



THE DRUID NETWORK

The Druid Network

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Under the Same Sky

By Suvi

Under the same Sky.

As Joni Mitchell states in her song Woodstock (1970): –

“We are star dust, we are golden.

We are billion-year-old carbon,

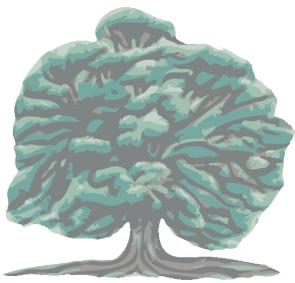
and we have got to get ourselves back to the garden”.

Recent research by SDSS at New Mexico State University published in 2017 suggests we share 97% of the same atomic make up as the rest of our galaxy. Carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, and sulphur atoms created by the Big Bang 13.8 billion years ago are the building blocks of all life, and therefore are found in everything; including our own bodies.

We are reflections at a molecular level of everything else that exists. We are connected to our surroundings, Nature, other species, all past, present, and future individuals by it. We are meant to be here. We are not an error. We belong.

We are not separate and nor is anything else; if one aspect or feature within our world or galaxy is held as sacred, then all that exists is too.

When looking up at the night sky we are seeing the same stars that past generations saw and have used for navigation for hundreds of thousands of years.



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So how is this done?

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Simply put; we become the centre of our own compass by finding the North Star; a star that sits over the North Pole.

Step One – On a clear night (no low cloud) find the constellation known by the following names: – The Plough, The Big Dipper, or The Saucepan.

Although for this activity the best comparison to keep in mind is the Saucepan

Step two – Imagine if you were to pour water into the pan until it overflowed, the star that the water would tip over is second of the two Leader Stars. The other/first leader star is down the same side of the pan denoting so to speak the corner where that side of the pan meets its base.

Step three – Place a finger on each of the leader stars as you can see them in the sky, then mentally draw a straight line from the first leader star straight through the second leader star and keep going. You will encounter the North Star. It is very bright and in distance from the Saucepan/Plough/Big Dipper second leader star, about the length of the constellation itself and a little bit more.

Got it?

Brilliant!



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Step four – Okay from the North Star mentally draw a straight vertical line down from it to your horizon.

Step five – Stand so your feet and toes point towards said spot on the horizon. You are now at the centre of your own compass. What is in front of you is North, behind you South, From your right shoulder East and from your left shoulder West.

Another fun Night Sky activity is spotting annual Meteor Showers also known as shooting stars.

The best time to see these is often early evening when it has just got dark.

Though national and local media often follow these natural displays and advise on the best times and locations to see them.

You can hope to glimpse

The Quadrantids in early January

The Lyrids in mid to late April

The Perseids in August

The Draconids in early October, and the Orionids later in that month

The Leonids appear mid-November.

And the Geminids mid-December with the Ursids following at the end of the month.

(Suvi 2021)