



QUAREIA—THE INITIATE

Module X—Preparation for Adept hood

Initiatory Lesson: Born of the Stars

BY JOSEPHINE MCCARTHY

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.

For more information and all course modules please visit

www.quareia.com

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



QUAREIA—THE INITIATE

Module X—Preparation for Adepthood

Initiatory Lesson: Born of the Stars

This final step marks the last shedding of the mantle of the initiate, and the taking up of the walk of the adept. By enacting this final process, you walk in the footsteps of many who have gone before you, on a path trodden for millennia.

There are many strands of the Mysteries in this final visionary act, and I will not explain them to you: they must surface in your consciousness and understanding without prompting from me or anyone else. Some of it you will understand, some you may not understand at this point in time, but it will unfold for you slowly in the future, leaving you with many “ah-ha” moments.

Being born of the stars completes the circle which moves you from the mundane life into the truly magical life. You have overcome various trials, learned lessons, and have begun to understand who you are and *why* you are. And now you take the final step that bridges you from one pattern of consciousness to another, and takes you from being a student to being a practitioner.

You should be waiting for midnight and have done the previous vision work earlier in the day. Your room should already be set up and waiting for you. It is a long and involved vision, and yet I will describe only the key steps: the rest is for you to experience directly for yourself. Have your journal nearby so that you can take notes as soon as you finish:

the details from this vision will fade quickly from your mind, so write it all down as soon as you come out of vision.

Task: Vision of the journey through the stars

Sit down before the altar in the south and still yourself. Do a brief meditation to silence yourself, and when you are ready, begin.

Find yourself back in the Inner Library, in the chamber you were led to in the previous vision, and with your blindfold on. Let the vision build and feel the darkness all around you. Stand in the silence until someone reaches and grasps your right hand. Open your hand. Someone takes something out of your right hand.

The hands then take off your blindfold and you find yourself standing before a terrifying being who points to something to your right. When you peer through the darkness, you see the outline of a boat in the shadows. At the front of the boat is a large snake, coiled, but looking out into the darkness, on guard. In the middle of the boat is a canopy, and on top of the canopy is a white feather. At the back of the boat is another snake, guarding the rear of the boat.

The being puts out a hand to help you climb into the boat. Once you are in, sit down under the canopy and hold your staff in your left hand. The being climbs in and hooks a lantern on the front of the boat. It casts a light all around you, and out of the shadows emerge the walls of a cave with a river running through it.

The being picks up an oar in his right hand and stands to row quietly. He tells you to use your staff as an oar. You place the staff over the left side of the boat, and you both start to row. The boat glides silently along the river until it leaves the cave, and you find yourself out in the night sky, rowing among stars. As you row, you look around at the brilliance of the stars, and you recognise the feel of some of them.

You row and row, marvelling at the beauty of the night sky as you pass through it. Out of the silence you hear the hissing of a snake: the snake on the front of the boat is rearing and hissing at something in the distance. As you get nearer, you see two massive gates out in the stars, through which the river vanishes. On either side of the gates stand fierce-looking guardians, and as you get closer, the guardians challenge you.

Take your staff out of the water and stand up. The guardians challenge your right to be there. Tell them your name, and as you speak, be aware of the wind at the edge of the Abyss speaking through you. They ask you to identify who they are: be still, feel into the gate, and feel its power: it is a power and energy you have worked with in your training. Let your heart speak for you: your deeper self recognises these gates and their qualities, and your heart will utter their names, which is the name of their power. The guardians step to one side and let you pass through the gate. Sit down and continue rowing, looking at the beauty of the night skies all around you.

You will encounter more gates and more guardians as you traverse the night sky. Each time stand up, hold your staff, and announce yourself. When the guardians part, sit down and carry on rowing. Continue this until there are no more gates to pass through. You will know when you have cleared all of the gates when the sun begins to rise before you. Its light shines out across the skies and warms your face: you are sailing into the morning sun.

The boat comes to a slow stop on a shore. Beyond the shore is the golden path and the rising sun lights that path. The being who was guiding the boat puts a hand on your shoulder and asks you to listen. Do not get out of the boat until you hear the sound. It comes like the buzzing of thousands of bees. The sound gets stronger until you find yourself surrounded by bees. Now you can step out of the boat, and they will escort you along the golden path.

Once both of your feet are upon the path, lift up each foot in turn and look at your soles. They are covered in pollen, and the pollen lets you walk along the path of the sun: the golden path. The bees follow you and buzz all around you.

The path takes you through mists until it clears, and you find yourself walking on the golden path into the Desert. Before you is the small temple in the centre of the Desert. One by one the bees around you turn into people who walk alongside you: these are other adept magicians from various times who come together in service when a new adept is being born.

As you draw closer you see yourself standing in the centre of the temple, with the deity before you opening your mouth, nose, ears, and eyes: you are walking into the vision that you did recently, and observing yourself.

You hear the words “look out over the Desert, you who will be

reborn,” and you see yourself look out of the temple and at the golden path. Walk up to the small temple and step straight into yourself. The fellow adepts circle the small temple to act as witnesses.

Stand complete, and turn to the assembled company of the gods, monarchs, and adepts, and say:

“I am the one who whose heart spoke in truth. I am the one whose heart was weighed on the Scales of Ma’at and was found Justified. I was the one who Crossed the Abyss and stood at the foot of the Hidden One. I am the one who was given back my senses. I walked through the Library of Knowledge, I traversed the stars and passed through the gates, I have walked with the bees, and I am complete.”

Together the assembled company cry: “Be twice born and honour us always.” Bow to them and walk back down the golden path towards the sun. Cross the threshold of the Desert and find yourself walking on the street that leads to your house. Go into your house, into your work room, sit down, and when you are ready, open your eyes.

Once you have finished this vision and taken notes, go straight to sleep. If you can sleep in the workroom then do: leave a single lit tealight candle safely positioned on the south altar. If you cannot sleep in this room then go straight to bed.

The last few days have been intense in terms of visionary and ritual work. You will need a few days away from magic to decompress and regenerate. So don’t dive straight into the next module: give yourself at least a few days to adjust. In that time you can do some divination to see what happened and how your fate has altered. If you get an instinct not to do use divination at this time then follow that instinct and just rest.

Task: Divination

Using the Quareia deck and the Mystical Map layout, ask:

“Show me the complete picture of my step from initiate to adept.”

If the answer poses more questions for you then look further using different layouts as appropriate. Just don't overdo it. Ensure that your questions are to the point, relevant, and not trivial.

Often such a reading will show a mixture of creation and destruction: the death of one life and the birth of another, as you have undergone the lone path of Death in Life. Take notes and write down or photograph the readings, so that you can refer back to them when needed.

Task: Documenting your work

Type up a summary of your experiences through this process, and a summary of the readings, and make a note of any questions that have come up or answers that you don't understand. If you are being mentored then you can discuss these with your mentor.

Si Sapis Sis Apis

QUAREIA

COPYRIGHT

© Josephine McCarthy 2016

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher.