

A HINT OF PRACTICAL  
MAGIC IN YOUR LIFE

# Romani Folk Spells



By Katie Kalyani

*We are all Wanderers on this Earth, Our  
Hearts full of Wonder, Our Souls Deep with  
Dreams- Romani Proverb*





*Kushti divvus! Which is British Romani, meaning 'Hello' or 'Good day to you!'*

*My name is Katie Kalyani and I am of Romani heritage. My late Grandfather was half Roma since his father fled Europe during WWII and passed himself off as a Frenchman to avoid being caught and sent to camps, he married my Great Grandmother who was an English woman and remained in England for safety from the Nazis.*

*It is unusual for a Romany to be alone, most of us are nomadic and are part of a clan. I believe many of my Great Grandfather's close family must have perished in WWII.*

*He was lucky to be alive. My Grandfather, named Corelius would often talk of the "Gypsy ways" and would show me a locket of a lady who looked similar to me. His small flat looked like a Vardo (Romani caravan) full of oddities, trinkets and ornaments. Growing up, he'd teach me simple superstitions, spells and the use of the Tarot. In many ways I was too young to fully understand and he was too old to have the energy to pass on a lot of information. Much of my heritage is now lost with him.*

*However the "knowing" somehow runs through my veins and people ask me all the time where I am from, noticing I do not look "English" and can not place my "exotic" looks. I have been told I look half Turkish, Spanish, Iranian, Italian, Greek and more, even science is proving that generational information (including trauma) is passed through the bloodline and DNA. For we are all walking biological computers.*

*Perhaps through me I can rekindle the old Romani ways once again and heal the family trauma of WWII?*

*This booklet will give you a brief history on the Roma people and some spells I've collected through out the years, whilst on my quest to learn more about my ancestry. Enjoy!*



We are a group of magical people that once lived a nomadic life, and we often refer someone from this culture as a gypsy. However, this term can be considered a derogatory word that was coined long ago in an effort to describe an Eastern European, or Indian, group called the Romani. In the present day, we refer ourselves as the Romani or Rom. The term "gypsy" comes from the word Egypt (Egypties), where the Romani is initially thought to have originated from.

Eventually, the word gypsy was used for any type of nomadic group and has become a synonymous term for one who uses magic and pays attention to nature. To this day, the descendants of Romani are still discriminated against throughout the world, but even more specifically in Europe. Despite this hardship, we cling to the magic we integrate into our culture.


Browsing the internet for the term gypsy will bring up images of fan girls posing outdoors wielding peace signs. However, this is far from what the gypsy term was originally derived.

Yes, travelers may find themselves closely aligned with the gypsy Rom lifestyle, however, it is important to note that there are many other characteristics of my magical culture. Not all "Travelers" are "true Gypsy" While the term "gypsy" may be a term of endearment for many, it is important to note that there are other titles to use that are less offensive. People also like to call themselves "Gypsy" or "Romany" to appear exotic too which is just as offensive.

*Romani Magic and Folklore in Present Day* Gypsy magic is not much different from the sorts of spells we seek today. We often question the validity of spells and their effectiveness, but to the Romani, the magic we practice is considered quite useful. In fact, many of the magic called upon by the Romani can be equaled to the types of requests Roman Catholics ask of their Saints: recovery of lost articles, love spells (prayers), and protection for example.







Charles Godfrey Leland was a 19th-century folklore researcher who studied the Romany and their magical culture. He spent many years studying the folklore and magic we practiced. He found that horses, for example, were revered as spiritual animals, and keeping a horse skull could keep the paranormal from entering a home. In general, gypsy magic was often centered around animals, and nature, and their divine powers.

As nomads, the Romani's cattle and animals were of extreme value. Leland noted that life on the road was not easy for a gypsy. Perhaps this is why many of our magic spells focus on the protection of our animals.


Back then we paid close attention to our animals and at times would even use them in our magic spells.

Gypsy magic also consists of what some might consider superstitions.

