

THE LITTLE BOOK OF



The Celestial Herbalist

CRYSTAL CONJURE MAGIC

Before you cut an elder, the old country wisdom says, you must ask the old woman who lives in it. She is the Elder Mother — the spirit dwelling within the tree — and to take her wood without a word of permission and a small offering is to invite her anger: blighted luck, restless sleep, furniture made of her stolen wood creaking in the night. "Lady Ellhorn, give me of thy wood, and I will give thee of mine when it grows in the forest," ran the asking, hat in hand. No other plant in the hedgerow is so plainly, so insistently *inhabited*.

This is the most ambiguous of the sacred trees, and it wears its doubleness openly. It is a guardian, planted by the cottage door to turn away evil, lightning, and witches — and it is itself the witch's tree, the wood you must never burn for fear of what you call up. It heals and it warns; it shelters and it bites. Its tarot card is Death — not the cheap death of mere endings, but the great card of transformation, the threshold where one thing is shed and another begins. That is precisely the elder's station: the crone-tree standing at the gate between the worlds. Yet for all that gravity, the tree is almost comically generous, and its governing oracle catches it — elder answers to *Seizing the Moment*: it offers two doors a year, the creamy flowers of early summer and the near-black berries of autumn, and closes each one fast. Miss the moment, and the gift is gone till the year comes round again.

Breaking a curse, transforming your life, seizing the fleeting moment, and opening the door to dream — four gifts of the crone-tree. This little book gives you one working for each.

One sober warning belongs at the outset: the elder is a tree to be worked with respect, never casually consumed — its leaves, bark, and raw berries hold a trace of poison. Everything here is external charm-craft only: burned, carried, placed, and set out, never eaten or brewed. Do the ritual, then meet it halfway in the ordinary world.



♦ 1 · Elderberry for Curse-Breaking — The Breaking Flame

Pluto-Aligned Elderberry · a Candle working · the technique: "Candle Over Written Fears"

Why this working. The elder is the guardian at the door, planted to turn away evil and to break what clings — and under Pluto, lord of deep endings and renewal, it breaks curses and dispels the negativity weighing on you. This working writes down what oppresses you and sets the elder's guarding flame over it, to break its hold and renew you.

You will need

- **Pluto Aligned Elderberry** — the hero, to break the curse and renew you
- **Pluto Aligned Ginger** — to sear off the negativity with fiery protection
- **Ceres Aligned Bay Leaf** — the blessed leaf, for a clean and guarded finish
- **Black Obsidian** — the keystone that cuts and banishes what harms you
- **Witch's Black Salt** — the banishing salt, to sweep the negativity away
- A slip of paper, a pen, and a candle in a safe holder

The working. This is *Candle Over Written Fears* — you name what oppresses you in writing and let the flame break its hold. On the paper, write the curse, the ill-wish, or the heavy negativity you want gone — plainly, once. Ring the candle with **Witch's Black Salt**, scatter the **Elderberry**, **Ginger**, and **Bay Leaf** around it, and set the **Black Obsidian** on the folded paper beside the flame.

The charged moment. Light the candle. Run a little of the crushed elderberry between your fingers and set your will hard on the flame. (Dried elderberry has almost no scent, so let this working live in the flame and the words, not the smell.) See the guarding fire breaking what was set against you, the negativity lifting and burning off. Say it: *What was set on me is broken; I am clean and renewed.* Let the candle burn down safely, then bury or discard the paper away from your home.

When it's done. Carry the Black Obsidian for a while as a guard. Repeat if the heaviness returns.

Then meet it halfway. The flame breaks the hold — you still step out from under it: change what you can, leave what harms you, keep your own door guarded. The working clears the curse; you walk free of it.





♦ 2 · Elderberry for Transformation — The Threshold Token

Haumea-Aligned Elderberry · a Symbol & Talisman working · the technique: "Stone or Shell Token"

Why this working. The elder's card is Death — the great transformation, the threshold where one self is shed and another begins. Under Haumea, the sparker of renewal and rebirth, it carries you through a real change of life. This working charges a small token to hold through the transformation — a solid thing to keep in your hand while everything else is shifting.

You will need

- **Haumea Aligned Elderberry** — the hero, to spark renewal and rebirth
- **Pluto Aligned Lavender** — to release the old self gently
- **Pluto Aligned Basil** — for the deep turn from one phase to the next
- **Malachite** — the keystone of transformation and necessary change
- **Flake Salt** — a light, shifting salt, for a change that moves easily
- A small stone, shell, or token you can carry

The working. This is a *Stone or Shell Token* — you charge a small natural object to carry through a threshold. Set the token on a little **Flake Salt**, scatter the **Elderberry**, **Lavender**, and **Basil** over it, and

rest the **Malachite** beside it as you name the change you are moving through.

The charged moment. Hold the token and picture the old self you are shedding and the new one coming — the elder at the threshold, one thing ending so another can begin. (No scent needed; hold the seeing and the weight of the token in your hand.) Say it: *I cross the threshold; the old is shed, the new begins.* Slip the token into your pocket.

