# Modified Daemonolatry

A Guide for Daemonolaters With Disabilities & Illness

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Thank you for picking up this Mini-Guide in the Modification and Practice Series of books. We hope you find the ideas herein useful for your practice and modification of Daemonolatry.

#### INTRODUCTION

About a year ago, a friend approached me about writing a few mini-guides for people who, for whatever reason, couldn't practice Daemonolatry as outlined in The Complete Book of Demonolatry, or any other book for that matter. Then, as the year went on, I began getting requests for books about modification for those who could not practice with props due to disabilities, incarceration, or because they have to live with someone who either doesn't care for the practice of Deamonolatry under their roof, or doesn't know about it. Hence was born the Daemonolatry Practice & Modification series of mini-guides. You can get all of the guides as paperbacks, in popular eBook formats, or eventual free PDFs through demonolatry.org. It's my hope these little guides will help teach you how to modify your practice based on your needs and help you feel closer to the Daemonic Divine.

Please note that this book, like all books by DB Publishing, work with *Kindle's* Text-to-Speech function to help those with impaired vision. This

edition is also printed (paperback) in an easier to read 14-point-type.

I hope this guide inspires you and offers insight and new ideas so you can be innovative in your practice and put your spirituality to work for you without having to worry if the inability to kneel is disrespectful (it's not).

With that I give you the Daemonolatry Practice and Modification Guide for Daemonolaters with Disabilities and Illness.

Warm Regards,

S. Connolly

#### Unique Challenges

There are a lot of reasons you may have picked up this book. You may be confined to a wheelchair. You may be legally blind or have hearing loss. You may have limited mobility, or you may suffer from illness that exhausts you or puts you in bed for days at a time. You may also suffer from depression or mental illness that detracts from your practice or requires you modify. If you are living in a hospital, assisted living, or care facility you may also want to grab a copy of *Living With Non-Daemonolaters*.

#### What kind of practice can you have?

Despite limited mobility and perhaps even lack of props, a person with disabilities can still have a rich spiritual life and can still practice magick. One simply needs quiet time where one can be left alone with ones practices. Anyone can put the suggestions in this mini-guide to use and they can start right away.

#### Working Without Props (Modification)

Perhaps the easiest thing to modify in any practice is to learn to work without props. While I personally enjoy the tangible feeling of actually doing magick with props, there are a lot of instances where props may be impractical. These reasons may include physical disability, incarceration, or living with someone who either doesn't allow your practice, or people who don't know. While I always suggest being honest and open when you can about your practice (especially with those you love), I also know that not everyone has that luxury and in some cases coming out (so-to-speak) as a Daemonolater could mean being homeless, or could result in a religious intervention, or even bodily harm. In instances like this, having props around may be impractical.

## So here is a list of props, their substitutes, and how you can work without them:

Athames, Swords, or Staves: For the ritual blade, you can use your middle finger and forefinger and your arm for staves and/or swords. In the ancient Egyptian practice, blades were not used. It was considered more respectful to use the middle and forefinger. You can use butter and steak knives in a pinch. If you do not have use of your arms or hands, please see the section titled The Astral Temple.

Cups/Chalices: Any glass or cup will do. See The Astral Temple for working without a cup or chalice at all.

Offering Bowls: Just like cups/chalices, any bowl will do. That is unless you plan on using it to burn requests, in which case I recommend metal (stainless steel or cast iron seem to work best). See the Astral Temple for working without a bowl.

Incenses/Oils: You can use commercially prepared incenses and oils as needed, or you can skip them. Incenses and oils help create the right atmosphere and tend to manifest certain energy patterns conducive to the work, but they can be left out.

Other Items: Look at each ritual item and decide whether or not it's necessary for your work. If you can get away with skipping it, go without. If you can modify it to your needs, do that. If all else fails you can take literally anything your mind can conjure into the astral temple, and work with it there.

#### I CAN'T:

Use Candles – Candles are used to illuminate and create atmosphere. A dim lamp, different color light bulbs, and even faux candles made with LEDs can be used as substitutes. If you do your work in the astral temple, a comfortable place to sit or lie down and a small light should be just fine. For what it's worth, light is completely unnecessary.

