



Baldr's Magic: The Power of Norse Shamanism and Ecstatic Trance

By Nicholas E. Brink Ph.D.

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A guide to using ecstatic trance to connect with your ancestors, rediscover your extrasensory powers, and reclaim the peaceful nature of humanity

- Illustrates ecstatic trance postures to connect with the ancient Nordic people, to journey to exact points in time, and to access powers such as seeing into our future
- Explains how the coming new age of peace and veneration for Mother Earth was predicted in Norse mythology as the rebirth of the compassionate god Baldr
- Expands on the stories of the early Nordic gods and goddesses from the Prose Edda and the Poetic Edda

Connecting Norse mythology, ecstatic trance, the Universal Mind, and the dawn of a new age of peace and veneration for Mother Earth, Nicholas Brink reveals how we can use ecstatic and hypnotic trance to learn more directly and deeply from our distant ancestors, rediscover our extrasensory powers, and reclaim the original magical nature of humanity. The imminent rebirth of a peaceful, balanced, connected world was predicted in Norse mythology as the return of Baldr, the gentle and compassionate Nordic god of truth, healing, and rune work.

Illustrating ecstatic trance postures to connect with the ancient Nordic people and their beliefs, to journey to exact points in time, and to access specific powers, such as seeing into our future, Brink explores humanity's evolving cycle of consciousness from the era when the Great Mother goddess was the center of life through the transition to the worship of power and physical strength in the Bronze Age and the world of the Vikings. He explores the coming return of Baldr and the imminent new age of peace and respect for the earth. Through hypnotic divination, the author expands the stories of the early Nordic gods and goddesses from the Prose Edda and the Poetic Edda, in particular the fertility deities of the Vanir, such as Freyr, Freyja, and Idunn, who came before the warrior deities of the Æsir, such as Odin, Thor, and Loki. He details the epic battle of Ragnarök and the birth, life, death, and rebirth of Baldr.

Brink shows how these ancient stories happen outside of time, in the past, present, and future, thus Baldr's return is replayed in our death-rebirth experiences of life, in each dawn, with each spring, and now with the birth of a new age that we see happening all around us. Through the power of trance at this time of rebirth, we move full circle to reclaim the magic of the earliest times, the times of the Garden of Idunn.



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Editorial Review

Review

"Nick Brink brilliantly applies the use of ancient ritual postures and ecstatic trance, as taught by anthropologist Felicitas Goodman, to reclaim the wisdom of his ancestors and to make an impassioned plea for us all to welcome the return of Baldr and the Great Mother as our guides into a new era of peace. I was moved and inspired by the depth of his research and his deep love for the stories that help us know more truly who we really are." (*Belinda Gore, Ph.D., author of The Ecstatic Experience director of training and former president of*)

"This book is a lively combination of ancestral imagination, mythology, and historical reality. The author introduces a series of ecstatic trance postures that have been identified elsewhere as having ancient use for facilitating a variety of meditative inquiries and are frequently represented by some of the earliest known sacred figurines from around the world. The author, as he should, leaves the reader to form his or her own opinion as to the degree to which the story can be taken literally or as metaphor, as reality or imaginal fantasy, as personal or collective. Either way, James Hillman suggested that imagination and soul are fundamentally the same thing, and in that sense this book is a soul-focused journey into some of the long-ago roots of modern civilization." (*Raymond Hillis, Ph.D., professor emeritus of counseling, California State University, Los Angeles*)

"For millennia ancient societies depended on their shamans to bring back information through trance states that was needed for their continued survival and evolution. Now, as we enter into the dawning of a new age, Nicholas Brink is one of those rare individuals bringing us once again into altered states of awareness through the correct use of postures that deepen the trance state. This is a must read for anyone on this path of awakening." (*Rahasya Poe, C.Ht., author of To Believe Or Not To Believe and The 12 Spiritual Laws of Recovery: An*)

