

# A Druid's Herbal for the Sacred Earth Year

By Ellen Evert Hopman



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For the ancient Druids, the healing and magical properties of herbs were inseparable from the larger cycles of the seasons, the movements of the planets, and the progression of a human life.

A Druid's Herbal shows the reader how to use herbs when creating rituals to celebrate festivals and significant life passages such as births, house blessings, weddings, funerals, and naming ceremonies.

Drawing on extensive research and a deep personal experience with Pagan traditions, Ellen Evert Hopman explores the history and folklore surrounding the eight major Celtic festivals: Samhain, Winter Solstice, Imbolc, Spring Equinox, Beltaine, Summer Solstice, Lugnasad, and Fall Equinox. Included in each discussion are complete instructions on the medicinal and magical uses of the herbs associated with each celebration.

Using these Celtic traditions as examples, the author suggests ways to incorporate the symbolic and magical power of herbs into personal rituals that honor all phases of life from childbirth to last rites. Also included are chapters on how to prepare herbal tinctures, salves, and poultices; herbs used by the Druids; herbal alchemy and the planets; and the relationships between herbs and sacred places.

Filled with practical information and imaginative suggestions for using herbs for healing, ceremony, and magic, this book is an indispensable and comprehensive guide to age-old herbal practices.



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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Booklist

Hopman provides the religious and historical background of the Druids before proceeding to the herbal information in chapters that progress through the seasons from All Hallows (the beginning of the Druidic year) through the fall equinox. Each of these chapters first sets the seasonal context, then presents a list of the herbs pertinent to that season. Each entry in a list cites the parts of the plant that are used and their herbal, homeopathic, and magical uses. Hopman follows the herbal with a discussion of planetary effects on herbs and the herbs used for major life events. Helpful appendixes guide the non-Druid in pronunciation, list sources of information and plants, and give a short list of references. Hopman's effort will fascinate anyone interested in herbs and their lore as well as that sizable group that finds the Druids and their approach to life intriguing. *William Beatty* 

#### Review

"Ms. Hopman demonstrates a wide knowledge of the Celts and their mythology as well as her understanding of modern homeopathy. Her book includes a Celtic dictionary, which makes it all the more appealing to anyone interested in ancient Celtic lore. She moves through the year describing rituals and herbal uses for Druidic holidays and celebrations. Herbs for marriage, funerals, births, and house blessings are discussed in detail. A fascinating herbal." (*Country Living*)

"A Druid's Herbal will certainly promote your own wisdom and health, and it makes a valuable addition to any home library." (Anke Kriske, Sage Woman)

"An absolute must for Druids and Ban-drui (which includes the modern Avalonian path), *A Druid's Herbal* also holds significant appeal for herbalists and anyone interested in plant magic. Accessible to beginners but with plenty of detail for experts, this book is ideal for all levels of experience. Highly recommended." (*Hypatia's Hoard*)

"This book is a good summary and introduction to medicinal and magical herbs used by the Druids. This is another excellent book to add to your herbal library." (*Circle Magazine, Spring 2001*)

From the Back Cover EARTH RELIGIONS / HERBAL MEDICINES

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A master herbalist, psychotherapist, and lay homeopath, Ellen Hopman is the author of *Tree Medicine, Tree Magic* and the video *Gifts of the Healing Earth*, and co-author of *People of the Earth: The New Pagans*.

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### Rolanda Parker:

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a go walking, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open or even read a book titled A Druid's Herbal for the Sacred Earth Year? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You realize beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have various other opinion?

#### **Patrick Perkins:**

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