

~ Protocols for Magic ~

a little workbook on
DIY-Magic

by paracosmos.press



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on
DIY-Magic



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..DIY-Magic..

Or “Do-It-Yourself Magic”, is an approach to practicing Magic that prioritizes the use of tools and materials that are readily available, locally sourced and/or self-made.

A form of Magic that aims to be more sustainable, conscious and communal. And strives to counteract contemporary Magic practices tendencies towards over-consumption, commodification and extraction. Because I believe that there isn't much Magic in buying bulks of stuff that were most likely mass-produced in questionable work environments on the other side of the globe.

But sustainability and ethical consumption happens on a spectrum. The following pages merely give some ideas and suggestions on practicing craft-based Magic with items one may already have at home. Hopefully, some of them may bring you inspiration on how to use simple and affordable materials in your practice!



Saltdough Talismans



• Protection Magic •

Saltdough Talismans?

You may know saltdough from your childhood, as it is an easy, safe and very affordable medium to create clay-like modeling medium. In fact, this DIY only uses four ingredients that everyone should have in their pantry: Salt, flour, water and a bit of vegetable oil! Combined, they may make a great protective talisman for your home.

Ingredients - For a medium batch:

200g Salt
220 g Wheat flour
150ml Water
1TS Sunflower oil

Additionally, these ingredients hold symbolic and magical attributes. In many cultures, salt is believed to have protective qualities. And the anti-bacterial properties of salt preserves the dough. The water symbolises purification, as well as the source of life. Whilst sunflowers, which make common sunflower oil for cooking, stand for good luck and may banish negative energies. Wheat, on the other hand, can symbolize abundance and prosperity. As an agricultural staple in many parts of the world, the making of bread or baked goods is common in many folk-magical traditions.

These are some talismans in the shape of ornamental keys. Each has the birthstones of the people I gave them to.



Protocol..

1. Mix your salt flour in a big bowl. Then gradually mix in the water and a sip of oil. If it is too sticky, add 1 tablespoon of starch.

Your dough is ready to use!

2. Shape your dough into whatever shape you like!

(If you'd like to hang them, on a string or nail, add a little hole, but make sure the dough is thick enough around it, so it can hold it's own weight without ripping.)

You can add other materials, like stones, by gently pressing them into the dough. Smooth out the edges and let them dry in the dough.

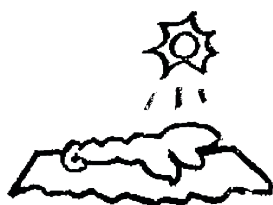
3. To dry: Place your talismans on a piece of cardboard or baking paper. Let them air-dry for at least 48hrs!

