

# A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO FIXED STAR VENERATION

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This is my personal practice of basic fixed star devotion for those who'd like to start a relationship with the celestial firmament. Relationships are always personal, which means this practice is purposefully designed to be basic so that as your relationship grows you can build-on and change the practice to suit that personal relationship.

When researching fixed stars, it's a good idea to take ancient prognostications with a grain of salt, as historically they tend toward the more extreme versions of what the star could do. Also, in astrological magic usually the negative connotations get reversed into assets, such as the Pleiades causing blindness (mundane prognostication) becoming magically supportive for having insights or finding hidden information.

To look up the fixed stars in your birth chart, I have written an entire article on the exact steps:

<https://www.moonhavenastrology.com/finding-your-fixed-stars-basic-interpretive-principles/>

I've written a blog entry with detailed resources to check out:

<https://www.moonhavenastrology.com/coming-into-relation/>

## **IF I COULD HAVE ONLY ONE SET OF BOOKS ON STARS, IT WOULD BE THE BOOKS BY DIANA ROSENBERG.**

Secrets of the Ancient Skies volumes 1 & 2 are available here:

<https://www.ebay.com/itm/Secrets-of-the-Ancient-Skies-Volumes-1-2-/180895447763>

### **How to begin a veneration practice**

You will need:

- A fresh candle. Pillar candles or taller taper candles work well; you'll want something big enough to carve into.
- Incense correlated to the star, if this correspondence exists, and a way to burn the incense. If no such correspondence exists, Frankincense and Myrrh are good all purpose choices. You can also divine with the star and allow them to choose an incense.
- Stones correlated to the star, if this correspondence exists. If no such correspondence exists, you can divine with the star and allow them to choose a stone(s). Or just skip this altogether.
- At least a glass of water to give as an offering.
- Possibly other libations such as alcohol, tea, or juice. This will require that you divine with the star to find out what they'd prefer, and does not need to happen for the first times you do veneration, though I do recommend it as your relationship grows.
- A way to light the candle & the incense
- A pin, candle scribe, or other device to carve your candle

Timing helps quite a bit here. Ideally, you will do your veneration practice whenever the Moon conjoins the ecliptic degree of the star.

You can find the projected ecliptic degrees on websites such as <https://www.constellationsofwords.com/list-of-stars/> or on <https://astrologyking.com/fixed-stars/> (again, let me warn you about reading ancient prognostications with little to no context for a modern and contemporary world).

Then you can track where the Moon is using any astrology software. For example, Menkar is found at 14 Taurus, so when the Moon has reached between 12 and 16 Taurus, it's a good time to do veneration.

You can use a free app such as Time Nomad for iPhone and iPad, or Time Passages for Android devices, to see when the Moon will be at a specific degree.

If there is a sigil for your selected star in Picatrix or Agrippa, you can carve it into the candle. A good resource that's relatively accessible to most, pick up a copy of Christopher Warnock's book *Fixed Star, Sign, and Constellation Magic*. This will give you the listed sigils and correspondences of the 15 Behenian stars, as well as the original constellations of the Zodiac, and the signs of the Zodiac themselves.

You can also find the fixed star correspondent plants, stones, and sigils for the 15 Behenian stars here:

<https://www.renaissanceastrology.com/fixedstars.html>

If the star has an incense or stones that correlate, you will find them listed in Picatrix or Agrippa. If it is a star not outlined in either of those books, you can do some divination based on what you have found to be in alignment with the nature of that star.

*I also taught a class on fixed star magic that gives a basic outline and examples for coming to your own correspondences, which you can purchase instant streaming access to by going here:*

<https://arkheinaschool.samcart.com/products/magic-of-the-fixed-stars-workshop>

One plant is absolutely enough. If you're not confident in selecting a plant yourself, it's completely fine to begin your veneration practice without one. You can also use frankincense or myrrh as a general-use incense.

Once you've gathered your materials and you've identified when the Moon will conjoin the ecliptic degree of the star, you're ready to begin. I personally start any new star veneration by going outside during the night and doing the practice while gazing at the star. Sometimes that's not possible, and that's completely okay.

Light the candle and incense. Lay out your offering of water. If it feels appropriate, I might give an offering of alcohol, or just some apples and honey.

Recite the Orphic Hymn (written on the last page of this document) so you can feel it is sonorously resonant in your chest or your head. You might do that a number of times, like a chant. Eventually, as the relationship develops, I tend to write my own hymns for the individual stars; you may feel inspired to do the same.

If I want to have a conversation with the star, I take out a tarot deck and ask questions. In the first session I might ask the star to describe themselves, what a relationship looks like with them, what they consider

to be their best attributes, etc. I record the answers so I can look back at them over time to see how the relationship has developed. If you have a divination form other than tarot that you prefer, feel free to use that instead of tarot.

**(I've included my personal tarot spread and questions in a separate PDF, to help you get started! You could also use this spread with oracle cards.)**

If the session went well and I feel good about it, I add the star to my altar. I might include an image that represents them, but sometimes I'll just include the sigil drawn with a beautiful paint pen.

Because stars are not under the domain of planets, I do not constrict myself to planetary days or hours when I want to pray or give offerings to them. Instead, if I want to be more precise with timing I will work with the star when the Moon (translator of light) conjoins, trines, or sextiles the ecliptic degree of the star. Usually I just choose a specific set day(s) of the week to give additional prayers and offerings.

If I can get my hands on certain materia that is elected for them, I purchase it to honor the spirit of the star and to draw myself closer to them. I do my big offerings every time the Moon conjoins the star's ecliptic degree.

I develop that relationship for a few months before I make any petitions or try any magic with a star or planet.

The first magic I would make is elected materia for **devotional** purposes, such as a candle, an oil, or some custom-blended incense. I might also engage in creating talismanic art to honor that entity.

It's always good manners to give more than you take in any spiritual relationship, as the stars and planets already imbue your life with daily magic, whether you're aware of it or not.

If you want to learn how to elect for making that materia, you can purchase instant streaming access to my fixed star magic class here: <https://arkheinaschool.samcart.com/products/magic-of-the-fixed-stars-workshop>

## Orphic Hymn to the the Fixed Stars (Thomas Taylor translation):

WITH holy voice I call the [star name] on high,

Pure sacred lights and genii of the sky.

Celestial stars, the progeny of Night,

In whirling circles beaming far your light,

Refulgent rays around the heav'ns ye throw,

Eternal fires, the source of all below.

With flames significant of Fate ye shine,

And aptly rule for men a path divine.

In seven bright zones ye run with wand'ring flames,

And heaven and earth compose your<sup>1</sup> lucid frames:

With course unwearied, pure and fiery bright

Forever shining thro' the veil of Night.

Hail twinkling, joyful, ever wakeful fires!

Propitious shine on all my just desires;

These sacred rites regard with conscious rays,

And end our works devoted to your praise.