

The Path of the Dragon

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The Dragon

Draconian Tradition is an initiatory magical path inspired by symbolism derived from mythological dragons and serpents. It is an old worldwide tradition, dating back to first civilizations and those religious beliefs in which draconian gods, spirits, monsters, and beasts represented the concept of Darkness, Chaos, or the Unknown. For this reason it is possible to work with the Draconian Path through many different cultural traditions and religious paradigms, such as e.g. Egyptian lore, Celtic legends, Scandinavian mythology, and many others. In present times dragons may seem to be merely a product of fantasy world, books, movies, games, etc. but their mythological history reaches back to the most ancient times. Myths of dragon and serpent deities are encountered worldwide in legends, literature and folk tales. In the Scandinavian lore we have Jormungandr, the terrifying serpent holding the world of man in his coiled embrace, Nidhogg, who feeds on the very roots of Yggdrasil, and Fafnir, who represents the power of self-transformation. In Egyptian mythology the Draconian principle of Chaos striving against Order is represented by the serpent Apep who ceaselessly attempts to devour the Sun and imprison the Sun God Ra in the darkness of the underworld. In the Bible the Serpent is the Seducer who liberates humanity from mindless ignorance. The Serpent's Promise is that Man shall become God if he dares to leave the safety of Light and step into Primordial Darkness. This mystery revealed by the Serpent in the Garden of Eden resulted in many antinomian movements, inspired many philosophical and magical systems, and led to the rise of early Gnostic sects, such as the Ophites, Cainites, or Sethians, who believed in the messianic role of the Serpent and viewed Serpent's Gnosis as the only way to salvation. Dragons also appear in works of art throughout the world: reliefs and sculptures, pottery and tapestries, burial stones, rock drawings and wall paintings - in Scandinavia, Rome, Greece, China, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Mayan and Aztec civilizations, and in many others.

Draconian symbolism is complex and it is a subject beyond the scope of a single essay. Mythological dragons usually represent specific principles. As winged serpents they reflect the Hermetic principle "As above, so below" and refer to the chthonic quality of the earth and the underworld (the reptilian body) united with the spiritual concept of the heavens (the wings). They are also often depicted with seven heads and the number seven has a significant esoteric meaning in Draconian Mysteries. The seven heads of the Dragon are identified with the seven planets from traditional astrology, the seven lower Sephiroth/Qlipoth on the Qabalistic Tree, seven stars from Ursa Major Constellation, seven power zones or chakras through which the Kundalini ascends to unite with the cosmic consciousness, etc. The powers of the seven lower Sephiroth are believed to culminate in Daath, which is the gateway to the Abyss, guarded by the dragon demon Choronzon who lurks at the threshold separating the worlds of Light and Darkness. Sometimes the serpent represents male phallic force and the dragon the masculine fiery principle, like Typhon,

fearsome monster of Greek mythology. But there are also many stories and legends which depict the dragon as explicitly female: Tiamat from the Babylonian creation myth or Lilith as the Serpent in the Garden of Eden. In others it is androgynous, like Ouroboros who represents timeless existence, continuity, and eternal cosmic cycle of death and rebirth. This symbolism and attributions may be interpreted in many ways and incorporated into a personal initiatory system of Draconian Gnosis. The Path of the Dragon is chaotic, dynamic and often unpredictable, yet is it possible to work with it through certain patterns and magical systems that introduce the Initiate step by step into Draconian Mysteries.

The Goddess Tiamat of Babylonian cosmology, one of the oldest mythological stories of Creation, is the Primal Dragon, or the Mother of the Universe. The world as we know it was formed from her body and human beings were created from demonic blood of her lover. Dragon's power was suppressed and incorporated into the new world order in which man is merely a slave and servant to the gods of Light. This myth is reflected in human biological pattern and the reptilian origin of human brain stem. But the Draconian force cannot be tamed. We are the Dragon's Flesh and Blood, and awareness of this legacy unlocks gateways within our minds through which we can claim the primal potential and liberate the soul.