Carry it. Keep the token with you through the whole change, a solid handhold while the rest shifts. Set it with the Malachite to recharge when the change feels heavy.

Then meet it halfway. The token holds you through the crossing — you still do the leaving and the becoming, one real step at a time. The working steadies the change; you walk through it.





♦ 3 · Elderberry for Seizing the Moment — The Open Door

Jupiter-Aligned Elderberry · a Visualization working · the technique: "Field of Possibility"

Why this working. The elder gives two doors a year and shuts each one fast — its oracle is *Seizing the Moment*, making the most of the open door before it closes. Under Jupiter, the catcher of the fortunate moment, it sharpens your eye for the chance that won't wait and your nerve to take it. This working is held in the mind's eye: seeing the open door clearly, and committing to step through.

You will need

- **Jupiter Aligned Elderberry** — the hero, to catch the fortunate moment
- **Venus Aligned Lemongrass** — to clear the road to the open door
- **Jupiter Aligned Lemon Verbena** — for luck and a fortunate turn
- **Zircon** — the keystone of good fortune and decisive action
- **Truffle Salt** — the salt of hidden fortune, drawing the chance to you
- A quiet place to sit, and a little of the herbs in a dish

The working. This is a *Field of Possibility* — a working held in visualization. Set the **Elderberry**, **Lemongrass**, and **Lemon Verbena** in the dish with a little **Truffle Salt**, hold the **Zircon**, and sit somewhere

quiet. Close your eyes.

The charged moment. In your mind, see a wide field with a single open door standing in it — the fleeting chance you've been circling. See it clearly: what it is, where it leads. Then see yourself walking to it and stepping through *now*, before it shuts. Feel the decisiveness in your body. Say it: *The door is open; I see it, and I step through now.* Open your eyes and note the first real step you'll take today.

Then meet it halfway. The vision sharpens your eye and your nerve — you still act while the door is open, not after it's shut. The working readies you; you seize it.





♦ 4 · Elderberry for Dream Vision — The Pillow Sachet

Neptune-Aligned Elderberry · an Herbal working · the technique:
"Small Pillow Sachet"

Why this working. The elder is the crone-tree at the gate between the worlds, and under Neptune, the opener of astral sight, it lifts the veil in sleep — opening the way to dream vision and true insight in the night. This working tucks the elder's dreaming herbs into a small sachet at your pillow, to carry you across the threshold as you sleep.

You will need

- **Neptune Aligned Elderberry** — the hero, to open astral travel and insight
- **Neptune Aligned Lavender** — for calm, clear, restful dreaming
- **Moon Aligned Spearmint** — the dreaming mint, for vivid true dreams
- **Amethyst** — the keystone of psychic sight and spiritual dreaming
- **Epsom Salt** — clean salt, to clear the way for true vision
- A small cloth sachet or bag

The working. This is a *Small Pillow Sachet* — you tuck dreaming herbs near your pillow to work as you sleep. Fill the sachet with the **Elderberry**, **Lavender**, and **Spearmint** and a pinch of **Epsom Salt**, and tie it closed. Rest the **Amethyst** against it to charge, then set the

sachet inside your pillowcase or on the bedside near your head. (The sachet stays sealed — elder is worked with, never eaten.)

The charged moment. As you lie down, hold the intention for what you wish to see — an answer, a guidance, a true dream. (Dried elder is nearly scentless; let the working live in the touch of the sachet and the held intention.) Say it quietly: *Open the gate as I sleep; let me see true.* Then let yourself drift off with the sachet near.

Keep it. Leave the sachet at your pillow, and keep a notebook by the bed to catch what comes. Refresh the herbs every few weeks; keep the Amethyst near your head.

Then meet it halfway. The sachet opens the gate — you still keep the calm bedtime and write the dream down before it fades. The working lifts the veil; you remember what you saw.



◆ Choose Your Elderberry

Four gifts, and there are more. Every one of the seventeen celestial bodies turns elderberry toward a different threshold — the Moon for dream vision and peaceful sleep, Eris to force the overdue reckoning, Sedna to carry you through by surrender and renewal, Sun to burn away confusion and advance.

Where to start:

- For **breaking a curse or dispelling negativity** → Pluto-Aligned Elderberry
- For **a transformation of your life** → Haumea-Aligned Elderberry
- For **seizing a fleeting opportunity** → Jupiter-Aligned Elderberry

We did the prep. You do the magic.

[Browse the full range of Celestial Aligned Elderberry →](#)



Want the whole sky?

This little book works one herb through four of its gifts. The complete system works *fifty* herbs through all seventeen — 850 alignments, a rite for every one, more than 800 pages of the *why* and the *how*.

[The Celestial Herbalist — 2-Volume Set →](#) (its free sample is the complete Rosemary chapter — all 17 alignments)



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