"*Baldr's Magic* is for anyone who loves mythology and myth-making. They will find themselves interested in one fine man's personal tale in addition to his take on today's society. *Baldr's Magic* gives us hope and encouragement that our time is being reborn into the values of the ancient Great Mother, the values of compassion, nurturing, and peace. His "Lost Eddas" show the magic, enchantment, and compassion of the Vanir gods, and they show the strong, bold Æsir gods, whose life is war. Do not miss the last part of the book, "The Teachings of the Vanir," and final comments." (*Lisa N. Woodside, Ph.D., professor emerita of humanities, Holy Family University, and certified teac*)

"*Baldr's Magic* brings alive the world of the ancient Nordic people during a time of prehistory when the Great Mother was worshipped, the time of the Vanir, the gods and goddesses of fertility, a time of peace when mankind lived sustainably on Earth. Then something happened. Men began to control the world, began to value physical strength, began to fight among themselves, and worshipped the Nordic gods of war, Odin and Thor. This book is about this time of transition. Nick Brink shows a real command of the ancient Nordic beliefs and fills in the missing beliefs or the beliefs that were never recorded: the lost stories of the Vanir. With the use of hypnotic and ecstatic trance he journeys back in time to recover these stories that offer us the picture of what the world was like when the Great Mother was worshipped, a world of peace and cooperation, a world of magic that provides us with guidelines for the coming new age." (*Michael Bell, Ph.D., retired professor of Medieval and Folklore Studies, University of Colorado*)

“An inspirational piece of work. Reading this book will bring you through the tale of the old gods of the Vanir as we know them from Norse mythology: a peace-loving society in balance with nature and the Great Módir, Mother Earth. With the tools of ecstatic and hypnotic trance, the author assesses the ancient world of the gods and people from the old Norse world. He tells us the tale of Ragnarok, and the survival of the Vanir, and he shows the reader the new peaceful world that is to come.” (*Monica Steensdatter, registered psychiatric nurse, Nuuk, Greenland*)

About the Author

Nicholas E. Brink, Ph.D., is a psychologist and a certified teacher of ecstatic trance with the Cuyamungue Institute. Board certified by the American Board of Professional Psychology, he is the author of *The Power of Ecstatic Trance* and lives in Coburn, Pennsylvania.

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Chapter 8

The Magical Powers of the Ancients Revisited

On January 6, 2011, I had an ecstatic experience as a man in ancient Denmark returning from a merchant trip to my home and to my pregnant wife, son, and daughter. In the evening of January 8, 2012, I found myself once again experiencing life through this man when an ecstatic posture group I am in used the Freyja Initiation Posture.

I find myself back at our homestead in Denmark near what is the border between Germany and Eastern Jutland. On this journey I find myself at home just before leaving on the merchant trip from my earlier experience. I am concerned because my wife is pregnant and I will be gone for most of her pregnancy. Our son and daughter have been instructed on how to do everything necessary in my absence--the farm work and helping my wife with the household chores. We call upon Freyja to help, and we make a stone altar to her near our hut and near the garden. I tell our son to not forget to place a few grains of barley on this altar each day as an offering to Freyja and remind all to pray to her daily for support and assurance that she will protect my wife and family. We tell Freyja that if we have a daughter we will name her Freyjadottir. Then I leave.

I return in the fall, and a couple of days after I return my wife goes into labor. I tell my son to go to our neighbor to bring the wife back to help with the childbirth. He is back with her in no time. He explains that as he left the hut, he saw her coming through the field not far from the house. She had “seen” with her power of seeing that the baby was on her way so she came immediately. I then go out to the altar with my son with grains of barley to give an offering to Freyja and thank her for getting us through everything, while our daughter and the neighbor are helping my wife with her childbirth. Our new daughter, Freyjadottir, is born healthy with Freyja’s help.

