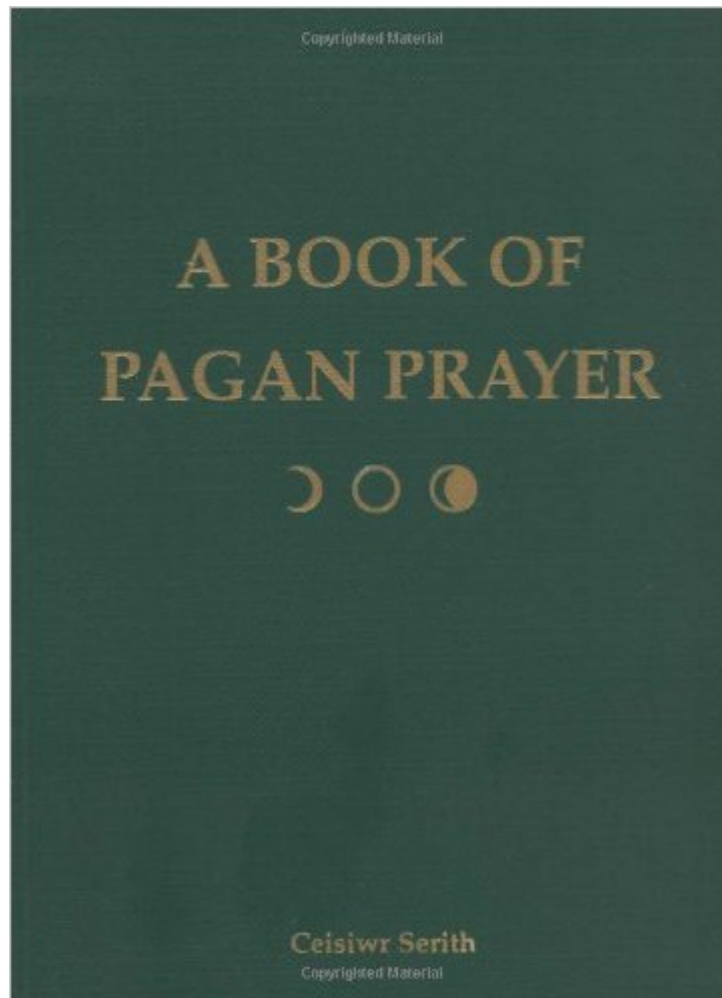


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A Book Of Pagan Prayer



Synopsis

It is you who will be talking to the gods. Be clear. Be careful in how you pray. Take care how you come before the gods. Give them your best. There are many reference books on elaborate pagan rituals but never - until now - a guide to the most basic of practices: prayers and offerings. *A Book of Pagan Prayer* provides the pagan community a comprehensive and thoughtful selection of prayers - and shows readers how they too can create their own. After an introduction on why to pray, author Ceisiwr Serith explores how to pray through words, posture, dance, and music. He explains how to prepare for and compose prayers, how to address and honor the deities, and how to conclude a prayer. Serith also answers important questions, such as: Why should pagans pray? Should prayers be spontaneous? What are offerings about? Is all this just trying to buy the gods off? Gathered from many traditions - including Celtic, Germanic, Egyptian, Greek, and Zoroastrian - this guide includes nearly 500 sample prayers organized by purpose: for the family and household; times of the day, month, and year; life passages; thanksgiving, grace, and petition; as well as litanies and mantras. Whether offering a blessing, celebrating new life, safeguarding travel, or honoring the seasons, readers will discover timeless pagan prayers for worship, spiritual connection, and personal relationship with the gods.

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Spirituality > Religious Studies > Comparative Religion

Customer Reviews

Given the scope of the endeavor, Mr Serith hits the mark very well. Try to imagine putting a prayer book together that will satisfy all Monotheists--Christians, Muslims, Jews, and Zoroastrians--and you

will have some idea of what Mr Serith is trying to accomplish. Druids, Wiccans, solitaires, Greek & Norse Reconstructionists, Mystery Cult Reconstructionists, etc., don't exactly see eye-to-eye on many things. Mr Serith has walked a good middle path so as not to exclude or overemphasise any one neopagan cultus/tradition. I think this will be a great reference work for the average neopagan. Hopefully other books of this type will be forthcoming. I'm giving this book 4 stars to let the author know that he could improve on this product in future editions.