Use Incense – then don't. It's perfectly okay to skip the incenses and oils. That isn't to say these things don't add to the experience and energy in ritual, but rituals can be done without them. If you can use incense but you just can't make your own – find a standard frankincense and/or sandalwood blend (both are usually sold just about everywhere) in a stick. Use that.

**Burn Offerings** – this is okay. The symbolic act of burning an offering is basically an act of solidifying intent and letting it out into the universe through the smoke. It's a symbolic alchemical transformation

from the physical to the spiritual. There are several alternatives here. The first is heartfelt prayer. By saying or thinking your request aloud and imagining the daemonic seal, you are still solidifying your intent and letting it out into the universe. You're simply using a different method.

Use Blood – While bloodletting is an integral part of a physical Daemonolatry practice, a lot of people don't use blood. Some use saliva, hair or skin instead, or even sexual fluids. However, this can all be left out of one's practice. Instead, imagine the act of blood-letting and giving of yourself to the Daemonic in offering. There is a great deal of emotion in that visual.

**Drink Alcohol** – No worries. You can substitute juice or water for wine in any ritual except the Rite of Imbibement. For that you do need alcohol if you are practicing it with others since the alcohol will kill any blood-borne pathogens. However, if you are practicing the rite on your own, just use water or juice.

*I am in a wheelchair and/or have limited movement* – This is where the astral temple comes in.

I am blind (and listening to this on my Kindle or someone is reading it to me). Since the astral solution doesn't work for me, what do you suggest? In this instance I suggest focusing on

intent and emotion more than anything. Both are universal and will be understood completely by the Daemonic divine. In this instance the "astral" becomes a world built on hopes and dreams and intense feelings. These feelings are communicated to the Daemonic, perhaps without images, but with unmistakable intent as feeling is, perhaps, the most intense sense the physical human body experiences. Use music to bring about the right vibrations and feelings to what you're doing, too. Experiment.

I cannot hear – so how can I experience vibration, sound, invocation? You can still feel. We have so many different senses that when one is impaired it's often believed another becomes more sensitive. Use your emotions, thoughts and feelings to invoke and share your requests or prayers with all that is.

I suffer from fibromyalgia, rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, or other condition that causes me great pain and/or exhaustion. — When working long rituals, be sure you take breaks. I imagine you have all heard of the "spoon" theory by now. You only have so many spoons you can use each day. Belial is not going to smite you if you don't do your Rite to Him at the stroke of the Winter Solstice. Plan ahead for important rituals and be sure to carefully allocate your spoons that day so you don't overdo it. If you find yourself in too much pain or are too exhausted,

(i.e. no spoons left) it's okay to reschedule. Always remember that your spiritual life revolves around you. You are not a slave to it. The Daemonic Divine understands this and will not take offense to holy days missed or rituals not performed. If you worry about such things, try to make prayer a part of your daily practice and get on a regular offering schedule. This way you aren't taxing yourself. Don't look at your spiritual practice as an obligation. Look at it as something that benefits you, brings you peace and tranquility, and it's time you're spending with yourself, and the divine for yourself. If you feel like sitting for five minutes bathed in the light of Buer or Verrine for healing once a day, do it. Live your life in honor to the Divine and you'll never be without the Daemonic in your life.

I suffer from depression or a debilitating mental illness – Go easy on yourself. Plan all rituals ahead of time and be sure to allocate enough spoons for those rites that are important to you. If your condition is well controlled with medication, feel free to practice magick, but also practice elemental balancing on a regular basis. You may also want to practice cleansing rituals more often as you may find you attract astral sludge. If you are feeling down, or you're having an episode, reschedule your ritual work until you're feeling more balanced and healthy.

#### THE ASTRAL TEMPLE

Astral magick requires the magician to know how to effectively perform astral travel. That is, to leave the body and ascend to the astral plane. In the astral world, time has no meaning. The physical no longer matters because there, the universe is mental. This is why so many people will erroneously mistake magick done in the astral temple for imagining or daydreaming about the work. While imagination is a wonderful ingredient, you do have to ascend the soul and mind. Hand in hand with Astral work is Dream Work, wherein you learn to leave your body and travel to the astral during sleep. You can even meet up with other magicians in this manner. Learning to ascend to the astral plane, let alone dream walking (which takes a great deal more skill) requires meditation skills and the ability to concentrate. Sadly, these are not skills the magician can learn from reading a book. You need to perform meditation exercises to learn how to ascend to the astral plane.

