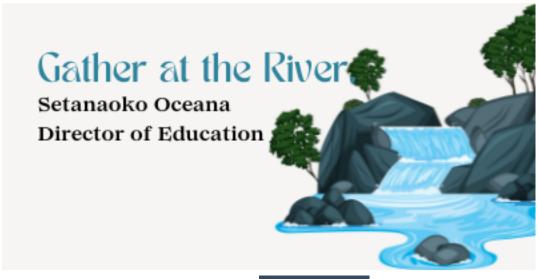
Spiritual Experiences (feel free to add your own, not just for one person :)) was created by Setanaoko

I would like for people to be open about their spiritual experiences in here- Christian, Pagan, Buddhist, Christi-Pagan, Pureland Jediism, you name it we can all be Jedi. What I've found is that our Jedi Community is enriched by sharing our spiritual experiences and gaining whatever insight the Force wishes to communicate when we talk about our experiences.

So I'm going to start being more open in this space about things I encounter which are profound to me. They may not be frequent, but at least I can try to start a movement. So let's talk about my morning color -I find that events line up too perfectly at times to be a coincidence. Today I felt a calling to attend a different church (same denomination, just a different location). So I looked for one with a 9am mass slot. Let me tell you- the homily was eye opening. Beginning at about a week after a significant spiritual event (one later led me to the community) when I was 16 years old, I had a recurring dreamscape. The place was the same and I had been in this scape before- but things changed and there was a new consistent presence in the dream. A fisher...with no fish to catch. He never made sense to me. The elements that always changed were the other people in this dreamscape. Over time I noticed a pattern about these people- the next day they would attempt suicide. One succeeded (2). Last year, a Pagan friend helped me understand who he was- we came to the conclusion that the Fisher was actually a Fisher of Men. (This'll go one forever if I get too far into the significance, but if you're ever in the mood for a tale I'll gladly tell it 👄). So a few months ago...I know anyone reading "sacrelige!" I went

to a mini pagan convention and had my bones read. The message was clear- I'd get another significant revelation within the next few months. I think that day has come. Know that I didn't really put a whole lot of stock into the bone reader's words- but maybe the Force called me to entertain her that day so that my ears & heart would be open when I attended mass on this day. There I am, listening and the homily opens with a message about how people go different places to search for opportunities- and compares this to Peter and Andrew, left everything behind to follow Christ so that they may become fishers of men. What caught me attention though- was that the Father went on to explain the etymology of "Fisher of Men". I had never truly understood it- but as I consider what fishermen do (catch, judge a fish for its health, and decide it's fate) the etymology made so much more sense. And the dreams began to make sense in a way I hadn't understood before. There is more, but I'm going to stop short here because the rest is personal to me. But here's the Jedi message that I felt inspired to share as a result:Life is precious. As Jedi we're called to respect life in any form. Although we are not called as Jedi to be Judge Jury & Executor- the truth is we find ourselves in situations all the time where we are in a position to fulfill all 3 roles. Not in the literal sense, but rather the metaphorical sense. Killing a person's spirit, their drive, their transformation. We do this by denying them them opportunities, by pushing the old narrative- and yes sometimes we do this by giving them opportunities and pushing a new narrative. As Jedi, our actions towards people are a reflection of our respect for them. This we need to meet every individual where they are at and make the best decision we can to ensure we are giving them opportunity for growth. In my dream, the fisher never

approached anyone. He simply stayed there and waiting on someone to approach him. Now I see it, and I think "all but one lived…perhaps he watched them and the judgement was that they needed more time to achieve their transformation. Perhaps what I saw was a vision of that judgement taking place- so that one day I could tell others: Give people the space they need- don't be a stumbling block".



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Arden Wayfarer



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IP: 76.27.227.33 2 years 6 months ago #1428

Replied by Arden Wayfarer on topic <u>Spiritual Experiences</u> (feel free to add your own, not just for one person:))
I wanted to share one I've been chewing on. Like yours, it's about the weird spirituality of coincidences.

A while back, I prayed to the gods of my mother's ancestors for help in a bad situation. In a matter of days, things clicked into place, and I was able to leave the situation for safety. In thanks, I devoted myself to learning more about ancestor worship and putting into practice. One of the results has been that the past year has been incident after incident of resources dropping into my lap *specifically* about cunning men and traditional folk magic. This has included everything from finding books, to things I dream about later turning up in research, to meeting (non-Wiccan!) folk witches around my local community at non-witch related things, like work or hobby groups. I feel like I have a specific ancestor guiding me to follow in their footsteps, but hit a wall in my family research a while back that prevents me from confirming this. It's a little bit frustrating. I've had vivid dreams about mundane daily life

with this ancestor and his family, but it's far enough back it's hard to confirm anything other than details about the time period.

I'm not sure how to progress from here. How do you verify something you have no data for? Do you just have to trust it? You can do divination, but that's hardly scientific. Family records don't bring you very far when your ancestors were not literate in English. But the more I follow this path--learning the language, reading old stories, following the dream hints--the closer I feel to my ancestor and the more content I become with my life and the more coincidences turn up in my life. It feels real, even though I can't say for sure. It's a question I've been pondering a lot lately.

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The following user(s) said Thank You: Setanaoko

Action Moderate Unthank You



IP: 71.14.110.88 2 years 6 months ago #1434

Replied by Setanaoko on topic Spiritual Experiences (feel free to add your own, not just for one person:))
Interesting that you bring up Ancestral work. About 2 weeks ago I ended up a pagan shop and found a couple books on working with the Ancestors, I actually picked up a copy so I could look over it and possibly give it to a friend who is working on connecting with her own ancestors.

It's called Ancestral Grimoire and works heavily with a Tarot Deck. Now I've never been any good with Tarot, but let me tell you the deck I picked up to work with in conjunction with experimenting with this book has been....well let's say I've tested it several times and I keep coming up with the EXACT SAME CARDS after shuffling. It seems like Ancestral work is picking up amongst various people around me. So if you're interested, I'll tell you that two chapters in, I'm actually getting some incredible results. It's just carving out the time for the next chapter between work and other things.:)



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The following user(s) said Thank You: Arden Wayfarer Action Moderate

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Arden Wayfarer



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IP: 76.27.227.33 2 years 6 months ago #1444

Replied by Arden Wayfarer on topic Spiritual Experiences (feel free to add your own, not just for one person:) I was actually looking at that book a few weeks ago, but wasn't sure it was for me. I prefer regular old dice and playing cards to tarot, but I might pick up a copy now! Thanks for the recommendation.