In this book, the reader is taken on a tour of not only the forms of prayer, but the reasons behind them. Numerous examples are given, giving the reader the option to use those that appeal to them straight out of the book, or to write their own based upon the forms demonstrated. In a market deluged with fluffy "How To's", this book is a delightful breath of fresh air. Rather than rehashing the same tired information over again, Mr. Serith focuses on helping the reader either begin or strengthen their relationship with the divine, regardless of which deity or deities the reader feels drawn to. Groundbreaking, and an easy and enjoyable read to boot.

No matter what manner of Pagan you are, you will be pleased by this little book. Its handy size, tasteful dark green cover and easy-to-read typeface makes it a pleasure to hold and read. When you get through admiring the outside of the book, there are many treasures inside. There is a thorough discussion on the topic of prayer, why we pray, who we pray to, and how to compose a good prayer. Even if you think there is nothing new that can be said about the subject of prayer, you will think differently when you read this book. A Book of Pagan Prayer also contains a wealth of prayers suitable for many different occasions and events, beautifully and thoughtfully written. The best thing about the book, however, is that it will inspire you to compose some prayers of your own, and use them in your own worship and rituals. Dare I call this book an instant classic? I think I dare! You will enjoy the author's intelligent and gentle style throughout the prayer book. Spontaneous prayer is admirable, but a well-composed written prayer has goodness too, as this small book will teach you. Get two, so you will have one to give away. Five well-deserved stars.

i have actually owned this book for 3 years before i really sat down to read it. It was given to me by an acquaintance who had found Jesus (it is funny my spell check doesn't know the word "Jesus"?) after 10 years of Wicca. She didn't want to burn her books, but she couldn't keep them. So this little green book has sat unread and unappreciated on my shelf for a long time. The author has actually thought about and dissected the very idea of prayer from a pagan perspective. Everything from the

spoken word to the posture to the idea of the offering and all of the whys - not just the words and the hows are addressed and discussed. I don't like all of the prayers presented - some of them are completely not my style, and yet, the thought and effort that goes into each one of them, and the explanation given for every section, definitely makes this book a worthwhile purchase, and beyond a doubt a valuable and thought-provoking read.

To begin with "Why and How We Pray" as a first part of the book is remarkable and truly makes this an outstanding addition to any Pagan's bookshelf. Many Pagans might first cringe at the word "prayer" but after absorbing 68 pages of background, the cringe will be gone, replaced by an eagerness to explore the "nearly 500" prayers laid out. There are prayers for the everyday and prayers for the exceptional, prayers alone and prayers for groups. Add tables of offerings and deities, a bibliography, and notes and the result is a superb book for Pagans and those who might be Pagan curious.

This is a wonderful book for any Pagan to own. The prayers found in this book are very usable, practical, and easy to modify. Serith put a lot of thought and study into prayer, how and why we use/need it, as well as how to write prayers of your own.

Each Sunday I light candles and dedicate them to the Mother and Father God, the Universe they created, the Great Spirit, Ascended Masters, Archangels, Guardian angels, my personal spirit guides and everyone on my pre-created chart--good or bad, then I read a prayer from Sylvia Brown's *Novus Spiritus* book of prayers, a prayer or two from my *Wicca Book of Prayers*, and one or two from this Pagan book of prayers. I am a Unitarian Universalist and believe God--and Goddess--love ALL religions, so I try to get in a few from each. I have been very unhappy with the Christian religion (but still hold Jesus close to my heart as one of the Ascended Masters, so he is NOT forgotten!) but would be willing to add in a couple Christian prayers if I can find a book of prayers that are open and accepting and tolerant of all religions. That's my biggest gripe against Christianity--it thinks it's the only true religion and everyone else is hell bound. Not good.

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