Offerings and song bring the world alive with enchantment. Opening ourselves to this enchanted world opens us to the spirits. We call upon the spirits to join us and bring us their wisdom as we prepare to go into an ecstatic trance. “Seeing” from a distance, from the past or into the future, is one of the main forms of what we would call magic, though among the ancient and primitive people of the world it is very common. In current times some may call it intuition, but it is much more than that, as we will see.

Realm of the Dead Posture

On the morning of January 14, 2012, continuing my pursuit to discover the ancient ways of magic, I used the Tanum Lower World Posture.

I quickly find myself gliding along the bottom of the ocean and find my way to the seat of Njord, the god of

the sea. He announces his presence, describing himself as the son of the Great Mother, and asks why I am before him. I tell him that I am a fisherman and have come to see what I can learn from him. He gets up, starts to walk along the ocean bed, and motions for me to follow. He tells me of the story of Loki and the fishnet.

Loki, when hiding from the gods after the death of Baldr, sat in front of a fire in a small cabin he had built for himself, and there he was thinking of the best way to evade the gods. He decides to use his power of shape shifting to change into a salmon and hide in the sea. He questions how the gods might catch him there, and fiddling with a ball of linen twine he fashions a fine net that can be used to catch fish. Loki realizes the hazard of such a net to a salmon. He then hears in the distance the gods approaching, throws the net into the fire, and leaves to dive into the sea as a salmon. As the gods enter the cabin, Kvasir, the wisest one, notices the ashes of the net in the fire and recognizes it as a device to catch fish. The gods, after making such a net, go down to the water's edge and, after several attempts, succeed in catching Loki.

Njord tells me to leave and return to fishing, and as I leave he tells me to call upon him for help. I am then back in our village with the other men, helping to mend our fishnets in preparation for a day of fishing tomorrow. As we push off in two boats we call to Njord and throw him an offering of a handful of barley. As we row, we go to where we feel we are being pulled and there we throw in the net, stretch it between the two boats, circle, and when we come together again we pull in the net full of fish. A successful trip.

What is the magic of this ecstatic experience? Again, it is listening to our intuition or the Universal Mind, going toward where we feel we are being pulled. Calling to Njord and throwing him an offering brings us in touch with our intuition, in touch with that which we need to listen. Listening in this way is a basic element of magic. It is this magic that makes life possible in ancient times--the magic of knowing where, what, and when to plant, of calling for rain, and of collecting herbs for healing. In present times hunters and fishermen who read the signs of animals and know how to imitate how the insect dances over the water use this intuition and are the best hunters and fishermen.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kevin Primeaux:

Do you have something that you want such as book? The reserve lovers usually prefer to decide on book like comic, limited story and the biggest one is novel. Now, why not attempting Baldr's Magic: The Power of Norse Shamanism and Ecstatic Trance that give your entertainment preference will be satisfied by reading this book. Reading habit all over the world can be said as the means for people to know world far better then how they react to the world. It can't be said constantly that reading addiction only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for all you who want to start reading as your good habit, you could pick Baldr's Magic: The Power of Norse Shamanism and Ecstatic Trance become your current starter.

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outside look likes. Maybe you answer can be Baldr's Magic: The Power of Norse Shamanism and Ecstatic Trance why because the great cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint anyone. The inside or content is usually fantastic as the outside or even cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly assist you to pick up this book.

Mary Abrams:

Is it a person who having spare time after that spend it whole day by watching television programs or just lying down on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Baldr's Magic: The Power of Norse Shamanism and Ecstatic Trance can be the respond to, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are consequently out of date, spending your free time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a geek activity. So what these books have than the others?

Lisa Williams:

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got college students? We believe that that question was given by teacher with their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. And also you know that little person such as reading or as studying become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important and also book as to be the point. Book is important thing to include you knowledge, except your own personal teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update concerning something by book. Different categories of books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them is Baldr's Magic: The Power of Norse Shamanism and Ecstatic Trance.

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