

Ritual of the Demon-King Belial

The ritual was a part of the Open Project in October 2015

The following workings can be performed separately or as one ritual. Each part of the ritual contains different elements, attuning the practitioner's consciousness to the Nightside current flowing through the Gate of Belial, one of the entrance points to the Abyss. The first meditation opens the gateways for the energies of Belial to enter your personal temple. The second working invokes His essence into your consciousness, making further work with His current possible and adjusting your senses to the energies of the Nightside. The following meditations are designed to successively guide you into His mysteries through awakening and embracing your personal Darkness and Light. The purpose of the whole ritual is to introduce the practitioner to the gnosis of Belial as the Guardian of the Gate through the work with the Body of Light and the Body of Shadow, representing the Dayside and the Nightside consciousness on the path of the Qliphoth.

Prepare your ritual space/room/temple in the way you feel it is suitable for this work. On your altar place the tools that will be used in the workings, but you may also put statues, images and/or sigils that represent Belial. In this ritual you should use the sigil provided here, and you may choose to focus on this particular sigil alone, but you can also have other sigils as decoration - e.g. the Goetic seal of Belial. You may use your personal seals or drawings, as well. The colors associated with Belial as the Guardian of the Gate are white and black, and the black seal on a white background will work best for this purpose, although you may also use colors associated with the Draconian Current in general, i.e. red and black. You will also need at least two candles for the workings. It is recommended to use one white candle and one black - representing the Tower of the Dayside and the Tower of the Nightside, as well as the double aspect of Belial explored in these workings. Place them on both sides of the sigil, black on the left, white on the right. Then begin the ritual.

Opening the Gate to the Qliphothic Current of Belial

Stand or sit in a comfortable position and put the sigil of Belial in front of you. Light both candles and anoint the sigil with your blood and focus all your attention on it. See how the lines become charged and activated with your life substance. Envision the sigil glowing and flashing with the fiery red energy of the Draconian current, sparks of flame flickering all around. At the same time chant the following calling as a mantra:

"Belial, King of the Spirits of Darkness, open for me the Gate to the Nightside!"

Keep gazing at the sigil until you can easily memorize and visualize its shape. When you feel that the atmosphere in the room is charged and the energies of the current are flowing through the Gate, close your eyes and visualize the sigil in your inner mind. At this point you can keep chanting the mantra or continue the practice in silence. See the image forming in front of you, in black space, the seven pointed star shining and burning fiercely. Then imagine it changing, shifting into other shapes, unlocking the gateways of your mind, opening the doors to the Nightside, and showing you objects, entities, landscapes, or perhaps even the demon-king Belial Himself. Let the vision flow freely and open yourself for whatever may come. Send the message through the sigil and ask Belial for His presence and guidance on the journey through the Gate of the Nightside, invite Him to your ritual space, your body, your mind, and your soul. When you feel it is time to end the meditation, return to your mundane consciousness, blow out the candles and finish the working or proceed to the next part.



Sigil of Belial

Invocation of Belial

Stand or sit in a comfortable position. If you perform the working on a different day than the previous practice, focus on the sigil again and gaze at it for a while. Like on the previous day, envision it burning and coming alive. Feel your body being charged with the energy flowing through the sigil, vibrating and filling you with the fiery essence of the Draconian current. At the same time, feel how the atmosphere in your ritual space thickens. Visualize the Gate of Belial in the form of the seven pointed star in front of you and see it burning with the fire of the Dragon that powers up the Ascent on the path of the Qliphoth. When you feel ready to perform the ritual, begin the invocation:

**"In the name of the Dragon,
Primal Source of All Creation,
I Invoke Belial, the Demon-King of the Nightside,
To come to my temple and manifest!**

Spit three times onto the temple floor.