It is important to note, however, that the term "Dragon" does not refer here to any specific deity. It denotes the infinite, timeless cosmic current of primal energy that infuses the earth and human consciousness and may be tapped and used as evolutionary vehicle by those who seek to awaken and embrace this power. Draconian gods and spirits are manifestations of this force but none of them is the sole or complete representation of Dragon's Essence. The Dragon should not be perceived as a "god," a "spirit," or an abstract outer force, even though many entities embody Dragon's Essence and act as intermediaries that help us tap and understand this infinite current. Draconian power in itself is undefined and intangible, it is the raw primal energy contained in the Womb of the Universe that gave birth to all worlds and all life. There are, however, certain godforms or archetypes through which we can work with the Draconian Current. Apep in Egypt, Tiamat in Babylon, Leviathan from the Hebrew legends, or the Serpent in the Bible - these are only a few examples of serpent/dragon deities employed in Draconian magic.

The Womb of the Universe

The serpent Ouroboros represents the principle that all is one and one is all: the end is the beginning and the beginning is the end. When one cycle ends, another begins. Draconian Current is continuous movement and strife, eternal play of cosmic patterns and particles. They battle and devour one another. They copulate and produce new offspring. This is the stream of force in movement, balance through strife, equilibrium of opposites. Draconian magic is as much about fury, death and destruction as it is about love, eroticism and creation. It is ever-moving energy, raw and pure force of primal cosmic consciousness, the vital principle behind the eternal cosmic cycle of birth-death-rebirth.

The Chaos Goddess Tiamat is the Dragon of Primordial Abyss. She is the mother to all gods and the essence from which the world was formed when she was slain by Marduk in the battle for new cosmic order. Her flesh and bones constitute the structures of the world, the blood of her demonic offspring flows in the veins of all living creatures, and her consciousness dwells at the root of human mind as the Inner Dragon, the spark of divine potential. The Primordial Chaos is the womb of the Dragon Goddess. She is the one who gives birth to all things and devours them in the eternal cosmic cycle. She is the Whore who seduces the wanderer on the Path among the stars and enflames the divine spark that burns

and pulsates in our blood. She is the Mother to those who dare to rise on her flaming wings and tear the world apart with her fiery breath. And she is also the Destroyer of the weak, the false, the hypocrite and those who choose stagnation and ignorance over Lust and Fury.

The Womb of the Primal Dragon Goddess is the Source, the Abyss, the Void, the beginning of the whole Universe. Her force is the spark of life Within and Without. She rises in the Initiate as the Kundalini Serpent, lifting the soul to the Gate of Chaos where consciousness is shattered, decomposed, and stripped from mundane conditioning. But She also manifests in nature's phenomena on the earth. There are many theories and speculations about the patterns of Dragon energy constituting the earth's magnetic field. They are called "dragon lines" or "ley lines" and are often believed to be mystical veins connecting power spots on the earth, ancient vortices of cosmic energy, "the chakras of the earth." The Chinese art of Feng Shui is based on this mystical magnetic correlations between energy patterns in Man and in the Universe. In Chinese lore dragons have always been of great importance, both as the emblem of the emperors and as the symbol of untamed, life giving and destructive powers of nature. Mythological dragons represent the thunderstorm, the fire in the volcanoes, the ferocity of hurricanes and tornadoes, the destructive force of floods, the sudden terror of lightning, powerful and ominous weather phenomena that have never been tamed by man. This ferocity and fire is also the essence of Draconian magic and manifests when the Kundalini Serpent uncoils and rises to spread Her wings and to become the Dragon, the supreme ruler of the Universe.

Draconian magic is liberating and illuminating but it is also a part of the Left Hand Path which is in its essence dark, antinomian and destructive. Legendary dragons are fearful beasts lurking beyond the world known to man, representing chaos and darkness existing outside the structured Universe. They dwell on the fringes of civilization, guarding the gateways to the Unknown, to the unfathomed depths of cosmic space where worlds and dimensions are filled with terrors and abominations. This is the boundary between life and death itself. Draconian magic opens us to all these horrors that are hidden in the Dark and unseen to the eyes of the ignorant. By stepping onto the Path of the Dragon we enter this Primal Darkness. There we have to look with Dragon's Eyes and light up the Path with Dragon's Fire. It is a dangerous, unpredictable quest that can only be pursued by those with a brave and passionate heart.

