FOR THE SOLITARY SEEKER

What I Wish Someone Had Told Me

Seven things I tell seekers who are looking for a way

New to the Craft and drowning in conflicting advice? You're not doing it wrong. Most of us started exactly where you are. Here's the honest version, from a Witch who has never charged a cent for teaching.

1. **You don't need permission.** Can't find a teacher you trust? Start on your own. That isn't second best; plenty of us began that way.

2. **You don't need money.** A teacup for a chalice. A candle from the kitchen drawer. Tools focus the work. They don't do it. *You* do.

3. **Never pay to be taught.** Books, yes. Candles, sure. But if anyone puts a price on the Mysteries or on Initiation, keep your wallet in your pocket and walk away.

4. **Don't believe everything you read.** Including me. Ask where it came from. Mabon only got its name in the 1970s, and the Craft is no less real for it. Honest roots are stronger roots.

5. **Check which hemisphere the book was written for.** Half the calendars online put Samhain six months out for us. Down here the Wheel turns the other way. (Dates on the back.)

6. **If a spell fails, look at your work first.** Before you blame the universe. If it works, study why. That's how Witches grow.

7. **It's yours, not theirs.** The Craft belongs to those who practise it. Not gatekeepers, not influencers, and not me. Take what serves you. Leave what doesn't.

"I'm not a guru. Just a fellow traveller who's been a bit further down the road."

Dylan Raventree

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KEEP THIS ONE ON THE FRIDGE

The Wheel of the Year

The eight Sabbats on Southern Hemisphere dates

Samhain	30 April
Yule	Winter Solstice, 22 June
Imbolg	1 August
Ostara	Spring Equinox, 21 September
Beltane	31 October
Litha	Summer Solstice, 22 December
Lammas	1 February
Mabon	Autumn Equinox, 21 March

Step outside and watch the light. The seasons outside your own window are the real calendar.

WHERE TO GO NEXT

The Beginner's Craft is five guides gathered into one working book: your first spell using what's already in your kitchen, setting up a sacred space and altar, thirty ready-to-use rituals, Moon magic and your first Full Moon Esbat, and all eight Sabbats on Southern Hemisphere dates. Made to be dog-eared and scribbled in.

Beyond a Year and a Day opens with a first-hand account of an Alexandrian Initiation, then follows the birth of a working Coven. From there it maps the real work: casting the Circle, calling the Watchtowers, the Sabbats and dark moon Esbats, Handfastings and pathworking on the Tree of Life. For seekers who've done the basics and want the real depth.

Got a question? Ask me. The conversation is always free.

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