

Written by Casey Giovinco

Suenera Dei Ars



The period between Samhain and the Winter Rite is often a period of quiet reflection for many witches. In the days of old, the coven might have taken that time off and allowed the witches to focus on their own affairs, only getting together again for ritual at the Winter Rite.

While walking Gala's hedge witch path, this solemn act of closure is reproduced with the Lamp of Art. A Roman style clay or terra cotta lamp may be purchased or made and filled with the remainder of your Oleum Maleficis before starting the cycle over again at the next Winter Rite. This is to be done only after your last esbat rite of the year has been performed.

As you light the wick in your lamp, say:

"THE LIGHT THAT COMES OUT OF THE DARKNESS IS A SACRED SYMBOL OF THE MALE MYSTERIES. WITHIN ITS GENTLE GLOW, I FIND MY OWN ILLUMINATION AS THE PREVIOUS CYCLE ENDS AND THE NEW ONE BEGINS. I AM STRONGER AND HEALTHIER FOR HAVING PLACED MYSELF WITHIN THE CYCLE OF THE SEASONS. I AM WISER AND BETTER FOR HAVING WORKED MY WILL IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE COSMIC COURSE AND IN SYMPATHY WITH THE GODS. BLESSED BE."

Contemplate the successful completion of your yearly goal. Bask in the light of your own glory and embrace the lessons you still need to learn with happiness and mirth. You might also wish to contemplate your coming year's agenda at this time. What new thing must you work on in order to progress through your own spiritual evolution?