**Worthless one!
Shallowest and hollowest of all, I stir you to attention!
Come forth into this sacred space, revealing yourself in my temple!
I call to thee, neglected one, forsaken and abandoned Prince of Hell.
Master heretic, I call you to me!
With your sons, may you find sanctuary here as we commune.
Master of the pit, bring forth your legion, bring forth your spawn, and bring forth your wisdom,
for I yearn for you, I yearn for you.
Share with me the knowledge of the Void so I may know the nature of things shrouded in entropy.
I open to you, I open for you, and I embrace your hallowed mind.
Grace me with your guidance.
Empower me with the black energy of the black sun!**

**Ho Ophis Ho Archaios,
Ho Drakon Ho Megas!"**

When you finish the words of invocation, sit or lie down, and open yourself for the energies flowing into your ritual space. Observe the temple and sense phenomena manifesting in it when Belial comes through the Gate of the Nightside, or close your eyes and let Him manifest and speak to you through your inner mind. Let the experience flow freely and spontaneously. Do not force any visions - open yourself for whatever may come. If you do not experience any tangible manifestation or concrete visions, simply write down all thoughts, emotions, or reflections that you may have during or after the working and meditate on them for a while, as these may be messages from the demon-king. Close the working for the day or proceed to the next part.

Entering the Twilight Path

Again, begin the working by gazing into the sigil, visualizing that it becomes a gateway to the current of Belial. See it grow in front of you, forming into the burning seven pointed star. At the same time, chant the words of calling:

**"Lord Belial, King of Demons, meet me at the Gate and reveal to me the secrets of the Unseen.
Guide me on the Twilight Path, through the Place of Crossing, at the threshold of the Dayside and
the Nightside!"**

As you keep chanting, feel how the atmosphere in your ritual space becomes charged with the energies flowing through the star. These energies are dark and envelop around you, forming thick black mist that engulfs everything except for the Gate. Visualize that the seven pointed star is growing and burning with the fierce red flames of the Draconian current. Inside the star is living darkness, breathing and vibrating to the rhythm of your own breath. Build this image in your mind, then close your eyes and envision the same Gate in your inner mind. It is huge and surrounded by primal darkness that gathers around it in thick clouds. The center of the star is alternately opening and closing, like a gaping mouth, revealing a path that is neither light nor dark, leading inside the Gate onto the Other Side. On the left of the Gate stands the demon-king Belial in the form of a skeletal lord in a black hooded robe. On the right you can see Him in a similar form, but dressed in ghastly white garments. Both figures are holding swords in their hands. The white and the black color of the Guardian signifies the journey into the Underworld and the resurrection of the soul in the Initiate's

process of inward transformation, the cycle of descent and return. Greet Him and ask Him to guide you through the Gate onto the Twilight Path that leads between Day and Night, Life and Death, Light and Darkness. This path is neither light nor dark, yet it is at the same time both - the place of crossing and transition from one to the other and back again. Communicate with this powerful demon-king of the Nightside. Enter through the Gate and let Him guide you through the vision. When it is over, return to your mundane consciousness and close the working.

Exploring the Gate of the Dayside

Proceed as before, this time chanting the following words of calling:

“Lord Belial, Guardian of the Gate, lead me to your tower of knowledge and wisdom, through the Place of Crossing, into the underworld of my soul!”

