

The Midnight Journal

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT MAGAZINE OF THE RAVEN ACADEMY OF MYSTICAL ARTS

PHOTO SOURCE: PIXABAY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 STONE OF THE ISSUE: CITRINE
- 2 FEATURED TAROT DECK
- 3 INSIDER SCOOP: AN INTERVIEW WITH TEACHER CELI
- 4 RAMA POLL EXCLUSIVE: PREPPING THE 2ND TRIMESTER
- 5 ABOUT THE TMJ STAFF

TMJ STAFF

EDITOR VETURIUS (THEY/THEM)

WRITER XŌCHITL (SHE/HER)

WRITER JESSICA (SHE/HER)

WRITER ROWAN (XE/XIR)

WRITER VENUS

STONE OF THE ISSUE: CITRINE

BY • VETURIUS OCT 20

“Stone of the Issue” highlights a different geological part of Earth, ranging from fossils, rocks, minerals, and others. The stone in question is randomly chosen, depending on how the writer feels regarding its literal and metaphorical meaning and how those meanings tie in to the current issue.

Right off the bat, I am a person that doesn’t like to wear or use the color yellow in anything that I do. If one were to look at my closet right now, the only thing that I have that is yellow is a pair of mustard yellow jeggings. It’s a different story when it comes to investigating different geological material.

Citrine is one such example, with a color scheme ranging from gold as pure as honey to white accents with little crystals embedded within. It is also very cool to the touch, even if you let it sit in a warm room indoors.

Citrine is a transparent, yellow variety of quartz composed of Silicon Dioxide (SiO2) with a Mohs Hardness of seven. According to The Encyclopedia of Crystals by Judy Hall, it possesses a trigonal crystal system and is sourced from Brazil, Russia, France, Madagascar, and the UK. It is also present in the United States but it may be presented as heat-treated amethyst.



PHOTO BY:VETURIUS

The stone’s name is derived from the French word citron, meaning “lemon”, and its purpose as a common healing crystal is to help purify the physical body and its functions, as well as the spiritual aspects of life, depending on how dark the citrine’s shade is, for it defines the stone’s purpose. It is associated with the Aries, Gemini, Leo, and Libra zodiac signs, and is ruled by the Sun.

It is also used to smooth group and familial tension, for it has the power to reverse self-destructive behavior and to assist in acting on constructive criticism, bringing an inner calm to the person, letting in the natural wisdom in order to achieve a healthy balance of physical and emotional health.

FEATURED TAROT DECK: THE WILD UNKNOWN

BY • VETURIUS OCT 2020

Dating back to when the stay-at-home orders were in effect, I thought about how I could continue to have a guide in life, and “The Arcana Chronicles” YA book series by Kresley Cole that I read several years before, I was entranced by the engaging storyline where 22 teenagers all over the world represent the different major arcana. Along with that connection and my plans to take the “Decoding the Divine” course in RAMA, I felt it was time for me to retrieve my own deck.

I couldn’t just pick any deck, for in order to let my energy get to work into answering the questions that were swirling in my brain, I had to pick the right deck, and I felt that “The Wild Unknown” was right for me. It took me a couple of days to get to know the imagery of every card with the little knowledge I had. What fascinates me about the deck is that it holds mysteries that have yet to be uncovered, that its creator is prompting me to think about how it could apply to my daily life instead of offering just generic descriptions of every card. They leave you wanting more of the symbolisms.



INSIDER SCOOP: AN INTERVIEW WITH TEACHER CELI

BY • XOCHITL OCT 2020

Hey, friends! Recently, I had the wonderful opportunity to sit and chat with our very own Teacher Celi.

In this interview, we talk about cursing, Christian witchery, and RAMA, in general. Sit back, relax, and read words of wisdom from one of RAMA’s amazing staff:

Xochitl (XQ): Well, my first question is what drew you to RAMA? Teacher Celi (TC): Honestly? El. I’ve been in a group with them for many years and when they mentioned RAMA I knew it was something I would have loved to have when I was starting out and being able to help new witches is incredible.

XQ: Awesome!!! El is really good people. I’m going to miss them at RAMA. And what specifically prompted you to specialize in teaching curses, protection, and such? TC: I have been working on curses for most of my career as a witch and from there I realize the importance of protecting yourself. As a christo-pagan being able to teach about my own beliefs is something I’m really proud of to show that there are many ways to practice. I also like to teach students how to protect themselves against anyone wanting to harm them and to never be shamed for cursing someone who deserves it. I hope to provide a safe space to students to learn and practice anything they believe.

