



QUAREIA—THE ADEPT
Module V—Advanced Magic
Lesson 1: Power Transfer

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WELCOME

Welcome to this lesson of the Quareia curriculum.

The Quareia takes a magical apprentice from the beginning of magic to the level of adeptship and beyond. The course has no superfluous text; there is no dressing, no padding—everything is in its place and everything within the course has a good reason to be there.

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So remember—in order for this course to work, it is wise to work with the lessons in sequence. If you don't, it won't work.

Yours,

Josephine McCarthy



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Lesson 1: Power Transfer

And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

—*Numbers 21:8*

Introduction

As an adept, you have been learning to rely less on tools, and more on the presence of powers within and around your body, and on companions whose power is bridged into a tool, like the staff. While for the most part the adept operates without tools, at times a specific power tool is needed temporarily. There are also times when a tool the magician has worked with for a long time breaks or becomes damaged, and is therefore no longer a good vessel or bridge for power.

This module looks at advanced adept work with tools, seals, and objects that can be deployed temporarily. It also looks at methods for

bridging power from one tool or object to another, to continue a line of power. We will also work with objects that deploy certain powers as decoys, and objects that act as anchors and bridges for contact power.

Power Transfer

Some situations call for a power transfer from one vessel to another, or to a temporary vessel which is later converted back to an ordinary object or discarded. Though such work draws on a wide range of adept skills and knowledge, you started to learn the techniques as an apprentice. Remember the basic work of transferring power from a sword to a pendant? That began to trigger a line of work within you that should, now you are an adept, be coming to fruition.

There are various reasons to transfer power from one object to another, the most common being that a tool or companion object has broken, or is needed for only one job. In the latter case, sometimes you need a specific power to flow through a tool or object, but you do not want that power around you all the time, or it may be unsafe to keep it present in the physical, surface world.

At other times the magician must go to a difficult or dangerous situation, but they cannot take companion objects or tools with them. But the powers trained within their body may not be enough. Then the magician can ‘buddy up’ a smaller version of the tool or companion object to take with them. You looked at this in a simple way as an apprentice, and now is the time to expand that work and trigger it in a lot more depth. All these methods are adept skills that rely on your level of inner contact, your ability to weave and bridge power, your focus, and your connection to the Inner Temple.

Temporarily filling a tool

Usually this is done for a specific ‘one-off’ need, and when the necessary power or contact is too feral to keep around you beyond the task at hand. This is an adept method not only because of the skill required, but also because the power used can be alluring and dangerous. As an adept student you have learned all the things that can go wrong—many of

which are caused by not looking at the longer-term consequences or from a lack of self-control.

Self-control is a major key to working with feral powers. It also stops you being entangled within the traps inherent in them. Holding a sword with a vast amount of destructive power can be very heady and it feeds the ego of the magician. If the magician does not *know themselves* then they can easily be glamoured into hanging on to the power, which will quickly lead to their destruction.

Imagine placing the power of an atom bomb in the hands of an immature, power-hungry teenager with no emotional maturity. In adept magic we are all still teenagers; and having that amount of power to hand, to use at will, will very likely end in tears. We become destroyed by our own inability to hold and handle vast power wisely, and we are more likely to destroy everything around us in the scrabble for status, power, and settling scores.

I covered this theme in the preface of my novel *The Last Scabbard*, in which the Sword of Albion is passed on from Cuchulainn to Lugaid, and from Lugaid to other warriors. Each of them become entranced by the power of the sword which brings success in battle—and total destruction to the one who wields it.

Any immaturity, puffed-up ego, mental weakness, or ignorance of self, will surface in the presence of such power and tempt the bearer to keep it. Knowing your weaknesses allows you to know when to use such a power, and when to let it go. And the letting-go of power outside yourself is a major asset to an adept. Know when to rely on your skills and power, and know when you are out of your depth.

So let's look at when to use such a temporary power, and at how to go about it. In magic you rarely have to face very destructive, out-of-balance situations; but as a species we are currently edging towards self-destruction, which triggers the flow of vast and dangerous Underworld beings. Then there is the age-old dynamic where a magician, or group of them, draw on very destructive powers to further a specific, unbalanced agenda; and such situations often get out of control very quickly. Then the adept steps in and draws on temporary tools, as well as inner contacts, beings and so forth, and puts the rampaging power back where it belongs.

