THE SOLITARY DRUID FELLOWSHIP AUTUMN EQUINOX DEVOTIONAL

May you find peace and joy in the balance of the equinox!

This autumn equinox devotional can be used independently, or as a component of the SDF September Equinox liturgy.

The autumn equinox festival marks the harvest of the fruits of summer, of apples and squash and all the tasty things we associate with the fall. It also honors the balance of light and dark, the moment when day and night are equal.

In solitude, you are encouraged to think of ways how that balance is reflected in your life. In what ways are you balanced between light and dark? What changes are behind you? What developments are ahead of you?

To celebrate this colorful time of year, try decorating your altar for the autumn with colorful leaves and the fruits of the fall. Find a way to show balance in your decorations. Be creative! Experiment and have fun!

Another exciting way to celebrate the equinox is to compile a CD of autumn-inspired music. Listen to tracks that bring the equinox alive in your ears and in your heart. Sing and dance your joy and peace in the balance of the season!

Solitary practice can be just as joyful and jubilant as group practice. Solitude does not require us to be somber. We can cultivate a wonderful happiness while practicing alone.

In whatever way you choose to express the joyful balance of the equinox, may your observance be blessed! May you feel the peace of the balanced night and day, and may you be inspired to go out into the world and rejoice!

May you pray with a good fire.

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AUTUMN EQUINOX DEVOTIONAL

 $*[Statement\ of\ Purpose]$

I am poised at the moment of balance— The Earth turns her face from the Sun, preparing for sleep, And though I reap the harvest of the light, I know I am preparing for the season of darkness.

I honor the light:

The fire of the Sun, of the hearth, of the heart, The life-giving warmth of the summer, Whose bounty sustains and supports me.

I honor the darkness, The shadows of night, of the waters, of the soul, The death-bringing cold of the winter, Whose embrace shelters and renews me.

Hail the balance of light and dark— Hail the descent, hail the return— And hail the spaces in between!

*[Final Affirmation]

I give thanks for this moment of balance—For this time of peace and celebration.
The bounty of the light nourishes me,
And the sleep of winter revives me.

I have made offerings with joy and gratitude: My work upholds the balance. I honor the Kindred of light and dark, summer and winter; I hold sacred my place in their cycle of change.

Hail the balance of the cosmos!

*These titles correspond to the SDF September Equinox liturgy, available at solitarydruid.org. If you are using this devotional outside of the High Day liturgy, you may consider combining these two parts into one.

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