Keep chanting until you sense that the atmosphere in your temple has changed and you feel ready to continue the working. At this point close your eyes and begin the visualization where you finished the day before - envision the seven pointed star, meet the demon-king Belial at the threshold of the Other Side, and enter through the Gate. This time, however, continue the meditation by visualizing the following scene - envision yourself in a desert landscape, silent and limitless. It is empty and the only thing you can see is a huge crack in the whole picture before you, as if it was painted on paper in which someone tore a hole. Inside of it you can see a high ivory tower, and you notice that you are standing on a narrow path that leads straight to the building. The path is marked with bones, and as you walk, you can see scorpions accompanying you on the journey, and from the distance you can hear the hissing of serpents. At the end of the path there is a spiral staircase leading up, to the top of the tower. As you reach the top of the stairs, you notice a figure dressed in a white hooded robe waiting for you. This is your Body of Light, representing your Dayside consciousness - all that is known, familiar, safe, etc., all that fills you with the sense of power and confidence. In some occult traditions it is also considered to be the Higher Self, while the Body of Shadow is the Lower Self. You can envision it made of pure light, shining like a diamond, but not the light in the mundane sense, but the golden Luciferian brilliance. Or you can simply visualize your magical “other” as yourself, surrounded by a bright aura, your eyes shining with beautiful golden light. It can be the exact image of yourself, the bright aspect of your magical double, or a being of a different age, form, or even opposite sex. There are many possibilities here and all depends on your imagination. You can communicate with it and have a conversation, but eventually you should imagine that you and your Body of Light merge into one. Again, you can do it in many ways - as the Body of Light is initially visualized as a separate being, you can embrace it, absorb its essence through the breath, or even make love to it - feel free to imagine this communion as you wish. Do not close the working in the traditional sense then. Let yourself remain in this state of heightened awareness, under the direct influence of this Luciferian light for a while, preferably until the next day’s working. Observe how it affects your perception of the surrounding world, your interactions with people and other living beings, your dreams, thoughts, and emotions. Explore this consciousness and write down your observations.

Exploring the Gate of the Nightside

Follow the same steps as in the previous meditation and chant the same words of calling:

“Lord Belial, Guardian of the Gate, lead me to your tower of knowledge and wisdom, through the Place of Crossing, into the underworld of my soul!”

Like before, keep chanting until you sense that the atmosphere in your ritual space is charged with the fiery energies of the current. Then close your eyes and return to the Gate of Belial. Again, visualize the seven pointed star, Belial standing at the Gate in His double aspect, enter the desert, and envision the

same landscape, but this time with a black tower instead of white. Walk the path towards the tower until you reach another spiral staircase, this one, however, leading down, to the roots of the building. There you will meet a figure in a black hooded robe. This is your Body of Shadow. It embraces all that lies beyond the Dayside consciousness - all that is feared, rejected, disgusting, repressed, dangerous, disturbing, etc. - all that makes you uneasy, uncomfortable, threatened. It is the demonic, or Qliphothic, counterpart of the Body of Light, corresponding to the concept of the Shadow in Jungian psychology. Again, you can visualize it in many ways. It can be an exact representation of yourself, only made of dark substance. It can be a monstrous entity, reflecting the demonic or bestial aspect of your subconscious Self. It can also be a dark being of opposite sex, or simply your own shadow. Feel free to imagine it as you wish. While the Body of Light is connected with your waking consciousness, the Body of Shadow usually manifest through dreams, speaking to you in symbols, images, metaphors, and allegories. Its messages are seldom clear on the surface, but the meaning they convey is hidden and has to be deciphered through your instincts and intuition. Again, you can try to communicate with it at first, and then imagine that you and your Body of Shadow merge into one. Use the same visualization as on the previous day, or imagine a different manner of communion. Also like before, do not close the working, but remain under the influence of your Shadow for a while, preferably until the next day. Explore this consciousness and observe how it affects your perception of the surrounding world, your interactions with people and other living beings, your dreams, thoughts, emotions, and so on. Write down your observations.

Earthing the Current of the Seven Pointed Star

This meditation is a continuation of the two previous workings, but instead of travelling through the Gate and exploring the Dayside and the Nightside aspects of the Self separately, you will bring this work to your temple and combine them into one consciousness. Confronting these "opposite" parts of your being and integrating them allows for a better understanding of your magical Self and prevents psychic ruptures that otherwise may manifest as various psychological disorders, which is not uncommon among magicians working with the Qliphoth. On the one hand, there is a tendency in occult communities to avoid the forces of the Qliphoth, regarding them as redundant in the initiatory process. On the other hand, many magicians working with the Left Hand Path shun the Dayside part of consciousness and focus on the "dark" and "sinister" aspects only. By assuming the god-form of Belial we are reminded that both sides are integral to our psycho-spiritual development and both need to be confronted, absorbed and united, otherwise we will be lost in chaos and dispersion of the Abyss. We work with them separately for the sake of purification and deeper understanding of their nature and force, and by combining them into one we create a powerful magical Self that will prevail among the disintegrating forces of the Qliphoth. This ritual is obviously not enough to create such a powerful Self, but it may be one significant step in this process.

