

Grandmother Spider Ritual for Earth Healing



By:Arlais

This is a ritual to Grandmother Spider, Native American Goddess of the Earth. Its purpose is to create healing energy for the Earth and all creatures.

Altar set up.

The altar is decorated with bright primary colours and has a large, red pillar candle in the centre. A small cauldron contains lit incense.

We stand together on a vast, rolling plain of grass extending as far as we can see in all directions. Buffalo are grazing the land, hundreds of buffalo, far more than we could even begin to count. Take a moment and picture the beauty of this unspoilt land.

By the powers of Air, I begin the circle, by the powers of Fire, I summon the circle, by the powers of Water I complete the circle, by the powers of Earth, the circle is complete.

Please call the quarters.

Powers of air, Great Eagle of the East, we invite you to join us this night as we raise healing energy for the Earth. We bid you hail and welcome!

Powers of fire, Great Cougar of the south, we invite you to join us this night as we raise healing energy for the Earth. We bid you hail and welcome!

Powers of water, Great Bear of the west, we invite you to join us this night as we raise healing energy for the Earth. We bid you hail and welcome!

Powers of earth, Great Bison of the north, we invite you to join us this night as we raise healing energy for the Earth. We bid you hail and welcome!

Great Grandmother Spider, Lady of the Earth, we ask you to our circle this night to witness our rite. We bid thee Hail and Welcome!

Today we come together to raise healing energy for Mother Earth. We recognise the damage caused by mankind and are gathered to help redress the balance both in ritual and through our actions. Share with me the tale of Grandmother Spider, and as you do feel her presence growing stronger within the circle.

The Choctaw People say that when the People first came up out of the ground, People were encased in cocoons, their eyes closed, their limbs folded tightly to their bodies. And this was true of all People, the Bird People, the Animal People, the Insect People, and the Human People. The Great Spirit took pity on them and sent down someone to unfold their limbs, dry them off, and open their eyes. But the opened eyes saw nothing, because the world was dark, no sun, no moon, not even any stars. All the People moved around by touch, and if they found something that didn't eat them first, they ate it raw, for they had no fire to cook it.

All the People met in a great powwow, with the Animal and Bird People taking the lead, and the Human People hanging back. The Animal and Bird People decided that life was cold and miserable and wanted a solution. Someone spoke from the darkness saying that the people in the east had fire which gave warmth and light, and it was decided that the Animal and Bird People would steal this wonder because the People of the East were too greedy to share. They all volunteered for the honour, especially Grandmother Spider but Opossum was given the first chance and he would hide the fire in his furry tail.

But poor Opossum set fire to his tail and failed in his task; and this is why the Opossum now has no hair on its tail.

The next attempt was made by vulture who would hide the fire in the long feathers on his head but he too only set fire to himself and this is why vultures now have featherless heads.

The third attempt was made by crow who was then snow white; and he too failed, singeing his feathers so that they were black.

Finally, Grandmother Spider made herself heard, and although no-one thought she would succeed, she was allowed to try. She went to the stream and made a small container from the clay with a lid, and placed this on her back, holding it with 2 pairs of legs held upwards. She spun a web all the way to the East and tiptoed to the fire.

The people of the East ignored her because she was so small. She put an ember from the fire in her pot, covered it with the lid and left.

The Bird and Animal People thought she must have failed until she opened the lid and revealed the flames. But the Bird and Animal People were afraid of the fire after the experiences of Opossum and Crow, but the Human People accepted the fire and Grandmother Spider showed them how to keep the fire alive, how to use clay and how to weave and spin.

The Choctaw remember. They made a beautiful design to decorate their homes, a picture of Grandmother Spider, two sets of legs up, two down, with a fire symbol on her back. This is so their children never forget to honor Grandmother Spider, Firebringer!

Let us now work with Grandmother Spider to bring healing to the Earth. Visualise a web beginning to form within our circle, a web of golden, glowing energy, pulsing and shining. Draw energy from our circle and feed it into the web, and see the web grow stronger. See Grandmother Spider aiding us in our task, see her pleasure in our work.

Now see a flame form in the centre of the web. This is the eternal flame of life. See it strengthen and grow as it draws on the energy of our circle until it is strong enough to become the power-source for the web

Now, send your healing energy into the web and the flame, see the web grow till it balloons above our circle; see the flame increase in strength and brightness.

And now, let us release the web and send it on its way. See the web rise, rapidly into the air and see it spread out, growing larger and larger until it covers the whole world. See the energy from the web, fed by the energy of the eternal flame, seep into the Earth Mother, into the Stone People, into the the Plant People, into the Animal People and into the Human People. See it bring healing and love and peace. See it fire a new awareness in the Human People, a respect for the world around them, and a desire for peace instead of war and bloodshed. Hold this image for a moment longer and then allow it to fade, knowing that it will continue to do its work.

So mote it be!

After this ritual is over make a vow to do one thing for Mother Earth. Help an endangered species; create refuges for animals in your garden; join an environmental clean-up group; increase your recycling; send healing energy to the Earth each night. Whatever you choose, commit to doing it longterm. Show Grandmother Spider that you a serious in your intent to help the Earth.

As our ritual draws to a close, I bless the chalice and offer it to Grandmother Spider with our love and thanks.

Blessed be!

Great Grandmother Spider, we thank you for your presence this night, for your gift of the bounty of the Earth, for your gift of fire and for your enduring love. Till we meet again. Blessed be!..

Please close the quarters:

Great Bison of the North of the North The evaluation of life guides us to the caverns of knowledge and wisdom within. As you depart to your mighty realms, we bid thee hail and farewell.

Great Bear of the West. The ever-present flow of water within us, guides us to our inner being. As you depart to your mighty realms, we bid thee hail and farewell.

Great Cougar of the South The eternal flame of knowledge and wisdom that burns within us, shows us the way. As you depart to your mighty realms, we bid thee hail and farewell.

Great Eagle of the East, The inner voice inside us all calls us to partake of our inner wisdom. Let us heed the call. As you depart to your mighty realms, we bid thee hail and farewell.

By the powers of the four elements, of Earth, of Water, of Fire and of Air I release the circle. Let it be open but forever unbroken and let love stay forever in our hearts

We merry meet and merry part and merry meet again. Blessed be!

Remember to ground and release excess energy.