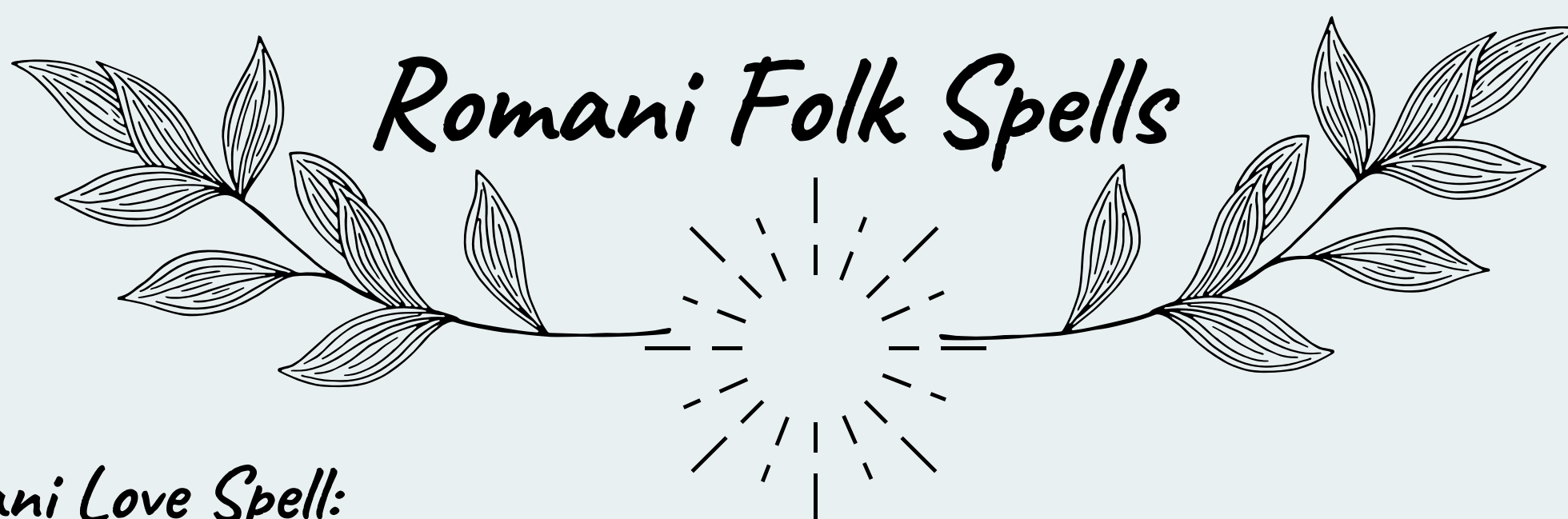
The Romani believed that when looking for stolen goods, or animals, if they came across knotted willow branches, it was common practice to take the knot and exclaim, "I tie up the thief's luck!" The Romani believe that knots in willow branches were magical and created by fairies and symbolized luck. It was thought that whoever unties them is doomed to receive bad luck.

When the Romani called upon magic, they would also often employ the use of amulets, or talismans to enhance their charms. Precious symbols may have consisted of knives, stones, shells, or other natural elements.

Just as it is in other magical cultures, there is a strong connection between magic and nature. Because the Rom originated from Northern India, much of their belief and some of their words come from Indian languages and Hindu traditions too. The Rom brought astrology, star signs, palm reading, the chakras and various dances like "belly dance" from India to the west.







### Romani Love Spell:

*This should be done at the same hour on seven consecutive Fridays, ending on the one closest to the Full Moon (before the moon reaches full, not just after).*

*Take a pink candle and mark six rings around it, at equal distances apart. This will give you seven sections of a candle.*

*Light the candle and call out the name of the one you think loves you. Then say:*

*Gana, be with me in all that I do.*

*Gana, please bring me a love who is true.*

*Give him (her) the strength to put into words*

*His (her) feelings, and sing like the song of the birds.*

*Think about the person for a few moments – think of them coming to you and declaring their love then repeat the chant. Keep doing this until the candle has burned down to the first line. Then extinguish the candle (by pinching it out, never by blowing) and put it away till next week. On the final week, keep it up until the candle burns itself out.*







### Amber Charm (1) Romany Dreams and Desires

On a Thursday night, make a list of the qualities you desire in a romantic partner or visualize and name a specific person. Before you go to sleep that night, leave a piece of amber by your bed or under your pillow.

On a Friday morning, first thing upon awakening, clutch the amber in your left hand, holding it close to your heart. close your eyes and visualize your desire: make it as real and tangible as possible. Take as much time as you need.

Kiss the amber and wrap it up in a small piece of silk, wrapping or rolling towards you.

Keep this with you for seven days, carrying it by day and sleeping with it at night. Beside your heart and between your breasts, wherever.

Repeat the process every morning. At the conclusion, you will have a highly charged love amulet.


### Amber Charm (2) Romany Magic Mirror

This spell creates a small, unbreakable variation of a magic mirror.

Look at the full moon through a piece of amber, holding it in your left hand and focus on all your heart's desire.

Place this under your pillow before you go to sleep.

