



# Mark H. Williams

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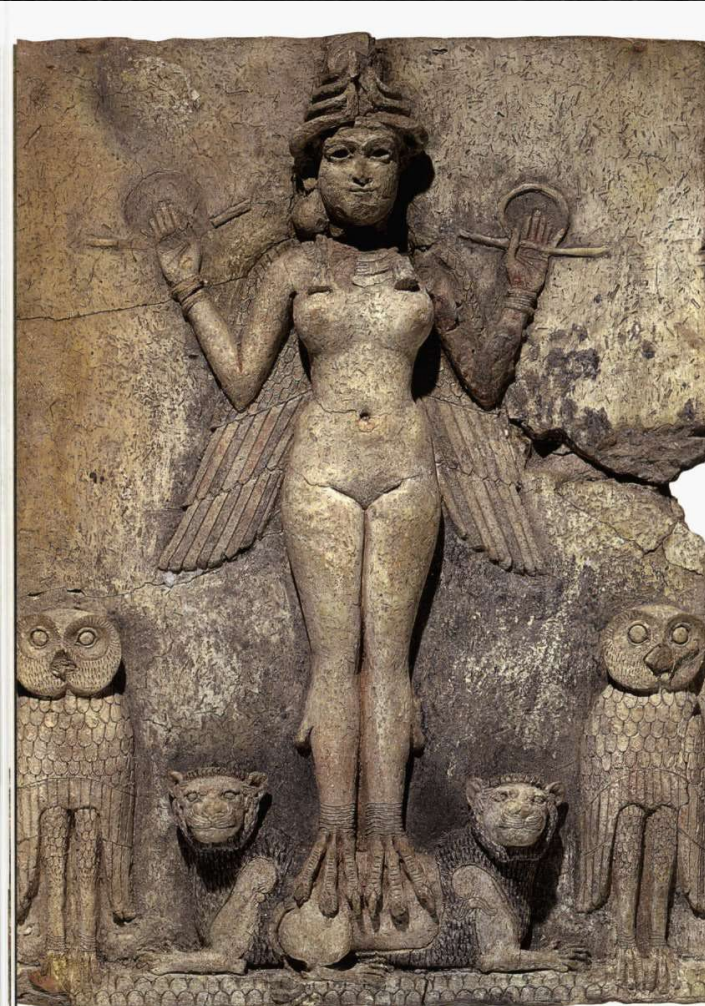
# Lilith

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- Lilith is an ancient figure that can be found in ancient Sumerian texts and several Jewish texts including Midrash and the Zohar.
- Lilith has been depicted as a Goddess, the first wife of Adam, a demon, and in pop culture as a vampire. She has even been called the first feminist.
- You may say so what? Why would I want to know more about Lilith or to make contact with her?
  - Her story is your story. She is an archetype for all of us.
  - Spiritually, Lilith is a force and personality that will push you toward your best self.
  - She is a great archetype to work with for shadow work.
  - But do research and consider carefully before you build a relationship with her – she will not be denied and will push you to deal with things you may not want to look at.



# Sumer and Mesopotamia



- Lilith starts out as a Goddess of storms who is later demonized.
- Sumerian names for her are: Lilitu, Lilit, or Lil
- Could she be a later manifestation of the Goddess Ninlil (Lady of the Air), Dark Side of Inanna, or something else?
- She is called "Lilith, the maid of desolation" on Tablet XII in the Epic of Gilgamesh.
- Also in the Epic of Gilgamesh, she resides in a Huluppu tree and is associated with a demonic snake in the roots and a Zu bird in the branches. Both associated with immortality.
- Her name is referenced in both lists of deities and in lists of demons (divine beings that don't follow the rules). She is referred to as Inanna's hand maiden in "The Descent of Inanna".
- Imagery very similar to that of Inanna and her sister Ereshkigal.
  - Burney Relief – disputed whether Lilith or not.