Draconian gods, initiators on the Left Hand Path, were born from the Essence of the Primal Womb and have the power to open the gateways of the soul for the Gnosis of the Dragon. They reflect primordial ferocity of the Chaos Goddess and are by no means benevolent deities who might help you solve your everyday problems. They will, however, ignite the spark of divinity in your soul and guide you on the way to self-knowledge and power Within. Their gift is Vision, Force and Inspiration, but do not try to call them if you find yourself too weak to deal with a situation. Draconian gods do not want you to worship them, depend on them or pray to them if you find yourself in a tight spot. They will show you the way to ecstasy of power but will never grant it to you for free. You can work with them through pacts, works of love and dedication, self-sacrifice, methods and techniques that will allow you to enflame yourself in their divine essence and raise their power Within. But their main lesson to you is that you already possess the potential to be Divine, that there is no other god apart from yourself and it is your Will that shapes the world and bends the reality. And if you do not dare to seek this power, you should not ask them to do it for you because they will not answer your call. At best they will ignore you, at worst your weakness will insult them. Of course, there is also possibility that they will help you out, but not in the way you would want it - or you will have to pay a price much higher than any effort you would have to put into resolving the situation yourself. The gods of the Left Hand Path do not want to be substitutes for monotheistic deities in your personal religious system. They

encourage you to accept and affirm your own Godhood as a unique and isolate being, not to reject it by associating your consciousness to patron deities and losing your individuality. They want you to be independent and self-reliant, to discover the power Within not Without. In other words, they help those who can help themselves.

Inner Fire

Draconian Path embraces both dragon and serpent symbolism. In the Garden of Eden it is the Serpent who reveals to the first humans the path of self-liberation and self-knowledge by tempting them to eat the fruit from the forbidden Tree of Knowledge. This is the beginning of the initiatory process of spiritual Self-Deification.

The Serpent around the Tree of Life is the fire snake Kundalini who uncoils and rises from her lair at the base of the spine and awakens Divinity in human consciousness. While the Outer Dragon is the evolutionary force within Nature, the Inner Dragon is the transgressive force within our body and mind. It is the Tantric concept of spiritual evolutionary potential existing in each human being. Activated by specific techniques of meditation, Kundalini rises through energy channels, activates the chakras, and ascends to the third eye which opens to see through the veil of illusion that covers the true essence of the world. Here, in the state of heightened consciousness, the Serpent spreads its wings and becomes the Dragon that ascends to the brain, activating its latent spiritual powers, and lifts the mind to rise above the material world and travel through hidden dimensions. Chakras are inner energy vortices which activated by the Kundalini force, stimulate and expand psychic faculties. The spiraling energy of Ida and Pingala entwined, two aspects of the Kundalini Serpent (Ida is lunar and flows through the left channel, Pingala is solar and flows on the right side), is associated with the DNA patterns in human organism. The Serpent Energy is the life force that activates each cell through the cleansing and transforming process of evolutionary transmutation. This is reflected in the Caduceus, the symbol of transformative powers of the Draconian Divine Essence, consisting of two ascending Serpents entwined around the axis of the world, cosmic channel of spiritual ascent.

As the part of the Left Hand Path, Draconian Tradition works to overcome weaknesses and transcend limitations. It rejects self-denial, servitude, conformity, stagnation, and all other attitudes that lead to the death of the Spirit. It embraces the ecstatic and the forbidden. It advocates freedom, individuality, desire, change and transformation, inspiration and imagination, fury and passion, ambition and ferocity, active joy of life on all levels of existence. The Dragon pushes you to descend to the darkest depths of the Abyss and to rise and reach for the stars. You will see that the Universe is immense and limitless. You will learn that you are a unique being in the heart of the world and if you accept the Path as the goal in itself, you will flow with the Current in the beautiful quest for Becoming.

One of the most famous dragon legends in literature derives from the Norse *Volsunga saga*. It is the tale of magical initiation that occurs through drinking Dragon's Blood and eating Dragon's Flesh. The hero, Sigurd, is sent on a quest to kill the dragon Fafnir and to take the treasure from his lair. While slaying the beast, Sigurd is bathed in Fafnir's blood that flows from the fatal wound, and when the dragon is dead, he cooks his heart and eats it, gaining knowledge of the speech of birds. This is symbolic of acquiring Dragon's wisdom and powers. By tasting the Flesh and the Blood of the Dragon, the Initiate becomes the Dragon and speaks the tongues of the beasts.