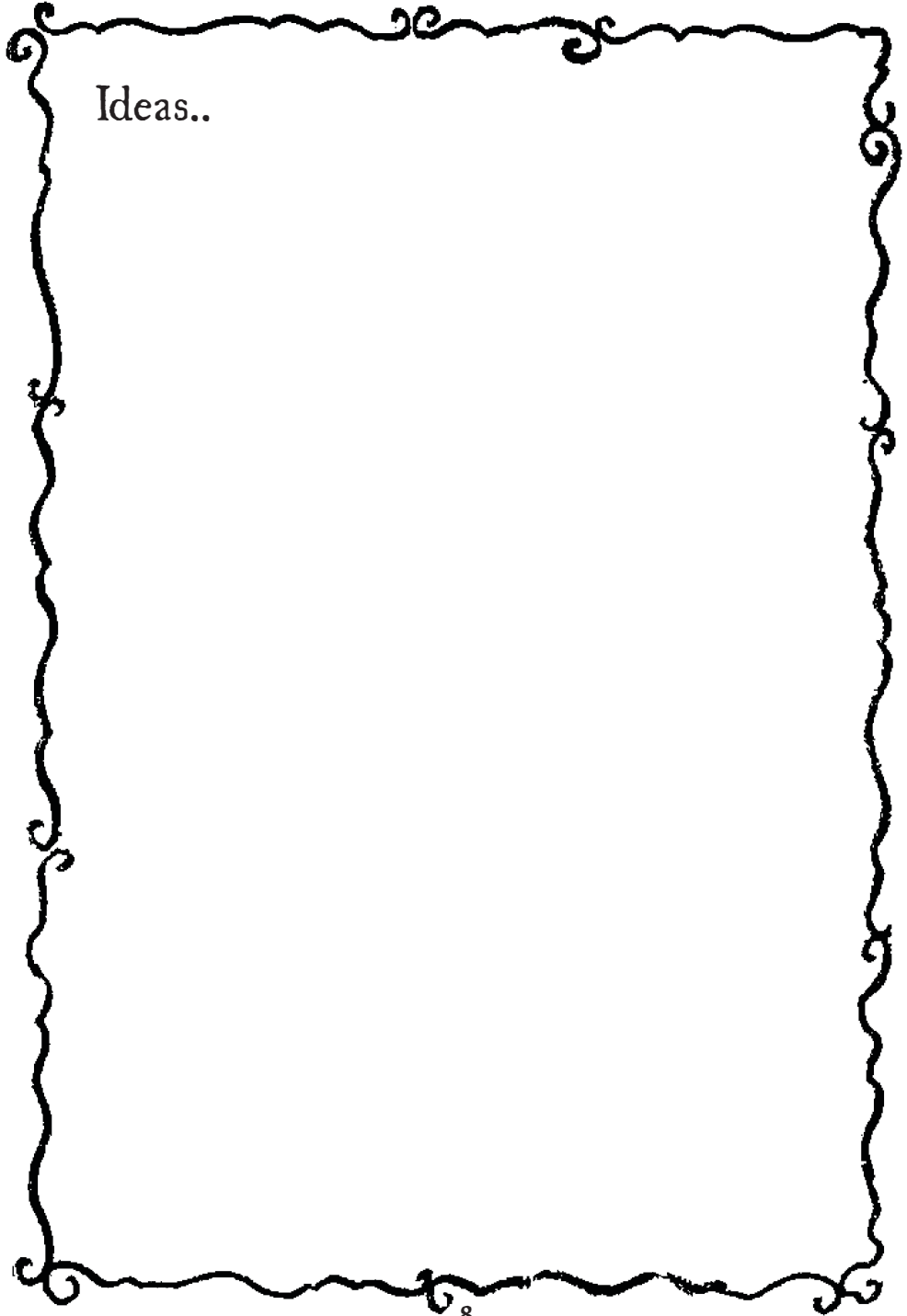
4. Once fully dry: You may paint and seal your talisman with acrylic paint and varnish.

Et voila!

In case your talismans break, or the stones fall off, here's my extra tip:

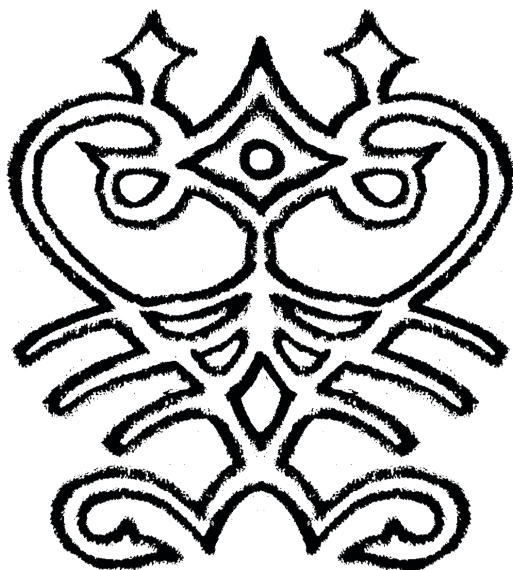
Add some transparent all-purpose glue followed by a few drops of heavy-duty superglue to the spot you'd like to glue, then press the parts together! (Many types of glue do not work on salt dough)





Ideas..

Ward Stickers

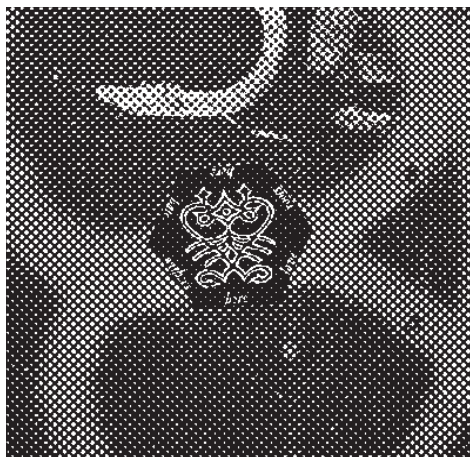


• Banishing Magic •

Ward Stickers?

Stickers are everywhere! And you should add to them!

