

"New Moon Magic ... beckons us to cast our own anti-capitalism spells."

—CHRISTENA CLEVELAND, PHD, author of *God Is a Black Woman*



New Moon Magic

**13 ANTI-CAPITALIST TOOLS
FOR RESISTANCE AND
RE-ENCHANTMENT**

From the authors of *Missing Witches*

RISA DICKENS AND AMY TOROK

Audre [ed. note: Lorde] declared herself *both* the sun and moon and proved we need not be identical to be unified in the dance of our reality.

Here, in this circle, in this Missing Witches coven, I want us all to feel like we belong, not because we are all the same, but because we appreciate and admire each other's differences. That here, if nowhere else, we are insiders, each bringing our own strengths and vulnerabil-ities, our gifts, powers, our variant and atypical strands forming a web overlaid in delicate protection of our unity. That as you see my words, Risa's words, and the words of the Witches we've found, that you also feel seen. We outsiders tend to each other's battle wounds and emotional scars. Wailing sympathetically together, like a less creepy *Midsommar* Hårga cult, and using that collective strength of difference and unity to carry on the fight. We must be very strong and love each other in order to go on living.

For Scorpio's New Moon, take Audre with you to your circle,

invite her as a friend and introduce her with this:

Change means growth, and growth can be painful. But we sharpen

self-definition by exposing the self in work and struggle together with those whom we define as different from ourselves, although sharing the same goals. For Black and white, old and young, lesbian and heterosexual women alike, this can mean new paths to our survival.

We have chosen each other. And the edge of each other's battles [...]

We seek beyond history. For a new and more possible meeting.⁴⁹

Incantation

We gather
and
I have a valuable contribution to make,
Holding space for myself
And others
As a speaker

New Moon in Scorpio

As a listener.

I

Define myself for myself

And will not be tempted by defensiveness

Or judgment.

The Circle is Unbroken

But never closed

And so it is

For my Soul and Mind.

I seek beyond history

For a new and more possible meeting.

I must be very strong and love the other

in order to go on living.

My silence will not protect me.

Ritual

Your ritual for the Scorpio New Moon is to a) form a circle, or b) attend a circle.

As the year-end holidays gear up, and the sunlight gears down, it is especially important to affirm or reaffirm the importance of our connection to others, before the traditional, annual stress makes us wonder if we might be better off alone.

According to the *Old Farmer's Almanac*, November's full moon is called the Beaver Moon, when beavers usually go into their lodges for winter. And whether or not our new moon falls in November, we too can create that lodge, that safe, brave space.

Audre Lorde said, "Your silence will not protect you." So let's talk.

Option A: Form a Circle

This circle can be online or in person with three or more people (including you).

I know some of you solitary practitioners will be scared or skeptical, but new moons are for new things. Just try it. If you don't like it, that's

okay. Bibliomancy is also great, and you can return to your silent stacks of magic books tomorrow.

And don't be discouraged. The moon in Scorpio reminds us, gently yet sternly, that relationships can be hard. I met two strangers who became great friends at a circle. It was a public event held in a public park. There were dozens of invitees, but only we three showed up. The right three. Not everyone you ask will say yes and that's okay. The right ones will.

But I want you to take a chance. I want you to encourage others to be vulnerable by first being vulnerable yourself. Reach out.

You don't have to frame it as a coven meeting if your friends or family don't get the whole *Witch thing*. Call it whatever you want or whatever you're comfortable with—add an element of craft if you like. As an example, in the leadup to Christmas 2020, with us all in pandemic lockdown, a gang of us Witches got together on Zoom and made decorations as we chatted. As I said before, your circle can be a card game, a book club, a crafternoon party. All this is just an excuse to get your circle in place.

Honestly, a lot of people are just waiting for a safe/brave space to be vulnerable and to be asked, *How are you?* What do you need? What are your dreams?

And *you* can provide that place.

Don't expect an immediate catharsis or instant epiphany. A real bounty of a circle takes time. Finding the rhythm and flow takes time. Confidence and trust are built slowly, one conversation, one action at a time. And one at a time's good fishing.

Here is a kind of script you can use as a jumping-off point.

They say, "A problem shared is a problem halved," so I wanted us all to get together to check in, share, and help me figure out if the reverse is also true: is a dream shared a dream doubled? What are your crazy pipe dreams or pipe goals that seem too farfetched to say out loud? I want to hear about them. This is like brainstorming, so there are no wrong answers or bad ideas. No judgment! I'll go first! (Yes, you must go first. You are brave and strong and safe and you can pull open this gate.)

Option B: Attend a Circle

If forming a circle of your own is just all too much this month, maybe attending a circle is just the confidence boost you need to try creating one next year, and maybe it'll be the energy boost you'll need for upcoming yuletide.

Risa and I host circles online, so you can watch for those on our website and socials. We also love Amanda Yates Garcia, aka The Oracle of LA, who (as of this printing) hosts monthly rituals with tenderness of heart.

One of the silver linings in a (post) pandemic cloud is that online events have become the standard. It has never been easier to find each other, set an intention, and make a connection.

If you can't conjure the confidence for Option B, I'll give you an Option C. Hold a circle for yourself. Create a ritual of opening that space for you and you alone. Ask yourself about yourself. Ask about your crazy pipe dreams and your irrational fears.

Start from your very center and expand.