The Path of the Dragon does not merely rest on old traditions, methods or achievements of those who had tread this way before. For those who prefer conformity and

narrowness of vision, Draconian Path may seem too frightening, too unpredictable, too overwhelming. If you are afraid of leaving the Light and stepping forward into the Dark to explore the Unknown, this Path is not for you. You need vision and passion to walk this Way, an ever-burning desire for knowledge, an insatiable hunger for power, a love of challenge. And the lust for new experience will only grow with each step taken.

Draconian Magic

Dragons are guardians of wisdom and treasures. The pearl or the jewel in Dragon's jaws is symbolic of wisdom and knowledge that is obtained through Draconian initiatory process. The mystical gold and treasures represent the Spirit and mysteries of magical initiation. In Alchemy, philosopher's gold is the symbol of the highest spiritual principles, and the goal of the alchemists was to transform base metals into gold by the art of transmutation. Alchemical gold was the elixir of life that could bestow immortality and divine powers on those who discovered and mastered this secret formula. By employing Draconian symbolism and imagery in our Work, we seek to tap the primal archetypes that are hidden from our conscious mind. By working with the Dragon we bring the unconscious into the light of consciousness.

Draconian magic embraces both the carnal and the spiritual. It includes as many techniques to master the body as to control the mind. It is about exploring your bodily limits and skills, expanding your senses and using your sexual powers as a means to release the Spirit. The Kundalini energy is spiritual in its subtle form but when it rises and explodes in orgasmic ecstasy, it also awakens and activates each cell in human organism and expands our bodily awareness. This union of flesh and spirit is a powerful vehicle of Draconian magic. With enhancing our bodily senses, also spiritual awareness becomes more open for messages and communications from the subconscious inner mind. For this reason Draconian magic demands systematic training of posture, relaxation, breathing, motion, and stillness. Turn your attention to how your body awakens and slips into slumber because this helps to prepare it for meditative practice and effective magical work on lower and higher levels. Exercise your breath and be aware of your breathing patterns - this does not only make you healthier by improving the energy flow in your body but also shifts consciousness to altered, magical states. Practice trance techniques that involve stillness as well as those that are triggered by movement - walking, dancing, swaying, and whirling. Test your bodily limits and transcend them by employing chosen empowering techniques in your daily practice. Liberate your soul by breaking your personal taboos and transgressing inhibitions. Release your lust and passions, and use the energy of sex and orgasm to activate energy vortices within your soul and to open gateways to the Void where the Dragon dwells coiled, encircling the Universe with timeless and infinite Essence. Explore the mystical power contained in blood, the ancient heritage of Primal Draconian Gods, and spill it to bring their force back into the world where you will rise reborn as Initiate enflamed in their eternal Fire.

Draconian magic, however, is also the art of "seeing" through barriers that separate worlds and dimensions. For this reason it includes techniques for developing clairvoyant faculties, dream control, astral travelling, and others. Train your astral senses in the practice of telepathy, precognition, remote viewing and psychic communication. Explore the irrational and the power of your imagination. Study your dreams and fantasies - they are parts of your psychic faculties and can be used as a powerful magical tool. Use skrying techniques and magical mirrors to gaze into worlds Beyond. Like the Kundalini Serpent who rises from the base, release your Spirit, spread your wings and rise up to the stars.

In Dragon's Coils

The journey of reuniting with the Dragon's Essence is often terrifying and disorienting. It breaks taboos and brings out traits and instincts that we do not even suspect to have, dark and unconscious parts of the psyche that we would rather not awaken. The quest for Dragon's Treasure is the rediscovery of these lost parts of the soul, the quest for self-knowledge that awakens Power and Divinity Within. This is a dynamic and painful process of stripping away all that we have learned about the world and about ourselves, seeing through the veil of social conditioning, upbringing and education systems. The word "dragon" is derived from the Greek word "derkein" which means "to see," and the mystery of Draconian Initiation is the principle of clear seeing. This is also the mystery revealed by the Serpent in the Garden of Eden: "Your eyes shall be opened and you shall become as gods." To gaze into the Limitless and to see beyond illusions is to become Divine.