# Jewish Tradition

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- Earliest references are in the Torah and Talmud, but vague and random.
- In Midrash (extra-Biblical commentaries) and Zohar (Kabbalah) her mythology is drawn out in much more detail.
- She is called Adam's first wife, a demon, the consort of Samael and Ashmedai, as well as the sometime consort of God most high.
- There are also mentions of Lilith the Elder and Lilith the Younger – who for some reason were enemies.
- She is demonized in the minds of the people but used in mystical Kabbalah as a foil for darkness – as the divorced woman.



# Two Creation Stories

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- In Genesis 1:27, it says God created male and female in the image of God.

So [Elohim] created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

- But in Genesis 2:7 – 2:22 it says God created Adam and then created Eve by removing a rib from his side.

Then [Yahweh] formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

- Genesis 2:22

Then he [Yahweh] made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.



# Adam's First Wife

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- Lilith is said to be the first wife of Adam created in Genesis 1.
- She refuses to be subservient to him, speaks the secret name of God, and flies out of Eden.
- Three angels are sent to bring her back. She refuses, so they threaten her, and she tells them that she can't be destroyed because she is essential to creation.
- She goes on to mate with Samael and later Ashmedai, creating demon offspring and terrorizing Adam's descendants.



# What's In a Name?

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לילית

- In Hebrew, her name is composed of the letters: Lamed, Yod, Lamed, Yod, Tav (but written above right to left).
- Lamed means “ox goad”, Yod means “Spirit of God”, and Tav means “unification”.
- Lilith’s name then means: That which drives you to Deity (2x) and ends in unification.
- This explains her purpose in Jewish lore as a force that pushes us on our path to enlightenment.



# Lilith Myth

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- Lilith is created at the same time as Adam
- Adam tries to dominate Lilith
- She gets angry, speaks the secret name of God, and flies off
- God sends 3 angels to bring her back – she refuses
- The angels threaten to destroy her, she tells them that she is critical to creation
- Lilith feels abandoned and alone – she feels like she is abandoned by both Adam and God
- She goes through many difficulties, not knowing what her purpose is, and has lots of regret
- In Egypt she becomes the angel of death to kill the first born
- Over time she loves and has a great deal of loss... she feels like she is purposeless and to blame for great evil
- In the end she finds out she was created for a reason and that she has fulfilled her purpose
- She is transformed and finds her enlightenment
- She is truly the dark daughter and mother
- Lilith's story is our story!



# Many Names

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- In addition to Lilith, she has many names associated with her.
- Lulu – “wandering about”
- Lulu – “lasciviousness”
- Lilitu – “wind spirit”
- Laila – “night”
- Delilah means “of the night” and is also associated with her.
- The word lullaby is actually derived from an ancient word meaning “Lilith Away,” so that mothers could protect their children from Lilith and other night creatures by singing over them while they slept.