When you wake, you will have a potent love charm. Use this to draw those who desire you. Replenish its power by repeating the ritual during every full moon.





### Aphrodite Oil

Add essential oils of myrtle and rose to a base of sweet almond oil. Add to a bath or use as a massage oil or on candles in honouring and petitioning Aphrodite. Invoke her for self love and sacred beauty.

### Aphrodite Goddess of Love Spell

Grind up pink rose buds, peppermint leaves, and ambrette seeds. Blend this powder into rice powder and dust onto your body. Rub some between your palms and touch the one you want.

### Romany Conjure Bag

In Romany, a conjure bag is known as a "Putzi", literally a "Pocket".

Fill a red silk bag with all or some of the following ingredients to attract and maintain love and romance:

Amber, Cinnamon, Cloves, Acorns, Rose buds, or petals, Orrisroot, a magic ring, and an old coin engraved with new sigils. Keep this bag with you daily and sleep with it at night.

### Mary Magdalene's True Love Spell

The beloved disciple is invoked to find one's true love. Her feast day is the most advantageous day for petitions which is July 22nd.

Create an altar with an image of Mary Magdalene as the focal point.

Offer her flowers, perfume or perfumed oils and salves. Spikenard, which is also believed to ensure fidelity, is especially associated with her.

Then request your desire.







## Sarah-La-Kali Healing Spell

*Known as the Black Queen, Sarah-La-Kali is a bit of a mystery.*

*Sometimes associated with the Egyptian goddess Isis, the Hindu goddess Kali and with Mary Magdalene- a very similar symbolism to Hecate the tripple faced goddess of fate and magic. Some historians put forward that Sara-la-Kali refers to the three Hindu goddesses – Saraswati, Lakshmi, and Kali – the goddesses of Knowledge, Wealth and Time – symbolizing the holy trinity of female power!*

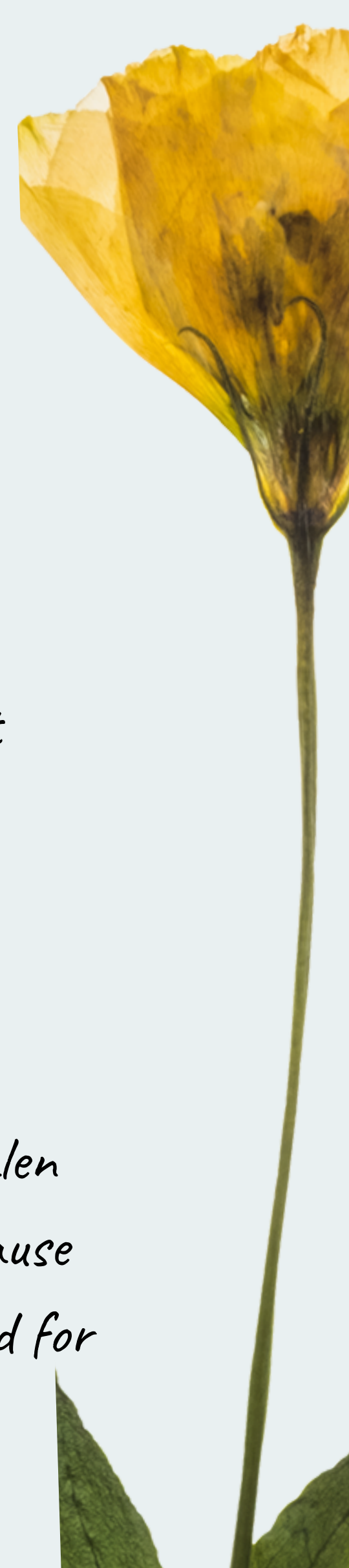
*She may have been an Egyptian servant who accompanied the three Mary's fleeing to France after the death of Christ. She may have been a Romani Priestess waiting to welcome the three Mary's to European land. There is debate she was the daughter of Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene.*

*Sara La Kali (Sara e Kali in Romani) literally means "Sara the Black". Her name is spelled "Sarah" and "Sara" interchangeably, although the addition of the "h" may serve to obliquely indicate Semitic roots and hint at her secret identity as the daughter of Jesus.*

*Although commonly addressed as "Saint Sarah", in fact she is not a canonized saint. Her remains are in the crypt, not in the church itself.*

*For centuries she was publicly venerated only by the Romani. In recent years, however, she has emerged as an international goddess.*

*Sara La Kali may be petitioned for anything, but her specialties are healing and fertility. She is also described as the Romani goddess of fate. Sara La Kali may be venerated alongside Mary Magdalen and les Maries de la Mer, since she is also associated with the sea because she either helped the three Mary's with safe travel to France, or waited for them on the beach to welcome them to land.*





## Call on Sara-La-Kali for Healing and Fertility

Make an altar dedicated to Saint Sara, dress it with roses, anything that represents the sea and other meaningful objects. Make a garland of flowers to wear on your head and a bouquet of roses in a vase to offer to Sara-La-Kali. Sprinkle salt or baking soda around the flowers, yourself and on the altar for protection and to ward off negative energy. Add lavender essential oil or incense to the altar for protection as well.