In order to accomplish this Work you have to strip down and bare your senses. Do not be deceived by what you can see with your mundane perception. The Dragon teaches you to look through Her eyes and to see the world as it is, unbound by the fetters of mundane consciousness. You have to create yourself in every new moment, destroy the time and realize that continuity is an illusion. Every discrete moment brings new possibilities of manifestation and can be used to destroy the universe and recreate it. This is the mystery of Ouroboros, the serpent that devours oneself and creates oneself a new in an eternal cycle of Becoming. Once you gain this knowledge and understanding, you will be able to choose what to empower and what to leave behind. But before this happens, his process is always painful and may tear your world apart. Relationships, views, habits, beliefs, and other attachments to the world may crumble to dust if this is needed to walk the Path further. This is inevitable and is a natural part of every initiatory process. Many wannabe magicians work with the forces of the Left Hand Path without the initial understanding of their basic nature. If you let the forces of Chaos and Dissolution into your life, do not run away when they start to reap their fruit. If you find yourself depressed, tired, sick, or frightened, and the whole world around you is falling apart, do not turn your back on the Path and do not quit magic because *this is* the very sign of initiatory forces being at work. Dragon's Fire is consuming and transforming. It burns what needs to be removed, making place for the new. This is not a time for self-denial or giving yourself to weakness and inertia. It is the time to embrace the transformation and rise from the Darkness of the Void to the Light of spiritual rebirth. This is painful and often traumatic but the key to understand this process is to realize that it is *you* being changed, not the world around you. Your consciousness is transformed and lifted onto a higher level, which inevitably affects your views, goals, attachments, and your whole life. Spiritual Initiation changes you on so many levels that it often seems no longer possible to enjoy the world the way you did before. What was important to you in the past now seems petty and meaningless. This may feel depressing and discouraging. But with this inner change new possibilities open as well, and instead of grieving for what was lost, you should embrace what they might bring.

Draconian Path is about living here and now. Time and its manifestations are but an illusion. Time is not linear but cyclic and what seems to be past or future is an illusory moment which can be summoned at any time or destroyed and burned with the Dragon's Fire. Draconian philosophy rests on belief that anything is possible and the whole Universe is composed of energy patterns overlapping and creating the illusion of matter and continuity. The Path of the Dragon never rests on what has been achieved. It is driven by everlasting dynamism, transformation, never-ending cycle of Becoming. There is always something more to experience, something new to learn, and this experience is never the

same. You cannot just sit and wait until you are mysteriously granted a magical formula that will make you a great magician overnight. You have to live the Path, flow with the Current. This means doing your Work daily, systematically, step by step perfecting your techniques and continuously developing new ones. Once in a while is certainly not enough.

Draconian Path is also the way of Love and Desire. It is the Divine Lust that makes the whole Universe join in union of opposites. Through the love of man and woman a new life is born. Through the love of the Path the magician can be reborn as a his own creation. Love and Lust are potent sources of power. For this reason the Draconian Path inspires you to explore it through Love and Desire, sex magic and spiritual erotic adventure with entities and initiators of the Nightside. But then again, this idea is often misunderstood and used as an excuse for casual sex in a ritual setting. There are many lofty philosophies glorifying sex as means of spiritual progress which merely serve to justify human tendency to remain slaves to physical urges, tendency that often leads to confining relationships and possessive attitudes. It is often forgotten that the greatest quest of the Left Hand Path is to seek the power and completeness within ourselves, not in other people. We are unique and solitary wanderers on the Path of the Dragon. We seek forces that empower and awaken in us that which we need for completion of the Work but never chain or confine us in any way. Draconian Path is a beautiful quest towards individual Godhood and it should never be constrained by attachments that bind you to the mundane world and stand in the way of your spiritual journey. All that is needed to work with the Draconian tradition is the Will, Force, Vision, and a lot of self-discipline to put this into practice. Draconian Initiate is a wanderer aligned with the eternal cosmic Current, ascending to the heights and descending to the depths of the Universe in the mystical process of Becoming - and this process is always personal and unique. Love and Desire should inspire, liberate, and challenge you to rise above mundane restrictions. To flow with the Dragon, means to burn obstacles which bind your progress towards individual Godhood.