Begin this meditation as you did in the previous workings and focus all your attention on the sigil. At first envision it burning with the fierce flames of the Draconian current, then visualize the Gate in the shape of the seven pointed star, rising and opening before you. At the same time chant the words of calling:

"Lord Belial, open the Gate and enter my temple, my body and my soul. Come from the Place of Crossing and let me become the Tower of Wisdom and Knowledge myself, the living vessel of your timeless essence!"

Again, keep chanting until you sense that the atmosphere in your ritual space has changed. Build the image of the Gate in your mind and close your eyes. Then imagine that the seven pointed star grows and absorbs everything - the room, the house, the entire world. Instead of travelling through the Gate, your whole temple, your body and your soul is now the Gate and the portal to the current of Belial. On your left side visualize the black figure of the demon-king forming into your Body of Shadow - envision it like you did in the previous meditation. On your right side visualize His white aspect taking the shape of your Body of Light. They represent the ivory and the black towers at the threshold of the Abyss. Imagine yourself in the middle of these two, forming the third tower. Project your

consciousness into each of them, recalling how it feels to be pure Light and pure Darkness. At the same time, you are in the center of the ritual, receiving and integrating both. Embrace them and feel how they merge with you. Again, it is up to you how you envision it, or you may simply let the vision flow spontaneously in a natural way. Whatever you choose, it is no longer the exalted trance of the ivory tower or the disturbing feeling of the black one - it is now the sense of being complete, integrated, whole - the feeling of power and confidence, but at the same time a slight uneasiness and anticipation of what is yet to come. At this point you will also realize that there are no two separate towers, but there is only one, and it is *yourself* - the central point and the axis of your spiritual journey. Enjoy this feeling and open yourself to any visions, thoughts, or emotions that may flow through your mind at this moment. Look back at your visions and experiences from the previous workings and meditate on what they mean to you, how they affect your path, and how they empower your personal relationship with the demon-king. The last is especially important if this is your first meeting with Him. Let it be a time of reflections and perhaps new inspirations on your spiritual journey on the Path of the Dragon. When you feel ready to end the meditation, blow out the candles and close the working.

Notes

Most of the knowledge about Belial is derived from *The Lesser Key of Solomon*, where he is mentioned among the 72 spirits that constitute the ritual system of *Goetia*. The Goetic legend of King Solomon mentions a story of how the monarch imprisoned all these evil spirits in a brazen vessel, which he cast into a deep lake in Babylon. Believing that the vessel contained a hidden treasure, the Babylonians retrieved it and broke the seal by which the demons were bound. When the seal was broken, all spirits immediately flew out and dispersed to their former dwellings, except for Belial, who entered a statue and became an oracle to his worshippers, thus acting as an intermediary between the spirits and sorcerers seeking the power of *Goetia*. Described in this famous grimoire, Belial is a powerful demon-king, created next after Lucifer. He appears in the form of two beautiful angels sitting in a chariot of fire. He distributes presentations and senatorships and grants favors of both friends and enemies. He is also one of the four ruling forces of all Goetic spirits, often associated with the element of earth in ceremonial systems, and sometimes even bearing the title "The Lord of the Earth." The latter owes much to Anton LaVey's *The Satanic Bible*, where Belial represents the mastery of the earth and "magic with both feet on the ground - real, hard-core, magical procedure" that is expressed through independence, self-sufficiency and personal accomplishment. Belial's origins, however, are much older, and he is already mentioned in such sources as the *Dead Sea Scrolls* and the Bible, where he is the Adversary, the Angel of Darkness, and the force of transgression opposing God.