And I believe that they embody a very natural human phenomenon; The urge of leaving a mark. Like ancient cave drawings, carving ones name in a tree or simply embellishing ones space with something one finds personally significant or pleasing.



In a more practical sense, they are also very effective tools to disseminate any sort of messages, ideas, visuals, advertisements..

In the context of Magic, Ward stickers are stickers made for the purpose of warding and/or banishing certain kinds of energies and sentiments within the areas they mark.

They disseminate Magic!

Imagine unknowingly walking past all kinds of Magic-stickers, not just well-intentioned wards, but evil spells and curses, stuck all-around the city, and hiding in plain sight in-between hundreds of other unseeming stickers.

The more stickers are spread, the stronger their Magic becomes!

A ward sticker I recently made is this one here. Meant to banish hate to spread love instead.

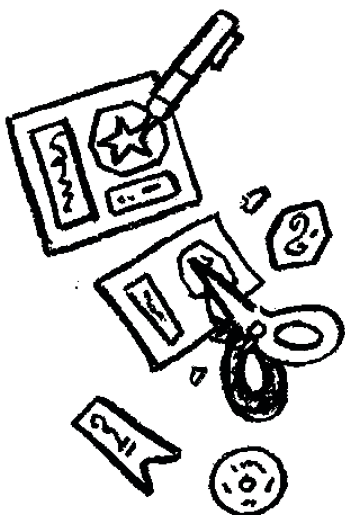


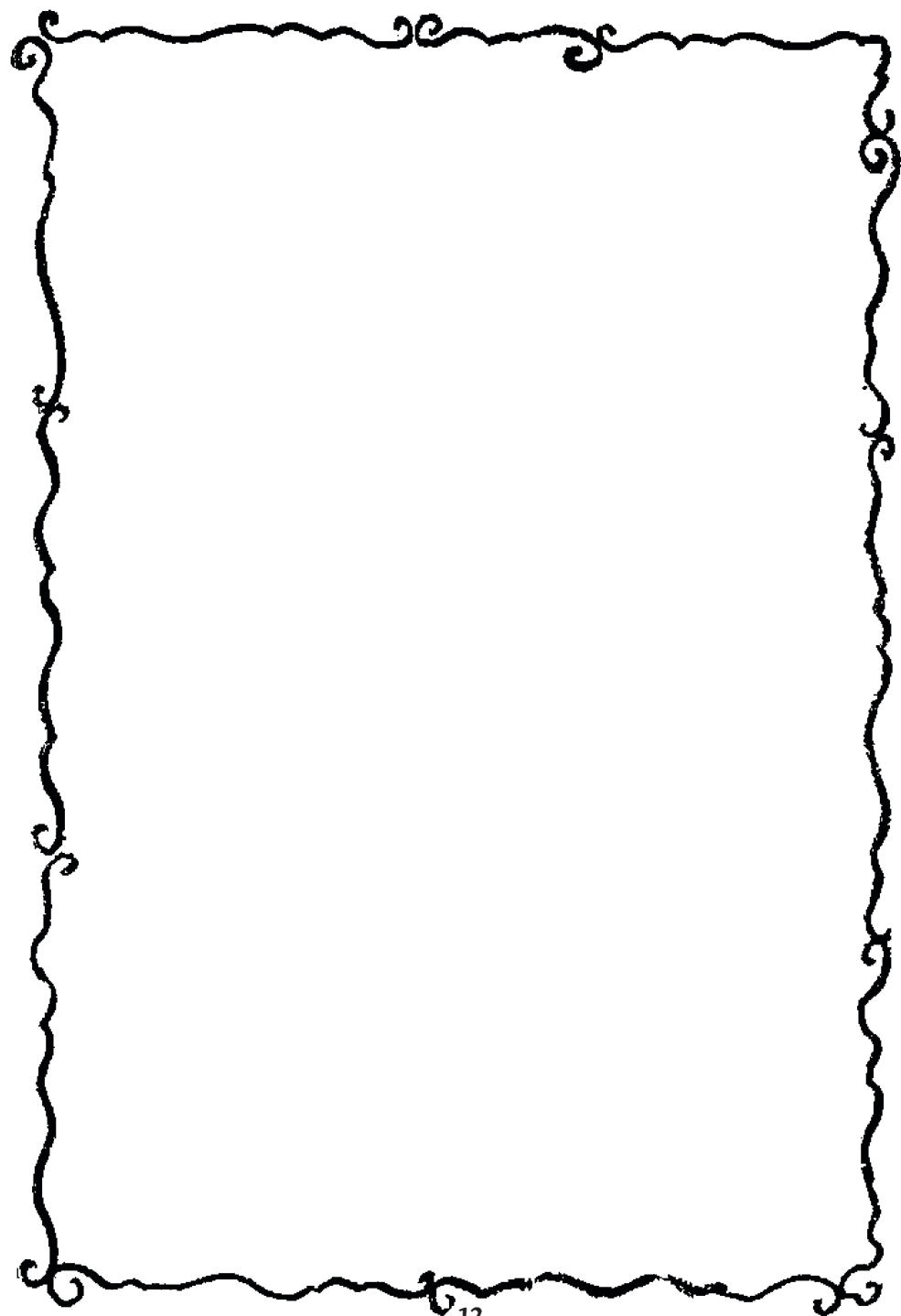


Protocol..

1. Design your sticker by either drawing directly on sticker paper, or printing on sticker paper. Add a spell and/or sigil!
2. Cut-them out.
3. Now go spread them around as much as you can to grow their Magic!

(Be aware: Spreading stickers can be illegal/criminalized in certain areas. Inform yourself, be sleek and don't get caught! ;-))





Seedpaper Spell-Sprouts



• Spell-craft •

Seedpaper Spell-Sprouts?

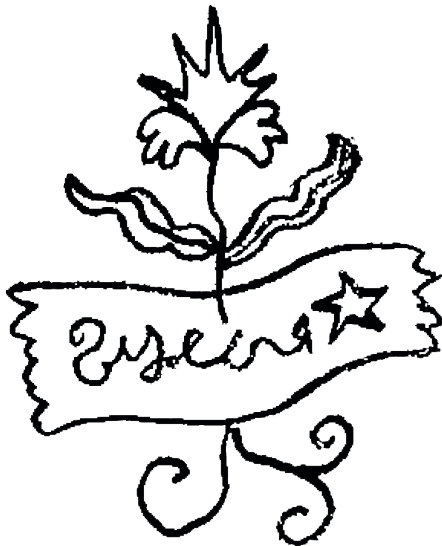
This DIY may be a bit more labour intensive but it is doubly rewarding!

The first step is to make your own seedpaper. Seedpaper is paper that can be planted/composted and contains plant seeds.