Once there, you can create your own temple, including all of your tools, and perform any magickal work necessary. The beauty of this is that you will always have the tools you need and want at your disposal. Your astral temple can be as simple or as elaborate as you make it. While I do often recommend magick in the physical when and if possible (because I do think magicians who only practice in the astral miss out when it comes to the physical interaction with the metaphysical world), if you are unable to practice physical magick for any number of reasons, this really is the perfect solution for you.

Learning to use your imagination as a tool for magick is essential for both focus and to bring realism to the work. This includes methods of communication with the Daemonic including Ascension. It is vital the magician can close his/her eyes and actually see the object of their desire or the desired outcome of the magick. Being able to focus and imagine will strengthen intent, thus you'll find you are able to manifest your true will more often. You will also find that the sharper your imagination, the higher your success rate at astral temple work. Remember, astral travel is the practice of actually leaving your body behind and ascending to another plane of existence. It's not just imagining -- but the imagination does help considerably.

To exercise your imagination, I suggest practicing guided meditations. Meditation is such a

vital skill for any magician because it teaches us so many useful skills like being present, observing emotion, being still, how to breathe, connecting ourselves to all that is, focus, and how to imagine. Any guided meditation will do. There are many CD's and websites available to help you in this department. Or – if you have friends who share your spiritual leanings, guide each other through meditations you create yourselves. This can be a rewarding and relaxing exercise and great for magickal study groups.

Once you've mastered ascending to the astral plane, then it's time to build the temple. Fill it with permanent altars that reside in your mind. Fill it with elaborate tools, pleasing scents, and things pleasing to yourself and the Daemonic. Fill it with statues of your Patron/Matron and paint/carve sigils on the walls. Take care and time to create your personal temple. Once you've created every aspect of it, you can use it to work. When you've ascended to the astral, you simply visit your temple and perform the ritual. When the ritual is done, you simply return to your body.

### RITUAL WITHOUT IMPLEMENTS OR WITH MODIFICATION

Ritual can be modified to accommodate your personal needs. If you are deathly allergic to incenses, simply nix them. If it's too taxing or too difficult to stand or kneel, or even face the direction of the Daemonic force you're calling upon, either face the elemental direction that best serves the purpose of the work (i.e. West or North for Water when doing rituals for intuition, wisdom, insight, friendship, or South for Fire if doing work for a relationship or creative endeavor etc...) for the duration of the ritual, or bring a chair into the ritual space to sit on. An altar can be as simple as a TV stand pulled out just to set a cup of water on, or as elaborate as a permanent table filled with ritual implements. It can be as high or as low as it needs to be so that you can reach anything on it. It can be stationary, or it could be a table on wheels. Get creative here.

For any part of the ritual you cannot perform, you can perform symbolic gestures instead. So

instead of bloodletting, for example, try touching your middle and forefinger to your third eye, your throat chakra, and then your heart (in that order). Perform any gestures of initiation you may have been given. Or, say a simple prayer. For bloodletting the traditional prayer, "The Blood is the Life, Praise be Sobek" might resonate with you. If it doesn't, create your own.

Rituals can also be performed entirely in the astral temple where physical limitations are not an issue, and you can do whatever you need to do.

#### **PRAYER**

Prayer is one of those practices that everyone, despite their physical abilities, can manage to incorporate into their practices. I believe that heartfelt prayers, even unscripted, work just as well as pulling out a prayer book and reciting a prayer. You may find you have a knack for coming up with your own prayers. But if not, never fear. How eloquent you are matters not to the Daemonic Divine. What does matter is that your prayers are heartfelt and they mean something to you. It's great to recite something, but without the emotion behind it, it becomes meaningless. As long as your emotions are always true, your prayers will always be heard, and often answered if, in fact, you are petitioning deity for help in a matter. It's okay to pray just to offer thanks. Prayer isn't simply a means to "get stuff'. It's also not synonymous with groveling. A daily practice usually includes daily prayer, offerings and devotions, so this might be something to consider if you've been looking for a way to incorporate your spirituality into your daily life.

If you are in need of prayers, you can get a free PDF copy of *Ater Votum: Daemonolatry Prayer* from demonolatry.org or you can buy it in paperback or for your Kindle or Nook (or any tablet that can download the free Kindle or Nook eReader apps).