We are already in possession of everything we need on the Path to Self-Deification. Draconian magic is the quest for rediscovery and mastery of these inner powers. As Draconian Initiates we are an integral part of this timeless cosmic force and we possess the same powers and faculties as the Primal Dragon - well, at least in their potential. We are the Sons and Daughters of the Dragon, the Dragon's Flesh and Blood. Draconian Path does not grant you these powers, they are already in you and the true quest of the Path is to rediscover and embrace them as your primal heritage. For this reason you do not need to seek help from the outside, and if you think otherwise, then you most probably do not deserve it. The Left Hand Path is not for weak-minded, quitters, disbelievers, or those who lack persistence and determination.

Draconian Path is about obtaining inspiration and pursuing the Vision by whatever means it might take and whatever force you must put into this quest. Vision, Force and Action are the key concepts in Draconian magic. Once you receive inspiration, do not be afraid to seize it, regardless how much effort or material means it involves. These are moments when you will have to turn back to the world and fly on the wings of the Dragon, ride on Dragon's breath and see through Dragon's Eyes - to follow the stream of force and to flow with the Current. Do not hesitate to pursue such quests - they always brings new revelations and influence our magical Work in many beautiful and dynamic ways. If you have a heart full of Passion and Desire, the veil of Mystery will be lifted and the world will reveal its hidden secrets to you.

For this reason, do not deny the life as it is here and now. Each step on the Path is the step into the Unknown which may tear your world apart. Do not live for the abstract future or the abstract goal. The Path is the goal in itself and it should bring you joy and adventure, not sorrow and fear of what may come. Keep your mind and senses open, and finally your

eyes will be opened too and the Serpent's Promise will be fulfilled. Use the Dragon's Fire to burn that which confines your progress on the Path, use the Serpent's Venom to poison your illusions of the world, awaken the Dragon's Essence in your flesh and blood and claim your primal potential. You have to slay the Dragon, drink the blood of the Dragon and become the Dragon yourself, as it is portrayed in the story of Sigurd and Fafnir. Invoke the Draconian gods and spirits, see the world through their eyes, absorb their essence and make it your own.

Open yourself to all experience, come out and embrace it. This is the way to gain power and to learn how to shape your life. Draconian Path makes a lot of things possible but they will not be delivered to you on a plate. Leviathan arrives with lightning and thunder, ripping the sky asunder. This is symbolic of Draconian illumination that strikes as lightning, shattering consciousness and transforming it with the flames from Dragon's jaws. Once you step on the Path and start flowing with the Current, Dragon's Fire will gradually burn any obstacle that stands in your way in the pursuit of your Godhood. Just as the Serpent sheds its skin and renews itself in cycles, this transformation occurs with every major initiation on the Path. This requires understanding of the pattern underlying Draconian initiatory process. Transformation occurs within you but manifests in events of your mundane existence and the happenings around you, pushing you to rearrange your life in order to suit the destiny that is opening before you. To recognize and to understand this process is a test which we have to pass in order to be reborn as Draconian Initiates. This task is by no means easy. It is very hard to discern and observe the initiatory process when the world around you is falling apart and you are desperately striving to put it into balance. It is not easy to walk in the Dark when you cannot see the Light. This process is often painful and terrifying because it demands sacrifice, change, stepping into the Unknown. But you need to realize that is a manifestation of your Will and whatever you have to leave behind is worth it because the Path will offer you much more in return. New doors will open up for you and the old world will burn in the Dragon's Fire. For this reason Draconian Path is associated with these qualities that are most often feared and that constitute the dreadful reputation of the Left Hand Path. It is a dynamic and direct way to Self-Deification but it also includes extreme danger and risk of depression, psychic disorders, insanity and the loss of life. Once you start walking the Path, you need to live according to the Path, even if it means that you will have to rearrange your whole life for this purpose. Do not invoke the Dragon if you are not willing to be changed by Dragon's Essence.