



Ask Rose Ariadne
<http://www.askroseariadne.com>

Is Magic Black or White or Gray?

For years, witchcraft has been afflicted with labels usually by people who know nothing about the craft. Witchcraft can fall into several categories depending on the intent.

White magic is sometimes considered the "good" magic. It is magic that has no intent other than to do good. Grey magic is neutral; it has no moral effect good or bad, it simply is and black magic is magic that violated the principles by which I live. It is magic done with the intent to cause harm to others and it will never be supported on this website.

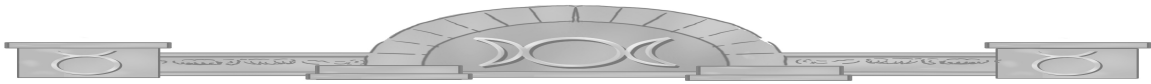
Generally speaking, those who follow the path of Wicca, practice grey or white magic, magic designed to follow the laws of nature or promotes good. Those who practice either of these magical forms believe in the Reder, "It Harm None, Do What Thou Wilt" or even the shortened form, "Harm None."

White witches take the law a bit farther and believe in promoting good in all things. They also believe in a few more rules than the typical Wiccan. Here are the rules that they follow:

The Four Rules

1. Live - Live each day as if it were your last, for one day you will be right.
2. Love - Love yourself first and foremost. For when you truly love yourself, loving those around you will come as easily as breathing - and we all must breathe.
3. Learn - Learn your life's lessons - each as it comes - for that is the reason we are here.
4. Enjoy - Enjoy your life, because if you do not most likely someone else will enjoy it for you... and then your time here will have been wasted.





The Law: Harm None.

Explanations

Live

The first Rule put forth sounds pretty straight forward at first. Then you actually try to live it! :) Living each day as if it were your last means maximizing your potential for every moment that you have been given.

If you are let go from your job... that is an opportunity to face truth and see what you can do to make yourself more marketable and go get a BETTER job. Or, if you are highly motivated, dedicated, and a risk taker you can take that chance to start your own company.

When I first began to follow these principles, my business was not very successful, my marriage was only tolerable, and I often felt depressed about my situation as a whole. Then I began to live each moment. 'Carpe Diem' (Seize the day) became my motto. I began to maximize every moment and live in the moment, not for the moment.

This does not mean that in order to be a good witch that you have to work like a rabid squirrel on 'speed'... but it does mean that you have to be honest with yourself to see what your situation really is and to make the most of it. I believe that if I can go to bed at night and think to myself that I had done the very best I could that day with the information I had at each moment of opportunity, then the day was a success. But if I go to bed thinking that I had let an opportunity slip away I do not beat myself up over it. I simply say to myself, "Gee, Torin, that was one you missed. I'll get it the next time it comes along."

Love

What is life without love? Honestly, I can't imagine what that would be like. Yet many people live their lives without the most important form of love there is - the love of the self. If you truly understand yourself and are willing to take responsibility for your own actions you will suddenly find a great love for yourself.

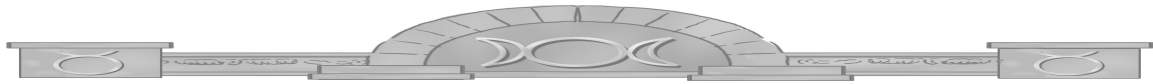
In order to give free and unconditional love to another person you must first have that kind of feeling for yourself. This is all this means.

Learn

One of the cornerstones of The Craft is the belief that our souls are here on this plane of existence at this point in time to learn lessons. Your lessons are different from (although probably quite similar to) my own. Learn what life teaches you. It is no more difficult than this.

Enjoy





The life of the witch does not require you to live your life in suffering nor poverty. There are no mandates for pain, unhappiness, or unpleasantness. We do not see suffering as the 'key' to getting into Heaven (or the Summerlands as some of us call it). Indeed, we see such things as exactly what they are... unpleasant! This does not mean that we never have unpleasant things happen to us, nor that we walk around in a constant state of denial.

We see suffering as either the result of an action we took (i.e. going to jail for robbing a bank) or the way that The Unknown (see "The Deities of Witches" by Torin W.) has chosen to teach us a lesson which we need to learn but have not done anything consciously to bring about the circumstances (i.e. the totally unexpected death of a close friend).

Witch Craft allows you to reap all of the happiness and prosperity from your life that you can muster... so long as you stay within the accepted boundaries. For instance, if you work hard at an honest job you like to do then there is nothing which says you should feel badly for being more successful than others. But if you rob a bank, you may be happy with the things that the money can buy for a short period of time, but eventually you will suffer far greater than if you had simply worked for it. (I know this may sound somewhat like a contradiction to what I said earlier, but I do not believe in keeping a job which does not give me enough pleasure, satisfaction, and money to make up for the difficulties I endure.)

The Law: Harm None

Above all else, white witches believe the concept of Harm None should be the rule by which all of society lives. I think it might not be a bad idea.

Mastering The Magick Of Witchcraft

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