XQ: Well, on behalf of the students who take your amazing classes, thank you! Is there another class or subject area you possibly see yourself teaching at RAMA in the future?

TC: I’m not sure, having as many classes as I do, I want to be able to give my attention to my students, but maybe someday I’d like to branch into teaching specifically christian witchcraft and some of the ways to practice if there was ever a call for it

XQ: Do you have any advice for other Christian witches at RAMA? That’s definitely a population that doesn’t have it easy. TC: The biggest thing for me is you’re not doing anything wrong. Do your research and understand those that came before you. If you feel guilt or like you’re not a part of the community, remember to make your own community. And of course, reach out to people around you for support.

XQ: As a Christian witch myself, I have to say that is super useful advice. Okay, let’s close this interview with a fun question! If you had to describe your craft in three words, what would those words be?

TC: Chaotic, lazy, and honestly, a lot of fun.

Can we all just agree we love Teacher Celi? Thank you to Teacher Celi for a wonderful interview! I hope this interview brought a little wisdom to someone’s day.

RAMA POLL EXCLUSIVE: PREPPING THE SECOND TRIMESTER

BY • VETURIUS OCT 2020



PHOTO SOURCE: PIXABAY

4

Welcome everyone to the start of a new trimester! There is a whole variety of classes that new and returning students can take, including the popular courses consisting of Greek Language For Religion, Hellenic Olympian Cult Practice, and Becoming a Local Practitioner. Many courses that are returning this year especially involve Energy Work 101, Alternative Divination, Witchcraft Theory, and Curses. Here are several quotes from various students (and Interim Dean Ariel of Augurium!)

“100%, Advanced Cursing. I sincerely and thoroughly loved the prior Curses class, so I can’t wait to expand on that. Another class I am excited for is Spirit Communication! I feel like Working With Spirits laid out a solid foundation, so this next course regarding spirits is going to also be a great expansion.” - Xōchitl (she/her)

“I’m looking forward to Greek Language for Religious Use! I think it’s going to be an interesting way to get an introduction to basic Greek grammar and vocab but still have the religious aspect that will help out in more formal worship!” - Ελέν (they/them)

“I’m really looking forward to Witchcraft Theory and Energy Work 101! I’m new to witchcraft and I really want to solidify my basics and I think these classes especially will help me do just that.” - Rebecca (she/her)

“I’m really looking forward to Hellenic Olympian Cult Practices!! I think it’s going to be exactly what I need for my practice with the Theoi and I’m excited to see what Brother Zosimos has planned for all of us.” - Simon (he/they)

“Alternative Divination and becoming a local practitioner for sure. But also morbid mythology!!! I honestly can’t think of one I’m not excited about but like. Those just make my heart soar when I think about them.” - Casey (she/they)

“I’m excited to begin working with the ordination students in Becoming A Local Practitioner! It’s not very teaching heavy, as the course is super personal for each student and where they choose to take the instructions and assignments, but I can’t wait to support them through their plans and to see what they come up with in the different lessons. I’m also excited to re-teach my three other courses, of course! I never get enough of seeing how thoughtfully the Alternative Divination students take their practices.

ABOUT THE TMJ STAFF

Editor Veturius

Name: Veturius (They/Them)
Sun/Moon/Rising: Taurus Sun, Leo Moon, Aries Rising
RAMA House: Augurium
Looking forward to: Sigils & Servitors
Favorite class: Decoding the Divine
Talent: Figure skating and embodying the Hermit
Quote: “You are never alone, wherever you go.” - Veturius

Writer Xōchitl

Name: Xōchitl (She/Her)
Sun/Moon/Rising: Cancer Sun, Virgo Moon & Rising
RAMA House: Arcanus
Looking forward to: Advanced Curses
Talent: Singing opera
Quote: “How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.” - Anne Frank

Writer Jessica

Name: Jessica (She/Her)
Sun/Moon/Rising: Scorpio Sun, Aries Moon, Gemini Rising
RAMA House: Arcanus
Looking forward to: GLRU and Astral Work
Talent: Writing and music
Quote: “Only love can truly save the world.” - Wonder Woman

Writer Rowan

Name: Rowan (Xe/Xir)
RAMA House: Erudito

Writer Venus

Name: Venus
RAMA House: Arcanus

5



themidnightjournal@theIndcc.com



www.ravenacademy.us

THE MIDNIGHT JOURNAL