And sometimes a series of unbalanced events come together and bring about a very destructive power, one that threatens everything around it. Rebalancing and cleanup cannot happen until the power is

taken out of the situation and sealed up, or put where it belongs—usually down the Abyss. These unbalanced events often develop through layers of actions over time, actions which may be magical, non-magical, or both.

Here is an example of a situation that would require using a temporary tool—in this case a temporary sword. This is just one of many different scenarios that play out repeatedly in history, and they can often go unnoticed until they get to a critical point. Then it is often spotted by a magician, or a group of them, and they are spurred into action.

This scenario could be happening anywhere in the modern world today. Similar series of events have happened more than once in various places, and they may well be unfolding yet again.

In a desert, underground nuclear bomb testing was done in the 1950s. The release of the bomb underground disturbed a long-sleeping ‘serpent’ power. This Deep Underworld serpent power—an example of which we see in the Ancient Egyptian god Apep—is very destructive and triggers chaos and annihilation. It is connected to dragon power at its most dangerous, and for the most part in the modern world, it is asleep. The bomb not only awakened that power, but also *fed* it.

The nature of nuclear power, in magical terms, is the raw serpent power released out of substance; and the Underworld serpent is the inner energy manifestation of power types like nuclear power.

The bomb also opened up a deep rift to the Underworld and Abyss, allowing those destructive beings awoken and released by the blast to rise to the surface.

After the bomb test, and for some years later, a small, very poor community that had formed out in the Desert in a wide area near the test site was plagued with ill-health, insanity, corruption, and violence. This created a feeding ground for parasites, not to mention all the destructive beings connected to the power of the serpent that seeped up to the surface. The area affected is pretty wide and includes a growing city; and within that field of influence the prolonged interaction between humans and various beings rising from the Underworld creates a terrible mess that just keeps slowly expanding.

A few decades later, a group of immature magicians came along, drawn by the tales of madness, death, violence, and disease; and they decided that the wider area in the Desert is ‘Satan’s land.’ They had a childish view of destructive power

meshed in their minds, along with a restrictive Christian upbringing which they were rebelling against; and they decided that it would be cool to ‘open a porthole to hell.’ Their motives for this were varied, and included wanting a bit of excitement, being thought cool, wanting attention, and wanting power. They were ripe for the plucking.

As they worked ritually, even though they did not know what they were doing magically, the combination of the site, the beings present, human intent, and the presence of some natural magicians and conduits, triggered a shift in the power pattern that had formed over time and brought it into active focus.

This created a bit of a mess. The kids playing with the magic were directly affected regarding their mental and physical health as the collection of destructive beings and power flowed through and around them. It also created a much bigger and more dangerous problem: humans had actively engaged with this mess of power and *asked it to rise to the surface and become active within humanity.*

If the power in such a place had been weak, then nothing more would have happened than a group of kids making fools of themselves. But when you have such a vast amount of power sitting on the threshold, sometimes even the weakest ritual action is enough to pop the boil; particularly if there is at least one natural magician active in the ritual—regardless of their lack of actual magical skill.

So the powers from deep in the Underworld were not only at the surface, but the group’s conscious engaging *with utterance in magic* took the situation to a whole new level. Now humanity had invited those powers not just to stay, but to *play.*

This disengaged any natural dynamic in the land trying to contain the mess. As a human had invited the power to action, the natural and inner guardians were forced to stand down. Why? Because we are able, through utterance with intent, to mirror the dynamic of Divine creation and destruction. When this dynamic is engaged by way of ritual, we take up the reins of power, and thus disengage any ‘immune’ reaction from the inner environment.

So what happened then? The magicians packed up and went home. They didn’t see a goat-headed man climb out of a hole and give them power, so they partied for the weekend,

then left. However the power was still there, present, waiting, invited, and ready for action.

Later, in a nearby city that had been built in the Desert—a city which has come to express the Underworld powers by way of its functions and inhabitants—a man turned up who was a regular visitor and sometimes a temporary resident. He was weak and yet strong, stupid and yet clever; he had natural ability, a pedestal, a massive ego, and a wish for absolute power. He did not care how he got that power, only that he got it.