Learning how to make your own paper is a nice way to repurpose and recycle all the scrap paper one accumulates over time. And the resulting paper can be used for all different kinds of crafts!

With your homemade seedpaper, you can make spell-sprouts on which to write/draw/create spells, that then can be buried in a pot of earth as a form of spell-casting ritual.



What you will need:

- Scrap paper
- Water
- a blender/Mixer
- fine grain strainer
- kitchen towels
- rolling pin
- Seeds

Disclaimers:

1. Avoid any glossy or coated papers, as they may contain plastics and other components that do not decompose!
2. Best inform yourself on seasonal and local plants. If you bury the paper in public areas, avoid invasive plants at all costs!

Protocol for Seedpaper..

1. Rip/shred your paper into small bits. Add them to a bucket of water and let them soak for 24 to 48 hours.

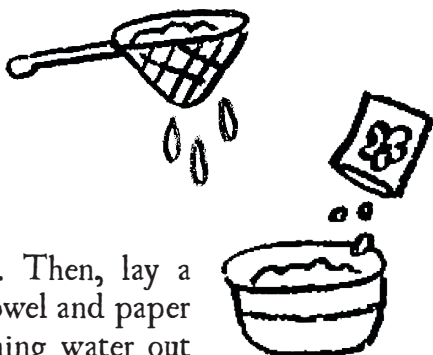


2. Put the water-paper-mixture into a blender, or use a hand blender to create paper pulp.

Add some more water if needed.



3. Drain the paper pulp in a fine strainer/ paper. You can press out some of the water using the back of a spoon.



4. Once most of the water has drained, add your seeds by mixing them into your paper pulp.

5. If you use a strainer, spread the paper pulp and seeds on a towel spread over a wooden cutting board. Then, lay a second towel on top and roll over the towel and paper pulp to flatten it out and press remaining water out of it.

6. Remove the top towel and let the paper dry in a safe spot for a few days.



Once fully dry: You can cut the paper into smaller pieces using a cutter or scissors!



Protocol for Spell-Sprouts..