Art work by Lisbeth Cheever-Gessaman

Add a black candle for protection and a white candle for healing. Include photos, cloth or objects that represent the individual that is suffering. Allow Sara-la-Kali to soak up the pain and ask for her healing in your own words. On the full moon take the rose petals and flower garland to the sea, say Saint Sara's mantra "Om Shri Sarayei Narayani Namastute" three times then drop the flowers and garland into the water, let the waves carry the pain away.

## **Romany Ligature Spell to tame your lover**

Cut a length of red silk ribbon the length of a man's erect penis. Keep the ribbon under the pillow.

After making love, while he is asleep, take out the ribbon, soak it in his semen and tie seven knots in it.

As long as you have possession of this ribbon, with its knots in tact, his fidelity is assured.





### Romany Headache Cure.

An old Romany Remedy for healing chronic headaches.

Obtain water from nine distinct sources and mix them together.

Add glowing Charcoal

If you have enough water, bathe the individual's entire body, if not, then bathe the person's head, neck and feet.

Repeat dail for nine days.

\*To cement the cure, embroider symbolic designs on the patient's clothing and bed linen. Traditional Romany designs would include Roosters, Roses, Suns, Cakes, Knives, Snakes and Acorns but choose whatever symbolizes health and vitality to you. You must embroider these by hand, do not purchase ready made. Like knotting, you are inserting intent and blessings into the design. If needlework is not your forte, hand painting the image would be the second-best choice.\*

### Coral Beads Protection Spell

Smooth pink coral beads wordn around the neck provide a child with magical protection. For babies, string pieces of red wool or cotton onto a bracelet together with the beads (for baby' safety- do not make a necklace.). Also hang Rue in the house for a newborn so as to offer magical and spiritual protection and bring blessings of the birth into the home.

### Romany/Egyptian Life Blessing Knot Spell

(This spell is also found in Jewish and Hindu Magic)

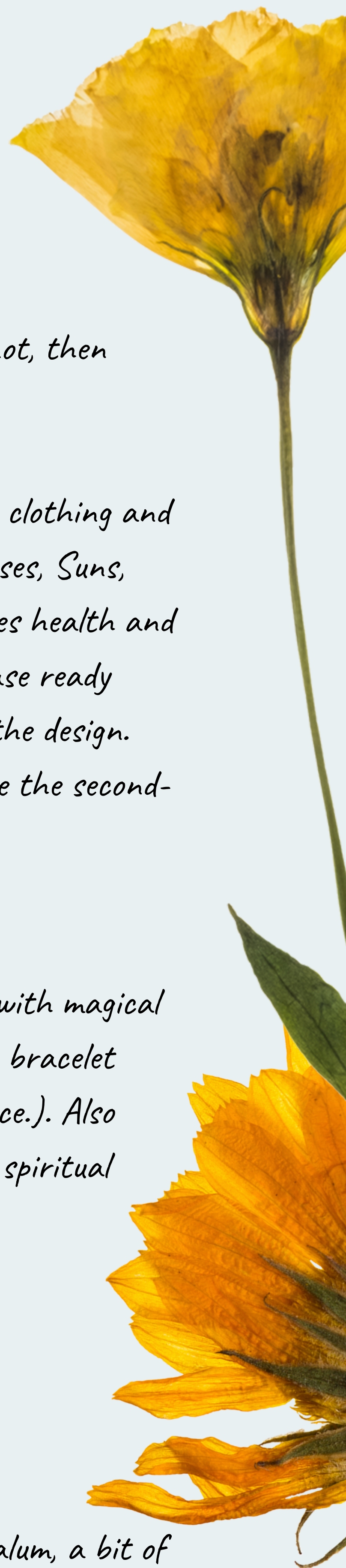
This is meant to ward off the evil eye and repel illness.

Create a bracelet or anklet for the baby from a piece of cord,

Attach seven beads to this cord plus a tiny bag filled with salt, alum, a bit of copper, and/or silver.

Tie around the child's ankle or wrist,

Send your loving thoughts, hopes, wishes, blessings and ancestral protection towards the child as you tie the knots.