The hive consciousness formed in the Desert from that magical calling became aware of this man and gravitated towards him. It saw the desperate need for power and attention in the man, and his fate pattern and its potential; and it saw that he would be the perfect conduit for its power.

So it connected to the man as he slept, offering endless amounts of power. The man, in his dreams, accepted. He rose in politics to become a world leader and the hive consciousness of the serpent power flowed through him, manipulating him to trigger repression, conflict, and wars that brought destruction and chaos to the surface world... a perfect food-rich environment for such a serpent power to flourish. The man provided the perfect vessel and bridge for it.

Sounds outlandish? Maybe, but this magical scenario has played out more than once in human history... and we are poised on the threshold of it unfolding yet again.

How is this tackled? Many magicians would focus on the man, seeing the danger but not looking for what is behind it. Cutting the man down would do nothing to solve the issue; you have to cut the issue out at the root, otherwise the power just seeks another vessel.

This is where the temporary tool comes in. A regular magical sword will not have the inherent power necessary to take out a huge power like an Underworld serpent; the magician needs to match power to power. Such a magical tool is far too dangerous to exist constantly in the surface world, so the magician needs to seek a power compatible and comparable with the serpent power, and temporarily fill a sword with it.

What sort of power would they need? For an Underworld serpent of chaos and destruction, one that feeds off nuclear power, you would need a deep volcanic fire power that holds earth and fire. Such power would

also need a compatible blade that could hold such a force without being destroyed: always match like for like.

The answer is obsidian.

Obsidian, a product of volcanoes, is a unique substance for magicians, as it can hold volcanic resonant power within it, and it produces a blade like nothing else. Whereas any metal blade will always have irregularities along the blade—perhaps too small to see but still magically significant—obsidian does not. Its blade edges are clean and incredibly sharp.

A blade made from obsidian would work, as would an obsidian hand-axe. The magician would wield it in the same manner as the Limiter sword: its job is not to destroy, but to limit.

The blade limits by cutting ties to everything. This allows the inner workers to put the serpent back in the Underworld. The bomb and the ritual was the result of direct human action, so it needs direct human action to resolve the issue. Deities, inner contacts, and angelic beings will not wipe humanity's ass for it; we have to wipe the shit off our own bottoms, so we need tools for the job.

You cannot kill the serpent power, as it is an inherent part of creation and destruction; but you can limit it by severing its expression in the physical world. Severing its connections to the physical world will temporarily disable it, which makes it easier to 'put it back in its box.'

Though such work is done in vision, it is also externalised in ritual with a ritual implement. Physical actions woke the power, so physical objects and actions are needed to put it back to sleep. The consciousness of the serpent is 'inner,' i.e. not physically externalised, so the inner visionary element of work is also necessary. This is why an adept needs to be able to work physically and in vision at the same time.

With regards to the man who became the vessel for the serpent power, his fate depends on his health. If he was ill before the serpent filled him with power then he would die or become heavily disabled after the serpent power withdrew. But if he was physically and mentally strong then he would either evolve from the experience or be slowly *bound up* by external events until his death.

Once the power/serpent is removed, the whole pattern will die back, and the human vessel will be left with their own power and nothing else.

Here are the steps that would be taken in such a scenario. Within these steps is the method for the transference of power in and out of the

blade. Looking at the method of transfer and use will give you a lot to think about in terms of working with other tools, elemental powers, and methods.

Steps of action

Have an obsidian blade or a large obsidian hand-axe or scraper, and be willing to let go of it once you have finished, if necessary. Also have two copies of a map of the affected area: one on the central altar with a black felt tip pen, and the other on the east altar. You will also need an empty bowl, a bowl or bag of earth or sand, and some small stones to go on top of the earth. Place them on the central altar.

Still yourself, open the working space and gates, and tune to the adept power pattern. When you are tuned, circle the centre and go to the south. Turn your back to the south, so that you are standing before the central altar, facing north.

Call on the cross-quarter deity powers of southeast and southwest to have your back and work through you; and for the destructive power in the south to work with you from beyond the threshold. Remember Set in the south? You need that, or a similar power that can battle Underworld serpent power.

Prepare the map by looking at it, imagining the serpent power upon and within it, and say repeatedly:

I see you, serpent, I see you.