#### **OFFERINGS**

Offerings are another one of the simple things one can do to incorporate their spiritual leanings into their daily life. I have a friend who keeps a planter filled with dirt on the apartment balcony. She uses it to pour libation offerings into. Water, wine, fruit, and flowers are common offerings that people give to the Daemonic. Having a simple planter outside, or area of the yard that you can use for leaving offerings is one method. I have another friend who has dedicated her house plants as offerings to the divine. As she cares for the plants by watering them and trimming back dead leaves, she views it as time spent in devotion and offering to the Gods. So consider simple ways of leaving offerings. Usually offerings require little physical exertion, little space, and you can limit them to once a week or even once a month depending on your situation.

#### **FASTING**

Fasting is a simple way of showing one's devotion to their intent, the deities of their choice, or as an act of self-cleansing. The first rule of fasting is don't do it unless you've been cleared, by your doctor, to do it. Fasting can be dangerous for people with specific medical conditions like diabetes, anorexia, or bulimia. You may consider doing a juice or liquid diet fast where you're at least getting some nutrients if not eating is not an option. I don't recommend fasting for longer than twenty-four hours and you should be sure to remain wellhydrated. If a ritual calls for a fast, you may simply substitute with a self-cleansing, and drinking a large glass of water as a symbolic internal cleansing. The latter is a practice often employed by certain magickal orders before energy and/or astral work anyway.

#### **CLEANSING**

Cleansing can happen in a number of ways. The cleansing or purification of the self can take the form of an Epsom salt bath in conjunction with visualizations of self-purification, or it can be as simple as anointing oneself with blessed olive oil, or burning frankincense. To purify a space, if you can't use incense or oil, mix some salt and water in a spray bottle and spray it around the space while visualizing a bright white light clearing anything negative from the space. Or mix the salt and water in a bowl and sprinkle it around the space with your fingers. In instances where "props" just aren't an option, a strong visualization, like the Lesser Banishing Ritual of the Pentagram, can be used to clear yourself and your space. No props necessarily required.

#### MAGICK

Every magickal ritual can be modified to work as you need it. If you need altars low enough to be at wheelchair height, for example, consider finding appropriate height end tables to use as altars. If a nine foot circle is too restricting for you to move around in, increase it if you can. If you cannot move around a great deal to face this direction or that direction, pick one. If you can't use the props the magick requires, either find a substitution, use visualization, or do the work in the astral temple. Remember that the most important thing in magick is the intent.

#### FOR CARE GIVERS

You can be an important part of helping your loved one access the Daemonic Divine. Giving them time alone for prayer, meditation, or astral work is crucial. If they need help, you might stand in during ritual as an assistant, handing them items as needed or to simply give them a steady shoulder to lean on if they feel weak.

If your loved one is bedridden, you can help by walking them through an elemental balancing (healing) ritual, or you can simply bring them anything they may need for their rituals. You may even choose to help them perform rituals by acting as an operator while they merely participate. Clearly if your beliefs differ this may not be an option. But if you are a Daemonolater, an open-minded Pagan or a Gnostic, please consider it.

#### RESOURCES

Unfortunately there aren't a lot of LHP writers who have taken on the topic of the astral temple or astral magick as the subject of a single book. So sadly you will have to look elsewhere for books regarding astral work. I can recommend Christopher Penczak's *Inner Temple of Witchcraft* which covers, step by step, how to meditate and develop your psychic senses in order to work in the astral. If you are wholly appalled by anything seemingly RHP, you can read my *Daemonolater's Guide to Daemonic Magick* for information on meditation and building your astral temple, or my *Complete Book of Demonolatry* for lessons in meditation, or simply seek out other books to teach you how to work in the astral.

I also recommend Tara Miller's anthology, *Rooted* in the Body, Seeking the Soul: Magic Practitioners Living With Disabilities and Illness for information about how others have modified ritual, have used magick for personal

healing, and to help caregivers assist people with disabilities in their spiritual journey.

Daemonolater's Guide to Daemonic Magick and I also recommend Complete Book of Demonolatry for the elemental balancing exercises. I would have included said rituals in this mini-guide, but it seemed rather redundant and you can get the elemental balancing and a basic healing rite in the free PDF copy of Modern Demonolatry at demonolatry.org.