan Rede ye must,
In perfect love, in perfect trust.
Eight words the Wiccan Law Fulfill:
“An ye harm none, do what ye will.”
Lest in thy self-defense it be,
Ever mind the Rule of Three.
Follow this with mind and heart,
And merry ye meet and marry ye part.
The witches in the movie were not Wiccan, but there are many Wiccan elements in the rituals that they use. I am not Wiccan, but I draw from Wiccan sources for my rituals. You do not have to be Wiccan to practice magick, but you do need to understand that Wiccan or not, you are still governed by the Three Fold Law of Return.

“Whatever you send out comes back times three!”

“As ye sow, so shall ye reap.”

Call it what you like, use whatever words you wish, but understand all things move in a circle and you always get back what you put out. It might not be tomorrow, or next year, but somewhere down the road it will come back to you three fold. Both the good and the bad. Are you ready? This too is the Joy of Magick!
picking your path

In the movie *The Craft*, the schoolgirls portrayed are not Wiccan. If you desire to become a Wiccan, contact a Gardnerian coven (or some other Tradition). Apply for admission, learn and follow to the letter the beliefs and teachings of that Tradition. If you desire to become a Ceremonial Magician, contact the OTO (or some other Order). Apply for admission, learn and follow to the letter the teachings of that Order.

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”
~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Now if you are seeking a path that is not at one of these two extremes, there is hope. Like the witches in the movie, you can learn and practice an eclectic form of magick. You can do this in a group, or you can do this as a Solitaire.

Wicca is a child of Paganism, and only one of its’ many flavors. There are structured Traditions like Ásatrú or the many Druidic groups. Or there are just as many eclectic groups, that draw from both wicca, and non-wiccan sources. If you are very adventurous, you can create your own eclectic path, before you do that, please read the rest of this book. An old adage

“True magick isn’t black or white. The only evil is in the heart of the user.”
picking your path

states, "you should not break the rules, until after you first know how to use them correctly." This is even more true when it comes to the practice of magick!

Hollywood, television and the hard-copy entertainment industry like to spew forth the misinformed concept that there are Good and Evil forms of magick. In my opinion that is on the same level as saying every head of every country is a perfect person, and has never ever done (or even thought) anything moral or ethically wrong. If that was true about politicians, then we would have world peace, no human rights violations, unemployment and crime would be at zero.

The reality of magick is, it just exists. Like air or water. It takes on the form and color of the person using it. If your desire is to do harm, (society may call it evil,) and if you employ magick to do it, well remember the Three Fold Law! Most people practice magick that is a reflection of their personalities. If a person is self centered and self serving, magick will not change them. Personally I would not want them in any group I was working in.

With the practice of magick, comes responsibility for ones own actions (more on this in the next section). Your first responsibility should be to find a path that is suited to your needs. Do you need the structure and discipline of a Coven or Order? Do you need to belong to something with a history and a set of (never changing) traditions? Or do you need the freedom that an eclectic solitaire path would provide?

I am a simple Pagan and I walk an eclectic solitaire path. I have, and do work with small groups from time to time, and I have had some formal training. My reasons for this path are simple, I spent twenty years of my life in the Navy at a time when there were very few Pagans in the military. It fit my needs.
reality and responsibility

“It is better to rush upon this blade than enter this circle with fear in your heart”

Everyone at one time or another has wanted to twitch their nose, or blink their eyes, and have their house and children clean, and find a new wardrobe hanging in their closet. Maybe if you have a maid, a nanny and someone to do your shopping, and you’ve trained them to understand facial tic commands. Then, and only then will you get the result that you seek. When it comes to the reality of magick, you’ll get those results, faster the old fashioned way.

I have yet to meet anyone who can balance and spin a pencil with their mind, walk on water (without it being frozen first) or fly through the air. These are the dreams of the young and the science of the Hollywood special effects artist. It is said that there are those in the far east who have mastered some of these feats. They’ve spent their whole life in meditation to achieve this. So if you are ready to give up, fast food, cable television, the Internet, and indoor plumbing. Go book a flight to India, seek a guru, and we’ll see you in 80 years. If, on the other hand, you are not yet willing to give up your standard of living, the reality of magick is that it can not alter or
reality and responsibility

break the physical laws of nature. In fact, magick is just the employment of nature’s laws for the achievement of one’s goals.

These laws of magick are not the occult secrets that some would have you believe. Just go to any reputable Human Growth Seminar and see how many of these “occult secrets” are being openly employed by non-magick users. If you don’t have the time, then pick up a copy of “Think and Grow Rich” and you’ll find many of these secret teachings spelled out.

Before you begin the practice of magick, you should understand that, like life itself, there is a certain responsibility that you accept. You are responsible for each and every action, thought and deed. There is no devil, the music, and movies don’t have subliminal messages hidden in them, and regardless of how dysfunctional your childhood was, you, and only you are responsible for your own actions! If you like being a victim, if you need an escape goat to go through life with, then the last thing you need to do is learn magick.

Magick is about responsibility, and respect. Responsibility for yourself, and respect for all living creatures. It is one Pagan viewpoint that the Great Mother gave birth to all things, meaning that we are all part of each other, as well as every living creature and rock. Do you respect yourself? Do you respect the environment around you? If you don’t respect yourself, how do you expect to be responsible with the art of magick, and respect its’ use.

Never practice magick from the space of fear or anger. These emotions, both tend to sour the desired results. In group work, you are only as strong, as your weakest link. That is why fear is the last thing you need in any group or circle.
Pagans celebrate Eight Festivals, or *Sabbats* in the cycle of a year. While all eight of these times reflect agricultural aspects of the year, four are of a Celtic nature, while the other four are drawn from the Mediterranean area of Europe. Each *full moon* is also a *holy day*, and is called an *Esbat*.

Samhain • Celtic Fire festival • October 31
Yule • Winter Solstice • December 21
Imbolg • Celtic Fire festival • February 2
Ostara • Spring Equinox • March 22
Beltain • Celtic Fire festival • April 30
Litha • Summer Solstice • June 21
Lughnassadh • Celtic Fire festival • August 1
Mabon • Autumn Equinox • September 22
the wheel of the year

Samhain, the time of the year when the veil is the thinnest. In Celtic times, this was the end of the old year and the beginning of the new. This is the best time for the taking of Omens.

Yule, this is the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. Lighting of the Yule Log is symbolic of welcoming the sun.

Imbolg, also called Lady’s Day, is a time of renewal. In days past a common fire was lit, and all members of a community would take a brand from the fire home, to rekindle their own hearth fires. Today we call it Groundhog day.

Ostara, the Spring Equinox, a time when daylight and night are in balance. A time of blessing the seed, planting, and fertility.

Beltain, a hinge day when winter gives way to summer. Again the veil is thin between the worlds. Dance around a May Pole, celebrate the joy and ecstasy of life.

Litha, the Summer Solstice, the shortest night of the year. Time to rejoice in the warmth of the sun, while the world is full of growing life.

Lughnassadh, the first of the harvest festivals. In Celtic tradition it is the day the young son challenges his father the King, for rulership. In the course of their battle, the father is wounded, this is symbolized by the following days growing cooler.

Mabon, the second harvest festival, the Fall Equinox. Once again daylight and night are in balance. Now is the time to celebrate the gifts of the Earth Mother.