Draw the serpent in the centre as a thick, winding, bending, twisting line; and draw off from it many tendrils that reach out across the map. Join the map and the landscape together in your mind. Build this up until you feel the connection between the map and the serpent.

Go in vision while standing before the altar. Visit the Inner Temple, and circle. Physically, have the blade in your left hand and your right hand on the map.

Note: you have begun to create a link between you and the serpent, so be aware of any interference or resistance from its consciousness. Just focus on your task, and do not allow yourself to be distracted.

Gather power in the Inner Temple by going around the directions while holding your work intention in your mind. When ready, go to Inner Library and ask for a pathway to a volcanic mountain that has a power within it to help you deal with the serpent.

Physically take your right hand off the map while maintaining your vision—your connection to the serpent will build through your right hand—as you do not want to fully alert the serpent to the power you are about to gather.

Go down into the mountain, deep down to a cavern with lava pools. Call out for a contact of that place. Tell them what you are doing, and work with contact to call the deep volcanic dragon power that resides in the lava. (Magical Knowledge III has a small section on volcanic contacts.) Sound is the key to making a connection with these deep powers. Hand over the blade to the ‘dragon being’ and ask it to transfer power to obsidian blade. Also hold out the physical blade while maintaining the vision. Then go back up and surface in your workroom.

You should still be standing in the centre south, with your back to the south, the central altar before you, and the blade in your left hand. The map is before you, on the altar.

Open your eyes and begin circling clockwise around the central altar, going around the directions and feeling into them as you pass them. Keep the blade in your left hand, with your right hand behind your back.

Build up power by circling, and with eyes open, see yourself merging into the Gathering Place, circling with the contacts. Once you feel the power levels have gone up and you have a strong visionary sense of circling with the contacts in the Gathering Place while physically circling in the room, call on those gathered, vocally and in vision, asking them to help you. Once again, call physically and in vision for the deity contacts in the directions and cross-quarters of the work space to work with you as well, and support you.

Stop circling and resume your position in front of the map, standing in the central south, facing north with the altar before you. Place your right hand back on the map.

Now close your eyes. See yourself in the Gathering Place with all the contacts assembled before one of the gates.

Step through the gate from the Gathering Place to the Inner Desert. Walk down Inner Desert with intent to find the troubled outer desert, and cover yourself with sand to disguise yourself as a rock. Ask the sand to

stick to you. Step over the threshold, out to the affected physical desert. You will see the serpent, surrounded by beings and parasites, spread out all over the place and hooked into everything.

Go for the serpent secretly and quietly. Ensure your mind is totally silent: get close to it and cut its head off using the obsidian blade. At the same time, while holding the vision, open your eyes and gouge into the map with the blade, cutting it to bits, while saying:

Serpent of the Underworld, I limit you.

Have no emotion, and do not allow emotion to rise within you.

Gather the head in vision with help from the assembled contacts, and together aim for the threshold of the Inner Desert. Your intent, and the focused intent of the gathered contacts, will make the threshold visible to you. Do not let the head talk to you. Do not listen, do not think; keep absolute silence in your head. You have not killed it, as that is impossible; you have merely limited its outer expression so that it can be put back in hibernation. Take it through the Inner Desert to the edge of the Abyss, call on the Keeper of the Abyss, and hand the head over to him.

Then go back to the affected outer desert with the inner contacts and chop the rest of the serpent into pieces. While you are doing this in vision, and keeping your eyes closed, keep hitting or piercing the remnants of the map on the altar. In vision, cut every line of connection that flows from the serpent to other beings and people. Cut close to the body of the serpent, so that you get the roots rather than the complex web of connections. Throw the chopped serpent parts down the hole it came out of. Remember, it is not dead; you have just limited the expression of its power. So be very careful around any bit of it. Do not let any bit attach to you or talk to you, and do not let anything distract or delay you.

Once it is all down the hole, plunge the blade into the earth while allowing a strong noise to come from you, both in vision and physically, to cause shaking in the land—an earthquake to close up the hole. As you plunge the blade into the earth, see wheels of fire flow from behind you into the earth and churn it up so that the hole is completely covered.

Use your voice to make a sound from the stars, or use a bell, and surround the area with sound frequencies both in vision and physically. With the physical sound, direct it over the remnants of the map on the altar. In vision this triggers a shift within the pattern of the land through shockwaves of sound, and calls in the scavengers.

