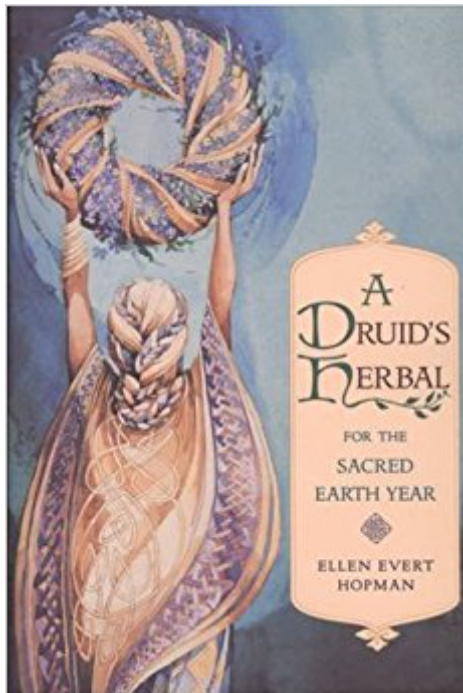


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A Druid's Herbal For The Sacred Earth Year



Synopsis

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, Lughnasadh, 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.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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

"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-druí (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)

I've studied Native American herbal lore and wanted to study Celtic; this book came highly recommended by a friend, and I can see why. It's very good. In order to prevent excessive duplication, however, the author in many cases refers back to a previous section for a given herb (the various chapters give information organized according to time of year; numerous herbs overlap these sections). This is a logical and economical way to do things, but I find it awkward to be continually flipping back and forth. But this is the ONLY complaint I have about the book, and even so, I recognize that it's something about which many readers would NOT agree with me.

A good book to keep around on your shelf. Covers many herbs, uses, cultivation, and magical properties. I have enjoyed having this book around for the last year. People in my grove have also borrowed the copy, thought it was worth buying for themselves. Definitely, a great resource.

Excellent Read! I have been reading this book, and I thoroughly enjoy it as well as having learned a great deal from it! I would highly recommend this book to anyone with an interest in Druidry or Herbalism! It doesn't really matter if you are Druidic, or any form of Paganism this info will be invaluable to you! Blessed Be, Ya'll!

I just recently purchased this book last week...again, for the 4th time!! Somehow, certain individuals get a sight of this particular book and wind up "lifting" it from me. It's almost a running joke...that my book will be stolen by curious secret seekers. I own numerous books on botany, plant medicinals and herbalism, but THIS particular book has been swiped repeatedly! I do not know why...but like I said, it has happened 4 times already! It's a delightful book and has helped me with my path and studies on herbalism. *Nothing like mixing up an herbal remedy and having a story or lore to go with it!*(Something you will not get at your local pharmacy.)And for those who have posted not so friendly comments about Ms.Hopman's book...you do not have to believe or agree with much of the information that you read in her books or any others, just have an open mind and take some of the concepts or ideas that may be useful on your journey towards the path of life. Intergrate them in, with what you may be wanting to do or understand.Peace and light to you all, friends....

I love this book. It is well-researched, and well-written. As a contemporary Druid, I consider this an essential go-to book on not only herbology but on the Great Rites and Holy Days.

What a great book, I love how it is split up and all the recommendations make sense and it is so well written! I love it!

I have been a magickal herbalist for years, and I collect books on Herbalism of all paths. This book is my latest addition to my collection and it is a wonderful book! The author's writing style is clear, easy to read and engaging. She weaves in folklore along with with magickal practice and really gives you a wonderful big picture view of why things are done in a certain way.She has detailed information of Druidic use of herbs for all Sabbats, as well as life changes (such as Handfasting, Rites of death, etc). The book is well organized, and is a wonderful resource both for novices and for the advanced practitioners. Although I read this book cover to cover it is also a wonderful reference book to keep around in case you wish to look up specific practices or even specific herbs. All in all a wonderful addition to anyone's herbal library - and well worth the cost!

On wish list forever. Good resource for herbalists and laymen alike.

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