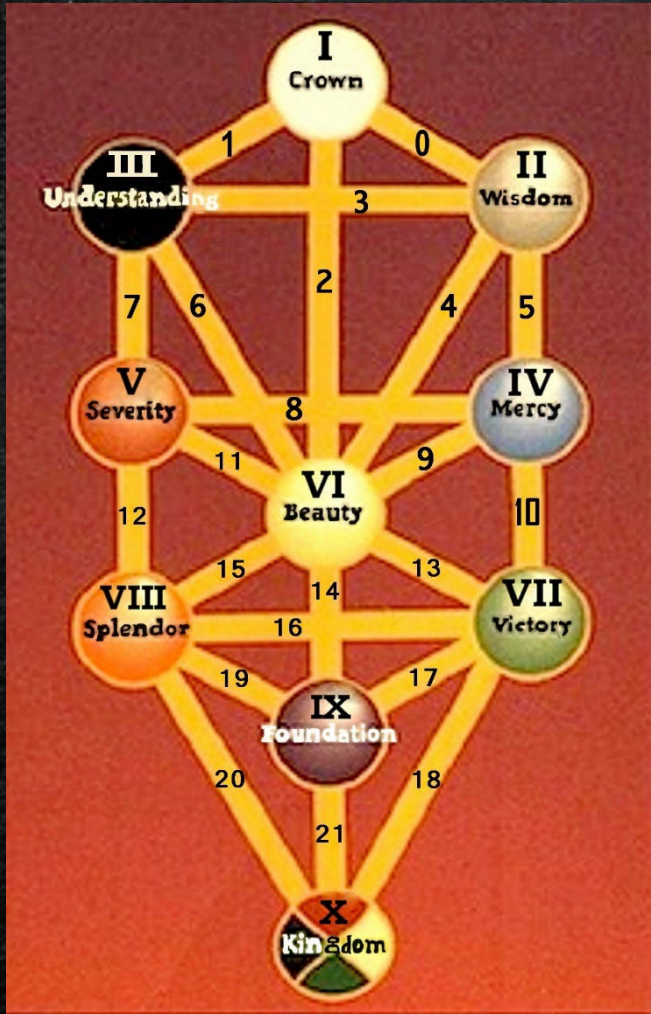
# Kabbalah

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- Kabbalah is best known in Jewish tradition and is often used by many ritual magic traditions such as Golden Dawn & Thelema. In addition, pop stars like Madonna have brought Kabbalah into the public eye. However, the word Kabbalah actually means “Tradition” or “Giving”. Once one understands Kabbalistic teachings, it becomes clear that Kabbalah is a system of understanding the universe, deity, consciousness, and even oneself. It is an extremely flexible system that can work with literally any paradigm.
- Kabbalah is ancient as it can be traced back into ancient Egypt and Sumer.
- Modern Kabbalah is based in the Zohar – book of Splendor that is a form of Jewish Midrash.



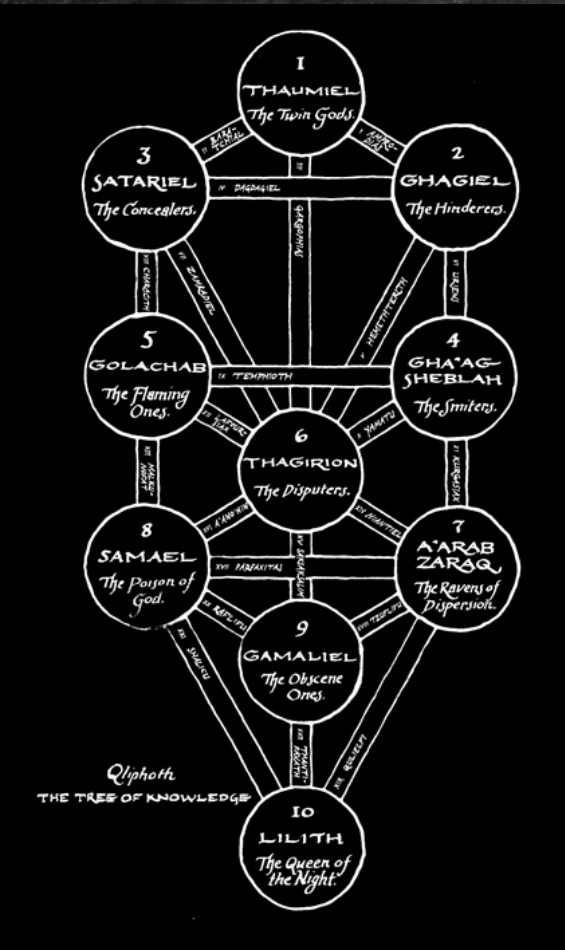
# Tree of Life



- The Tree of Life is a glyph used in modern Kabbalah to represent the emanations of Divine Light through the various dimensions that lead to creation.
- The Tree consists of 10 “spheres” called Sefirah (plural Sefirot) and 22 “paths” called Netivah (plural Netivot).
- Sefirot are the divine energies in a relationship.
- Netivot are the 22 Hebrew Letters and are levels of consciousness. They can also be represented with the Tarot major arcana.
- 3 Pillars – Mercy, Severity, Compassion
- The glyph is used to represent God, creation, us, the universe, and everything else, but is not actually supposed to look like anything.