You will see dogs come down out of the hills and out of the haze. Step back, look like a rock, and watch as they tear into everything there and eat it until nothing is left. If anything appears to be human and is attacked by the dogs then do not interfere. Hold the vision while opening your eyes. Gather up the bits of the torn-up map, place them in the bowl, cover the bits with earth or sand, and place stones over the earth/sand.

Now go to the east altar, leaving the blade on the central altar. Place your right hand over the map. Close your eyes and see yourself standing before the altar, while keeping a sense of being in the desert where you are working and that you are standing on the land with your right arm extended, palm down.

Now cast your mind to the great angelic wheels that turn in the earth. Utter:

Angels of the ladder, angelic powers that turn and churn the earth, cover over this land, seal it, cover this land and close it, cover this land so that none may rise from the depths to climb upon your ladder.

See in vision the dust, earth, and sand of the Inner and outer Desert form in a sandstorm behind you. See the sand and dirt funnel through you, through your right hand, and cover the whole area. Also see it pour through you and onto the map you are standing before at the altar.

In vision, tune the land to the seven directions as you would tune your space, and make a continuous resonant sound, both in vision and physically, to flatten everything unhealthy and bring in the axis of balance.

Find a tree or bush in the landscape. Reach into it and through it, and bring through a deity female power of the original tree to the outer landscape. While you are doing this, keep the tree in the Inner Temple egregore in mind: the original tree. You will see the deity upon the land as a goddess within a tree.

Stand on the land and look up for a star with the same balance of power as the nuclear bomb that started off the problem. You will feel its resonance. When you find it, hear its resonance and voice it down into the land. Create a bridge between the two so that they balance each other. This will help the earth process the power of the bomb that is still affecting the land, and will act as a counterweight to the power.

When you have finished go back to the Inner Library, and find your way back to the volcano where you got the blade. Physically pick up

the blade and go to the north altar, going clockwise from where you are standing in your work space. Work in vision to release the power from inside the blade back into the volcano.

Go back to the Inner Library, be cleaned off, then go to the Inner Temple and be still. Go to the egregore and swim in the water to clean and retune, then circle for a while in the temple to tune yourself. Come out of vision when you are ready.

Take the blade outside, away from your home, preferably somewhere in the countryside. Go to a hill, outcrop, or mountainside, and bury it. Sometimes you have to plunge the blade into the earth; other times you need only bury it.

Leave the temple space working while you go and get a ritual bath.

Close everything down. Sleep with a candle going for a few nights, and watch out for any dragon or serpent contact trying to connect with you. Even stay away from images or films with elements of the Underworld serpent in them.

Note: Letting go of the blade. Do not try to keep the blade, even if it is precious. The power is no longer there, but the resonance of slaying the serpent will be embedded within its substance. That will let a new serpent pattern emerge if you are not careful. It can seep slowly into your mind and glamour you with its power. This is why you learned to let go of things in the apprentice section: never keep anything that can put you at risk.

As you can see, such work can be complex; but this example can guide you through the many steps of doing such a job, properly, and with the right tools. As you develop and mature into your adepthood, your left arm as limiter will be sufficient for many jobs of such nature. But when faced with a vast power like an Underworld serpent of chaos and destruction, sometimes you need a tool that can hold more power than your physical body can manage.

These temporary power tools are always chosen carefully, matching elements and power levels to the task at hand. Any one of the elements can be worked with, depending on what you are trying to do; and if you remember back to when you looked at magical swords, you will recall that some had elements of water, earth, fire, or all. The blade by nature

is air, and uttering down it can bring the power of air to the fore when needed.

A cup or vessel can be used similarly to gather and contain poisonous power or patterns—but not beings. The cup is destroyed afterwards. These temporary tools can hold elemental power, but not consciousness, so keep that in mind.

You need to draw on everything you know about the tools, how power patterns work, and how they are contained. And then you must choose the right tool for the job. Once you have decided on the tool, you need to identify the power that you need to fill it with, and remember to put that power back where you found it once you have finished the task at hand.

The example above, and your training so far, should give you enough details for you to work the rest out yourself. Later in the course you will connect and work with powers within an object that will work in a powerful way with you, that will for the most part negate the necessity for such a temporary tool. Yet it is important that you learn the skill of transfer through direct experience and service.