### Broken Heart Bath: Water of Mercy

Blend Calendula, hibiscis, rose and Jasmine flower.

Make an infusion by pouring boiling water over two-thirds of the flowers. Add this infusion to your bath; float the remainder of the blossoms in the water.

### Honeysuckle Spell Flower Essence

Honeysuckle flower essence according to Bach Flower Remedies is a healing herb that heals a broken heart and encourages you to look forward to a happier future, rather than being preoccupied with what is past and gone.

1: Initiate this spell when you feel frustrated, lonely and miserable. Add 20-30 drops of flower essence remedy to a bath filled with warm water. This bath will be taken only once; any further baths require at most half-dozen drops of flower essence.

2: Dry yourself with a fresh, clean white towel.

3: Drink a healing heart potion: A glass of spring water, fruit juice, with two drops of honeysuckle flower essence and two drops of red hibiscus flower essence have been added.

4: Drink this potion daily until you don't need it anymore.

### A Spell using the Power of Trees

Write down your wish on a piece of paper and wrap it round a coin or small trinket. Take a small offering of bread, water and fruit. Find a Thorn, Elder or Ash and kneel before it. Scatter the offering in front of the tree and say "Tree mother, I feed you, you feed me in return.", then place the trinket in a hole by the base of the tree and say "Tree mother I bring you a gift, bless me in return." whilst burying the paper wrapped coin. Now put your hands on the tree and say three times "Rain falls, wind blows, sun shines, grass grows." then leave without looking back. Come back three days later and see what has been left for you- a twig, flower, leaf, feather, stone? Carry this object for luck.





### Women's Magic to keep a lifelong lover

Prepare some food for the person you love, something sweet like cakes, cookies or their favourite pudding. Before cooking add a little of your own body fluid like saliva, sweat or menstrual blood. Stir it into the food mixture with a whisk made of Birch twigs, one that is cut yourself is even more powerful.

While you are stirring say:

I am the nectar, you are the bee.

I am the honey safe in the tree.

I have a secret, you have the key.

Me pander tuti, me pander tuti, me pander tuti com!

Make sure you stir the mixture at least thirty nine times. when you serve the cake, put it on a plate with a design of roses around the rim and hand it to him with your left hand.

\*This spell may seem unhygienic but science has proven that pheromones are very potent. It is discovered that female pheremones can attract fish if the woman stands in water during the time in her cycle that she is ovulating or on her period. Some men are known to enjoy making love during menstruation because of the delicate fragrance and pheromones drive them wild! If the idea of using menstrual blood is too much for you, another potent female juice is also the cervical mucus during ovulation, this pheromone activates the man's primal desires to procreate, could be a good idea to use this once you've got a loyal lover and want him to consider making a baby.\*

Natural items such as flowers, shells and stones are very important in Romany magic. Some are marked with meaningful symbols and are considered much more powerful than anything man-made. Steer clear of man-made crystals too- they do not come from this earth and have no magic. You are wasting your money (Goldstone and Opalite for example). There is unimagined power all around us, the currents of Zee earth energy, these are beautiful natural things that make up this world.



*The so-called rational man of today may believe all this as nonsense and may laugh or misunderstand the shamans, oracles, medicine women and Roma people. But it is modern man whose every step along the road of progress that brings the earth closer to death and it is the Shamans and the Roma who cherish nature and believe her to be sacred; understanding that the secret of life and living well is to be in union with mama earth, walking barefoot with her as she sings to you in the trees and the oceans.*

*May you be well, may you be blessed with a fruitful and magical life  
Latcho Drom!*



Katie Kalyani is an intuitive Ayurvedic yoga teacher, women's circle facilitator and reiki master teacher.

Her teachings are holistic, down to earth, rooted in mysticism and the rhythms of nature. She specializes in Chakra balancing, working with goddess archetypes and sacred ceremony with cacao, herbal fusions, honey, flowers and belly dance. Her classes are of a sensory nature and steeped in nourishing sweetness, love and a glimmer of magic.

Bringing aromatherapy, sound healing, oracle cards, flower offerings, herbal teas, visual journeying and sacred beauty into the surroundings as she holds space for clients.

At present she is studying herbalism and Bach Flower Remedies and in her free time she writes articles for yoga wellness sites. Katie aspires to continue her growing passion for herbs and Ayurveda and to blend it with yoga, somatics, counseling skills, nature magic and energy healing.

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Katie is available to teach public yoga classes and workshops, Women's Circles and sacred feminine retreats and Reiki Attunements. Contact her for more details