# Tree of Shadows



- Klippah means "husks of darkness"
- Tree of Shadows is composed of Klippah (Klippot plural)
- The Tree of Shadows is the dark tree that is said to be a shadow of the Tree of Life.
  - Thaumiel – Twin of God
  - Da'at – Knowledge
  - Ghagiel – The Hinderer
  - Satariel – The Concealers
  - Gha'ag Sheblah – The Smithers
  - Golachab – The Flaming Ones
  - Thagirion – The Disputters
  - A-Arab Zaragh – Ravens of Dispersion
  - Samael – The Poison of God
  - Gamaliel – The Obscene Ones
  - Lilith – Queen of the Night



# Lilith in Zohar

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- “When the moon shared a single cleaving with the sun, she was radiant. As soon as she was separated from the sun and appointed over her forces, she diminished herself, diminished her light.”
- “Let there be me’orot, lights, in the expanse of heaven (Genesis 1:14) spelled deficiently, me’erat, curse.”
- It says that Lilith is the consort of God Most High when his partner is absent.
- Rabbi Isaac Luria calls one aspect of Lilith as the wife of Adam Kadmon – the primordial archetype of perfect humanity that is the highest universe of creation where all is one.



# Lilith and the Trees

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- Malkut/Lilith – Na'amah ("Pleasant") and Qarinah (Djinn)
- Yesod/Gamaliel – Lilith the Younger (Partner of Ashmedai) and Pomba Gira
- Hod/Samael – Az (Lilit) and Qualilitu
- Netzach/A'arab Zaraq – Ardat Lili (Lilitu)
- Tiferet/Thagirion – Norea (Gnostic Na'amah) and Mary Magdalene
- Gevurah/Golachab – Agrat bat Mahlat (The Night Hag)
- Hesed/Gha'Agsheblah – Belqis (The Queen of Sheba)
- Binah/Satariel – Lilith the Elder (First Wife of Adam, Partner of Samael)
- Hokmah/Ghagiel – Obizuth (Testament of Solomon)
- Keter/Thamiel – Omoroca (Dragon of the Void)
- Da'at – Eishet Zununim (Qodesha)





# Approaching Lilith

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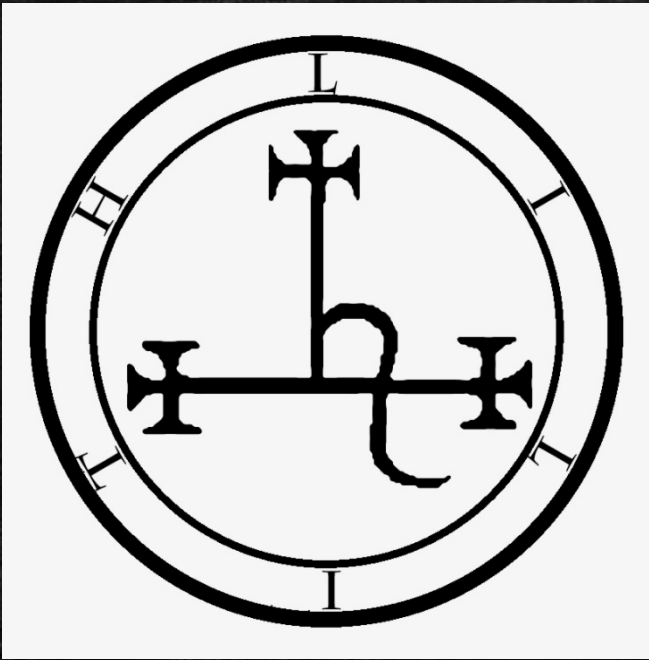
- Be ready for change and transformation.
- You will be forced to look at your own darkness and deal with it.
- Have empathy for others – Lilith does not put up with discrimination.
- If you start devotion to her don't ignore her.
- Create an altar to her
  - Image of her
  - Snake and Owl images as well
  - Talk to her daily
  - She will take offerings – but she really wants your devotion.