Trying it out

The example I gave you is a scenario that has played out before, and is currently playing out in different places around the world. Should you wish to gain practical experience in this line of work, and be of service, then you can do the work, constructing the working from the information in the example.

You do not necessarily need to know which area or country you are working on—though some of you may recognise it—and you do not have to know what ‘time’ the situation is unfolding in. By working through the Library and Inner Temple as the junction point, you will be placed at the pertinent time and location for the job.

If it takes you somewhere in the past (for you), your work will still have bearing on the future. Remember the twists and turns of time, and while ever you are working on the vast Underworld beings and not on humans, your work will stay out of the human timeframe.

Working in the past can cut an influence that is still affecting the present and future. These deep powers have a vast reach through time,

and they will continue to affect the surface world until someone comes along and puts them back to sleep—regardless of when ‘in the story’ that work is done.

However, such work can only be done if the being was invited to surface at some point in the past by a human, or is disturbed and brought to the surface through aggressive mining. If such a being is on the surface because of natural tides and dynamics, then a human magician can do nothing about it. In such case it is more about learning how to survive and flourish despite it.

So your first task is to do a reading to see if it is both safe and necessary for you to do the working outlined in the example. If the reading says yes then go ahead and do the work. It will teach you a great deal about transferring power.

Keep notes afterwards, as often once the working switches from the pattern of the example to a pattern that needs attention, the details can start to change. Those changes will often tell you what, where, and on what being you are working. It is surprising what turns up. Also keep in mind that such work is hard and dangerous, and it can affect you in different ways. But your training will have prepared you for such work, and it is to your training that you refer to when confronted with large amounts of power or difficult situations.

You will also find, because of your inner connections and previous work, that the work scenario can switch on strongly, so be ready for that. You are most likely to feel its impact build up before the work, and then again after it. Ensure that you care for yourself properly after the work. And you will often spot outer world hints regarding the work once you have done it: it will become very clear to you in time that it is not all in your head.

Bridging from a broken or lost tool to a new one

As an adept you use the tools less and less, and only when necessary. However sometimes a tool is broken or lost, or has been cast into a lake or buried, and suddenly a need for that tool arises. Then the adept needs to bridge into, or fill, a new tool with the original power.

It has happened to me a few times where I have needed to bridge from one vessel to another, or draw on the original power of a tool that

I have put out in nature. Other times I have cast tools into nature and let them go, only to be called by them to retrieve them. In those cases, some transformation of the tool's power had to happen out in nature, and I had to internally let go of the power for it to come back to me in its changed form. This also highlights a magical training dynamic: each step of training should be absorbed as an absolute. Later you find it was in fact a layer, not an absolute, but if you had not accepted the lesson or tool as an absolute, the layering could not happen. Think about that.

So we will go through the different aspects of this dynamic, so that you get a good understanding of it. Now that you are doing adept work, it is very likely that one or all these scenarios will cross your path.

Bridging a broken tool

The staff and the vessel are the tools that tend to be broken the most; and as they are very different powers, the approach is very different.

As you know, the staff is not actually a tool but a vessel for a companion being, a being that guards, teaches, and opens the way ahead: an opener. The spirit of the opener is snake power—the snake power that guards like a cobra, attacks like a viper, and clears the path ahead for you. You only have to cast a venomous snake in the path of people or animals to see that path clear quickly. Such is its power. It is also a power of prophecy, healing, and killing.

If the staff breaks then the magician can hold its snake power within themselves for a little while, enough for them to transfer it to another staff which has been prepared to receive it. Holding the power too long within their sphere can cause their physical body to begin to react, and as the snake's venom can wreak havoc on their health, so time is of the essence.

This work can only be done if the staff is broken accidentally, cracks on its own, or is broken by someone else. If you physically and intentionally snap your staff, for whatever reason, then all bets are off. Such action is seen as an action of aggression or a rejection, and the snake power will withdraw. Never take out your temper or fear on the staff.

As soon as you discover the broken staff, hold both its pieces in your left hand. Sit wherever you are, and go in vision to the Inner Temple, through the Inner Library. If you are somewhere that you cannot do this

immediately then close your eyes and see the snake. Draw it to your body by allowing it to wind itself around your left wrist. Hold it there until you can work in vision *within twenty-four hours*.