In Draconian magic Belial is one of the primal initiators on the path of the Qliphoth. He assists in preparation of consciousness for the opening of the Gate of Daath on the Qabalistic Tree and protects the Initiate from being devoured and destroyed by the immensity of the Abyss. He often manifests with a reptilian skin, representing the mystical armor that protects the Initiate on the paths of the Nightside, and appears surrounded by serpents, which also confirms that he is one of primal Draconian deities. Like many other Draconian gods, he is a shape-shifter and manifests in many different forms. He may appear as two angels with swords guarding the Gate, a spirit with two heads or faces, a hooded lord, or a skeletal being. He is also identified with Baal, the god of war, and in this form he is an excellent teacher of ancient warfare, especially in the domain of destruction. In this ritual you will work with his double aspect, manifesting as a two-formed lord of death, representing two portals to the Abyss - the Gate of the Dayside and the Gate of the Nightside. These gates are often seen by travelers through the Qliphoth as two towers standing sentinel on the light and the dark side of the Qabalistic Tree, at the threshold of the hidden Sephira/Qlipha Daath/The Abyss, the place of crossing, where the worlds of the Dayside and the Nightside meet and intersect. The duality of light and dark, day and night, life and death, are a recurring motif in the gnosis of Belial and the foundation of his current.

Daath, which is traditionally translated as "Knowledge," is a pseudo (or false) Sephira on the Qabalistic Tree of Life. Its Qliphothic counterpart is sometimes believed to be the Abyss itself, but there are also views in which the Qliphoth of Daath is called "Belial," meaning "The Worthless One," which is also the etymological explanation of the name of the Qliphothic demon-king. In order to enter the Abyss we have to leave our world behind, and its affairs and things material must no longer have any value to us - hence, the title "Worthless." It should not be understood in the mundane sense, as it is, like the other concepts of the Qabalistic Tree, a spiritual term related to

the initiatory path. On the Tree of Life Daath is believed to be the hidden entrance and exit point for the influence of the highest triad (Kether-Chokmah-Binah), as well as the gate to the dark side of the Tree - the Qliphoth. In the Draconian Tradition the Abyss is the zone of transition from the phenomenal world of appearance to its noumenal source, i.e. non-manifestation. Among the guardians of the Gate and dwellers of the Abyss, occult literature mentions Choronzon and Shugal, while Belial's role is hardly ever mentioned or explored. In fact, He is one of the primary initiators into the mysteries of the Abyss, which is confirmed by the Goetic legend, according to which he is the gateway and the oracle that allows for communication with all spirits of the Nightside. Gershom Scholem describes Him, under the name Bilar (or Beliar), as the king of all demons. Also, the meaning of *Goetia* is "howling," which suggests that such grimoires were records of man's attempt to rend the veil of the Abyss and explore the dark side of the Tree. For more information on the subject, we recommend reading Kenneth Grant's *Nightside of Eden*.

One of the symbols that can be associated with Daath/The Abyss is the seven pointed star. The symbol itself has a wide meaning and offers many interpretations. In the Qliphothic Qabalah it typifies the seven Qliphoth that lead to the Abyss, represented by the seven heads of the Dragon in the Draconian Tradition, or the seven steps in the initiatory process on the path of the Nightside. It is also a part of the sigil designed for this working, where it represents the Gate of Belial and the gnosis of the Abyss accessed through this entrance point, symbolized by the Flame of Ascension. The two skulls in the sigil typify the double aspect of Belial, representing his role as the Guardian of both the Nightside and the Dayside. Finally, the trident, the ancient emblem of authority, shows that we are dealing here with a powerful demon-king. The whole sigil constitutes the gateway to Belial's Qliphothic current as it is viewed in the philosophy and praxis within the Temple of Ascending Flame.