# Sigil, Candles, and Oils

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- You can print this sigil and then put it on your altar or tape it to a candle
- Common candle colors – red, black, white
- Incense – myrrh, sandalwood, rose, dittany of Crete, or dragon's blood
- Offerings – water, alcohol, food, sexual fluid, blood
- Devotion!!



# Appearance

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- She will appear in a number of guises based on what you need and expect.
- Her hair is usually black or red but could be blonde or other colors.
- Her eyes are usually green, but sometimes black or red.
- You may recognize her.
- She may appear as a snake or owl.
- She may be frightening, but don't give up even if she is.





# Prayer

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*Lilith, Lilith, Lilith\**

*I call you, Dark Mother*

*To come and be with me*

*I call to you to wrap your dark wings around me*

*To cradle me in your clear light*

*I am seeking your power of transformation*

*Please come to me and guide me in your ways*

*You are the Goddess of Night,*

*Mistress of the Moon,*

*And Queen of Darkness*

*But you are also love and compassion*

*I give myself to you*

*And pray for your will to be done.*

*I thank you for what you will do*

*I give you my love and devotion*

*Lilith, Lilith, Lilith\**

*\*Lilith, Lilith, Lilith can be spoken, sung, or intoned depending on the comfort of the dedicant.*



# Meditation

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- Partzufim Meditation – personal guided meditation where you encounter her and interact.





# Invocation

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- Invocation – Calling Lilith's energy up the Tree
- After lighting a candle with her image (and/or sigil) and using oil dedicated to her, I will chant the following three times:
- *Na'amah, Pomba Gira, Lilitu*
- picturing my consciousness moving up the Tree from Malkut, to Yesod, and up to Binah (or as an alternative you can work your way down the Tree of Shadows). I then say:
- Na'amah, Pomba Gira, Lilith I call you and ask for your presence. I wish to invoke your transformative power. Give me strength and will to accomplish what must be accomplished. Take my love and devotion and fuel my passion so I may become one with you. Let me be your vessel in this world. As you say, it will be!



# Rite of the Moon

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Chant the following invocation three times:

- *Lilith above me; Na'amah below*
- *Mistress of the Moon, And Queen of Shadows*
- *I dedicate myself to you*
- *My life and transformation are in your hands*
- *I become your vessel in this world*
- *Bringing your dark light to those around me*
- *I am seeking your power*
- *I seek to become my true self*
- *And submit to your will.*
- *I am yours; and you are mine;*
- *I am one of your children, for now and forever.*
- *After the third time, say "As it is spoken, so it is done."*

When this has been completed, thank Lilith for her love and acceptance. You are now dedicated to her, and she will make immense changes in your life and consciousness.



# Protection

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Print a picture of yourself or whomever you wish to protect. Hold the picture in your left hand, take a drop of oil on your right index finger and anoint the picture.

- *Lilith*
- *Mother, Goddess, Queen*
- *I call to you to protect [fill in names]*
- *I ask you to use your darkness to hide them from their enemies*
- *Wrap your dark wings around them*
- *Shield them from harm, illness, and attack*
- *Strengthen them with your magic*
- *Let them feel your presence*
- *You are the protector of those who are persecuted and abused*
- *You are the mother of sorrow*
- *You are power and strength*
- *I thank you for your protection and love.*

Place the photo under your Lilith statue or other image. Either close the ritual or simply say, "As it is spoken, so it is done!"



# Breaking Ties

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Light a candle and take up your knife (athame). Make a big X in the middle of the air.

State the following invocation:

- *In the name of Lilith*
- *I cut all ties with [fill in what is to be cut away]*
- *I am not owned by [fill in what is to be cut away]*
- *I belong to only myself and my Goddess Lilith*
- *Any bindings that hold me are broken;*
- *Any bonds that constrict me are gone*
- *Lilith breaks the ties that bind me*
- *And she releases me*
- *I thank you, Lilith, for the freedom you grant*

Say, "As it is spoken, so it is done!"



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