Once in the Inner Temple, circle the centre altar, then go to the egregore. Place the inner broken staff at the foot of the great tree, and place your left hand on the tree. The snake will unfold itself and slither onto the tree, and the tree will hold the snake until the new staff is ready. Again, time is of the essence. The longer the snake is with the tree, the less likely it is to come back to you. But it is safer for your health that the tree holds the snake and not you.

Come out of vision without backing out of the egregore. Leave part of you there with the tree and snake until you are ready to continue the process. This may cause a drag on your energies—another reason to move quickly and get everything finished.

Once you are out of vision you need to destroy the broken staff and get a new one. If you live near or in the countryside then go to a wooded area. Take a small hand shovel with you to bury the broken staff, or cast it into deep water. You do not want anyone picking up the remains of the staff, as it still has connections to you. If you can build a fire and burn it, do so. If not, cast it into water or break it into the smallest bits you can, then bury it.

Walk around the wooded area and use your inner senses to find a new staff for the snake. In your apprentice work you learned how to find rocks by using inner senses and working around the directions with them and your inner vision. Use the same method here. Remember: the new staff must be given to you by a tree willingly or found near a tree as a fallen branch. Don't just rip it from the nearest tree! Once you have one, clean it up, pull any leaves off it and any rotting bark, etc., until you have a clear, clean staff.

If you live in a vast city then doing this is going to be a bit more of a problem. If there is a park nearby with trees and fallen branches, then see if you can find one that would work. Hardwood will work; softwood will break easily. In the worst case scenario, because of the urgency, you may have to buy a staff. A straight hardwood pole from a Do It Yourself shop or building supplier is better than a staff from a New Age shop that has been carved and decorated.

If you are very lucky then you may be guided to a junk store which has an old, tall walking stick with a snake carved around it—this has happened on more than one occasion! In such a case, the carving is fine,

as it depicts the snake, and is therefore a working option. But staffs with designs, faces, crystals, and so forth would not work: they are disordered vessels for the snake.

Just remember, when you first got the staff you had to go through a magical process. This forms the vessel and houses the spirit within a magical pattern. Once formed, the inner pattern stays, even if the staff breaks, so you only have to move it over; but the receiving staff, as a vessel, still needs to be clear and focused.

Once you have your staff, you need to return to the egregore in vision. Sit holding the new staff in your left hand. Still yourself, then slowly reemerge in the egregore before the tree. In vision, hold the staff to the tree, and ask the tree if she thinks the staff will be able to hold her companion, the snake. If she thinks so, she will absorb the staff out of your hand: it will vanish into the tree.

Wait with your left hand resting on her. Slowly the staff will reemerge out of her, like a branch. Take the branch in your left hand and hold it while it is still attached to the body of the tree. Feel the shift in the physical staff in your hand while holding the vision: the vessel is now prepared.

Now you need to call the snake back to the staff, if it is willing to return to work with you. Most of the time these spirits will return, but sometimes they will not—which is why it is important to protect your staff at all costs.

Still yourself and tune into the feel of the staff that you have worked with. Once you have recovered the feeling of the old staff, allow a call to come from within you, a sound that rises from deep within you. Make the noise physically as well as verbally. Keep making the sound until the snake moves down the tree. Let it sniff the staff, and do not hurry it. Let it explore the new staff. When it is ready it will move into the staff, which will then detach from the tree.

While in vision, be aware of the physical staff in your left hand. Let the two staffs, outer and inner, merge to become one. The staff will feel like a snake in your hand. The inner staff will vanish, and in vision it will just appear as the snake, which will settle into the outer staff as its new home.

Stay for a while in the egregore by the tree and talk to the snake, while holding the physical staff. Let the snake settle in properly before you come out of vision: you will feel when the whole process is completed.

Guard this new staff well, as it can only be replaced so many times. Each time the transfer will get harder and harder, so be warned. For a few weeks while you are doing magical ritual or visionary work, have the staff with you so that the vessel, and the spirit within the vessel, can settle nicely into your working pattern. After that you work with it as and when needed. The rest of the time it should have a safe place to live near you, either by your bed or somewhere in the house where it can be near you without being played with by others.