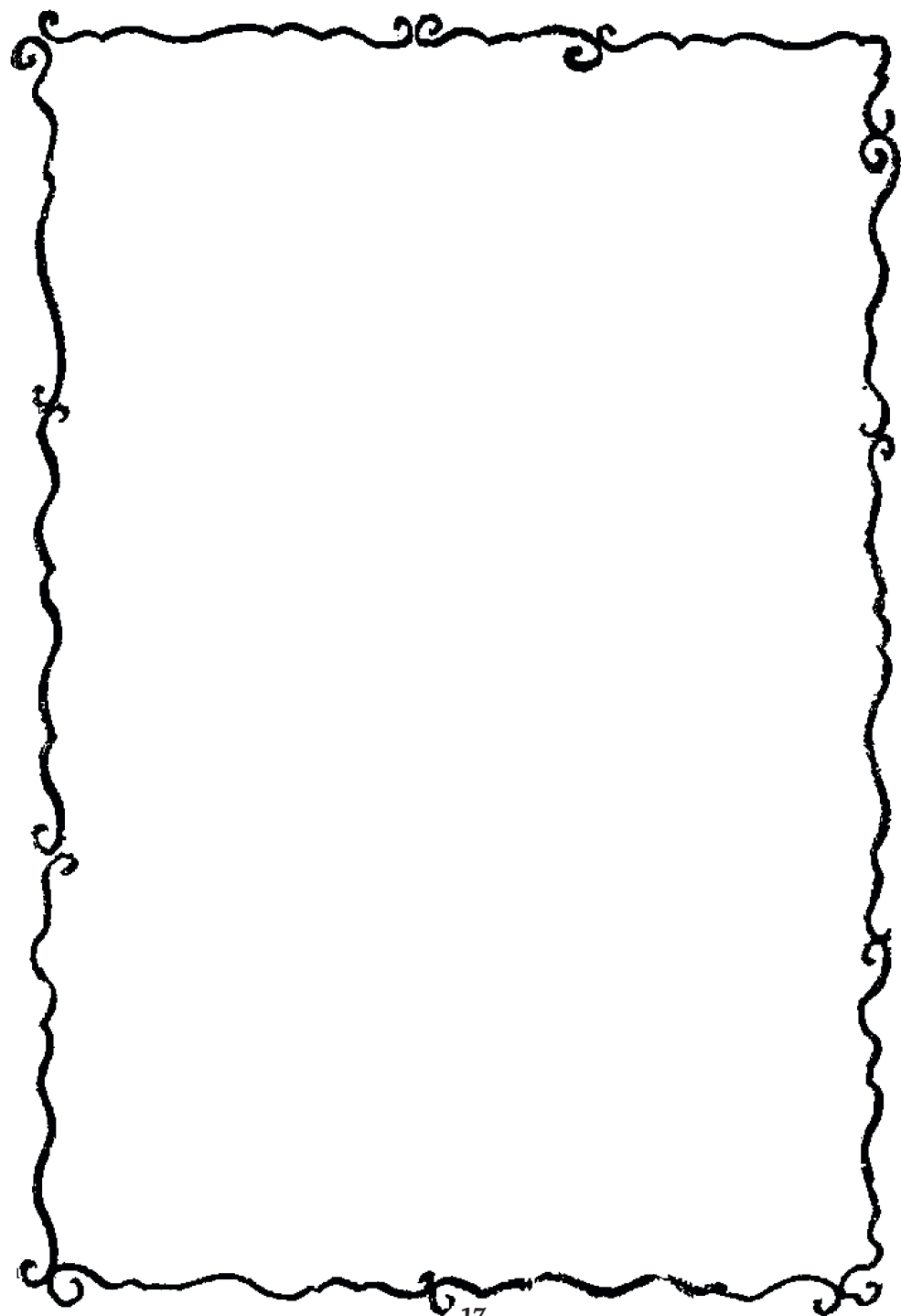
A Spell-Sprout is a spell that involves planting seeds or tending to growing plants as part of the casting ritual.

In combination with the seedpaper, your spell becomes a way to encouraging new growth and giving back to the earth.

To make a Spell-Sprout:

1. Write down or draw your spell on a piece of seedpaper.
2. Bury it in a pot of fertile earth.
3. Water the soil and leave it in a sunny spot.
4. Wait for your spell to sprout!





Witness Pebble



• Energy Magic •

Witness Pebble?

A witness pebble can be a small pebble, stone, or other object, that one carries around with them at all times. It symbolizes a physical "witness" or "companion" that is present for all sorts of events, experiences and happenings in one's everyday life.