Theory exercise

Instead of giving stripped-down techniques, I have given you two working examples of power transfers. The method of approach in both circumstances was specific to the tool/object and to the powers and contacts directly related to that tool. Using what you know from your training, and from the methods outlined, think about and choose one or more of the following scenarios, then write out what approaches and methods you would use.

- Your stone shield has been lost or released into nature, but now needs to be replaced for upcoming work.
- Your scales have been badly damaged and need to be replaced—think about the deeper consequences of this.
- You need a temporary power in a vessel or cup to hold a deadly inner poison.

Think about the powers, contacts, and inner threads; and work out how you would approach the work. With one of them, work out how to do it without using any visionary work. What would you do if you had to be ‘under the radar’ for a while, which means no visionary work or divination?

Doing such work, even if you are not being mentored, is important, as the process of working these things out for yourself will allow you to plug into the consciousness of the Library and draw out knowledge. This is done by casting your mind towards a situation and working to find a solution.

Write up your methods and keep them in a file so that you can come back to them in the future. If you are being mentored, you will also discuss them with your mentor.

Retrieving the discarded tool

If you have previously released a tool back to nature, then some time later you find that you really need to work with its power again, there are methods for retrieval. In such a situation you have three choices: develop a new inner tool and get a new outer vessel for it, retrieve the original inner tool and put it in a new vessel, or find the original tool.

Your choice depends very much on the upcoming situation that you need the tool for, and on your magical development. Sometimes we simply need to move forward by gaining a new inner tool and bridging it into a physical object. Such tools, as an adept, are usually given to you by inner contacts, or while working in the Inner Temple, the egregore, Library, or other place you are currently working. Sometimes the new tool comes to you as an outer object that springs to life and catches your attention once you need it—we have talked about this before, about how sometimes tools wait in the background until you finally realise what they are.

When you are strongly drawn to retrieve a released tool, usually it is because its time away from you and in the elements has transformed its inner power, which can now be worked with. The inner tool is what is important, not its outer casing. You will have to go in vision to where the tool was released and find its inner expression. Once you find it, you take it into yourself and hold it there while you prepare a new outer tool to put it in.

The new physical tool is prepared in ritual and vision; then the inner tool is placed ritually and in vision in its outer vessel. Often you will find that these retrieved tools are only with you for a fairly short time before they want to go back to nature: you may have had a great need for them without realising it.

As an adept, you will find your relationship in general with your tools becomes very fluid. Sometimes you need no tools in active work, just the companionship of the staff and the stability of the scales working quietly in the background.

Other times you will suddenly need active and powerful tools, usually when a major job is coming over the horizon. In such cases you will be prompted to wake up your sleeping tools, retrieve released ones, or create new ones. Learning to be very mutable in your work, to flow with the tides and to work as necessary rather than in an unchanging, dogmatic system, is an adept way of working that will teach you a great deal, help you evolve, and protect you.

Emergency working

Think about how you would create and trigger tools in an emergency where you have no time to set things up, get vessels, and do visionary work. Think about the Limiter power in your arm, and think about how you could temporarily fill a bread knife with that power to externalise the power in an emergency. How would you do that? Why would you do that, and in what sort of situation?

How would you fill a stone with the power of the shield or anchor, and do it quickly while walking into a dangerous situation? And why would you need to do that?

What would you do if you were away from home, and found yourself in a potentially dangerous situation that needed the guardianship and way-opening of the staff, but your staff is at home? How would you draw that power to you?

These are not written tasks, but they are things you need to work out for yourself, and to think about. As an adept, these sorts of situations will occur at some point, and if you have spent time thinking about them then it will be much easier for you to respond under pressure. You need always to be able to pull on powers and tools when you are in danger, outer or inner, and to be able to surround yourself with frequencies and powers that will come to life quickly.

By thinking about this and pondering on what you would do, you will begin a process of subtle unfolding of learning within you. The Library triggers when you start to think about things and ponder on them. Then when you come to such a situation, the lines of communication and thought will already be open, and you will be able to act and react quickly.

The more you get into adept work in this course, the more you should go further than just doing the tasks you are set. Spend the

time thinking for yourself about suggested tasks, and chewing over the different subjects, tasks, and peripheral information. You are responsible for your education, and you will determine what level that education will reach.

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