Having such a companion object can bring comfort, but it can also symbolize a holder of memory, hence a "witness".

As a magical tool, a witness pebble can have a variety of different uses!



It can act as a physical artifact if a spell or ritual requires to point to, or recall, a specific time or situation it was a "witness" to.

But it can also function as a simple charm or talisman, a carried object that protects you.

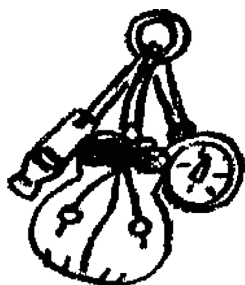
Besides holding memory, it can also act as a magic tool to "cleanse oneself" from memory, cleaning the stone may form a ritual gesture for forgetting or letting go.

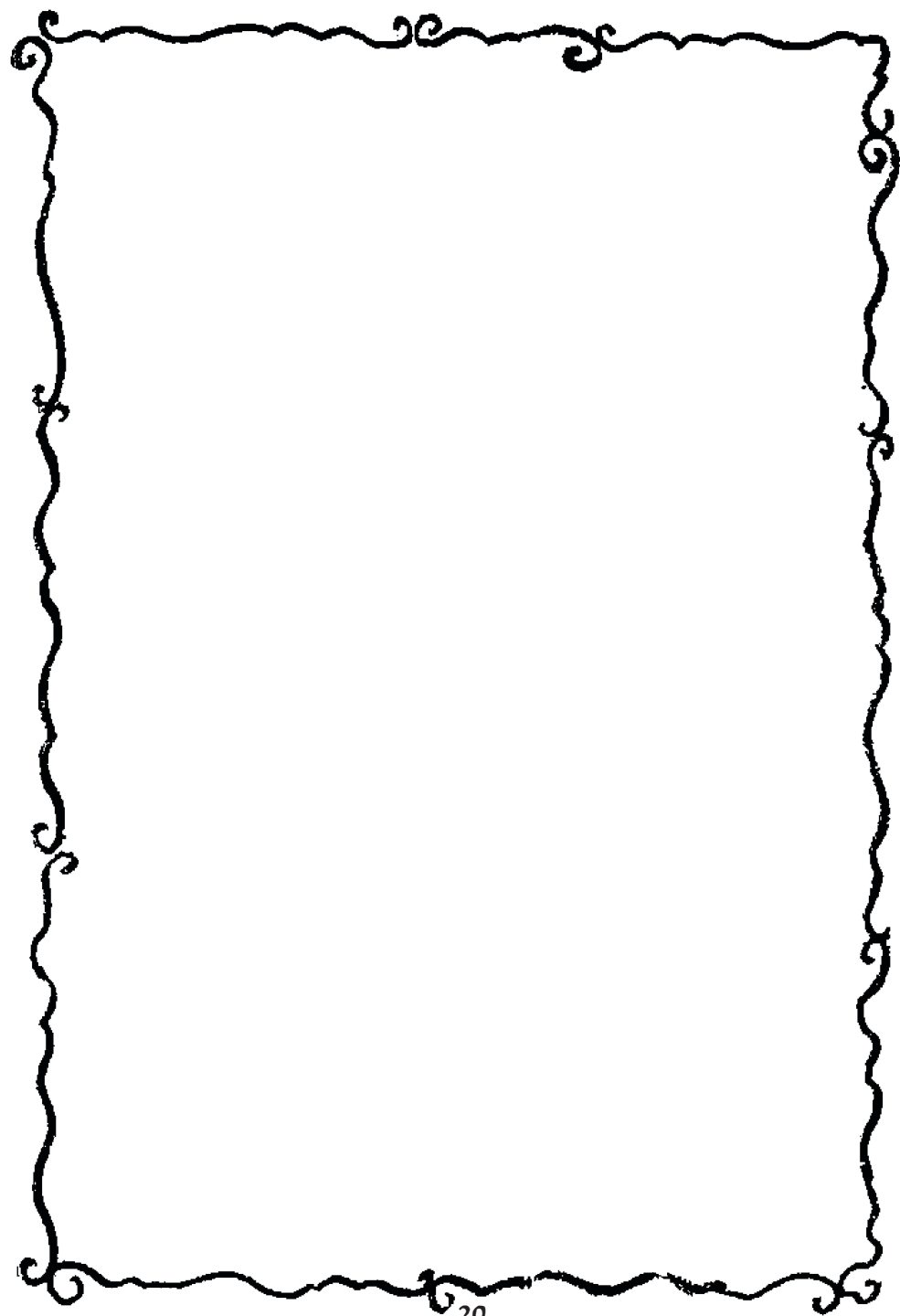
A witness stone may also hold the secrets you whisper to it at night.

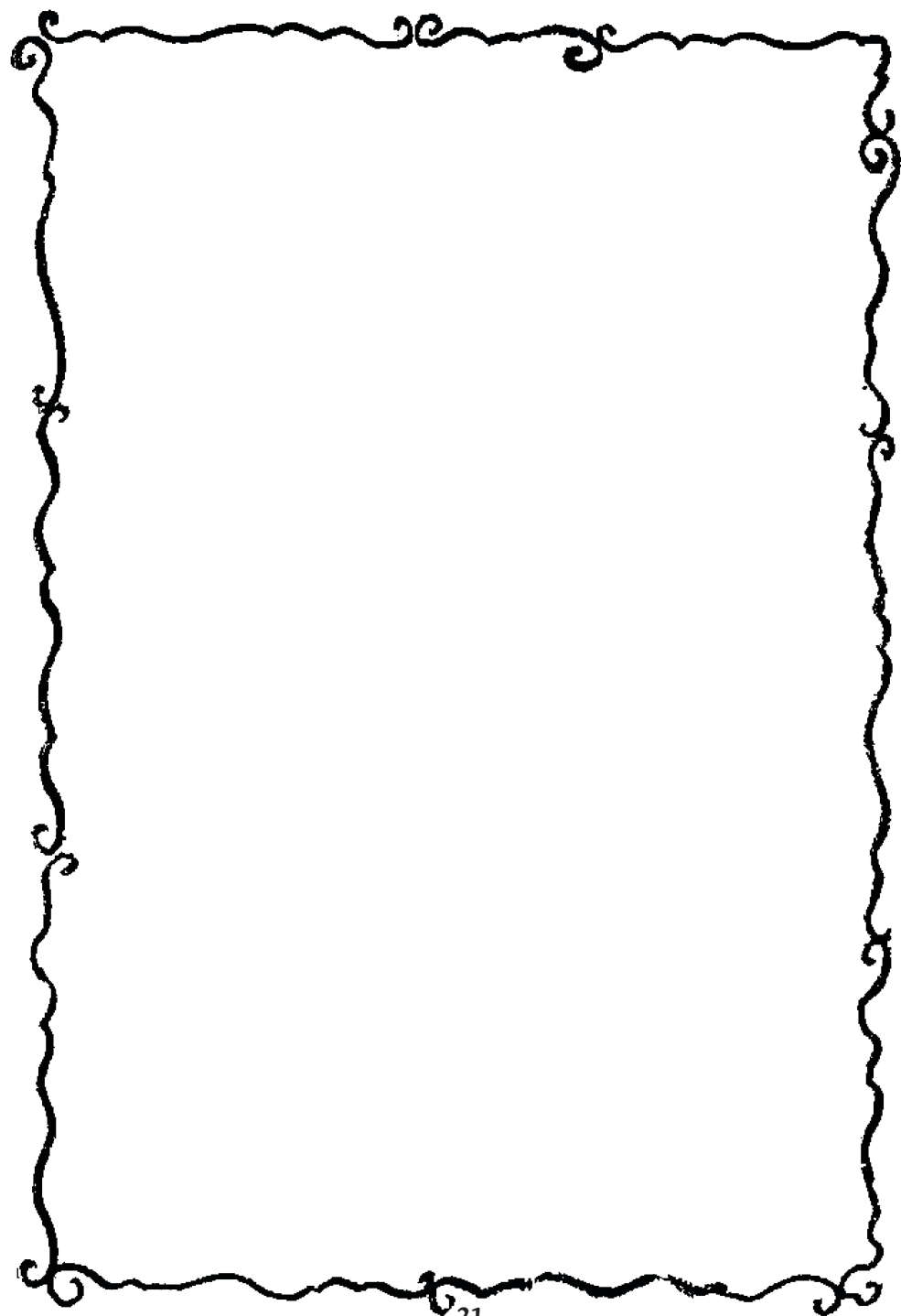
Protocol..

1. Simply look for a pebble that you like/find trustworthy/draws you in, and, designate it as your companion henceforth.

A little pouch or bag can be helpful to carry it around in!









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