

Invocations to Jarilo and Marzhanna

Calling Upon the Deities of the Rite -- Jarilo and Marzhanna

(offerings of grain and mead are offered into the central offering bowl)

OD : Jarilo, You are reborn each Great Night, the last night of February, the tenth son of Perun, and stolen away to be raised by Veles in the underworld land of the Dead across the sea. With the death of Winter, You arrive from across the sea astride a horse, awakening the life and fertility of the land, Your feet sore from the hardships of Your journey. Jarilo, You bring the fields and orchards into fruit as You meet, court, and wed Marzhanna. Jarilo, You have sacrificed Yourself so that the mortal lives of humans can be nourished by Your rich harvest. Now it is our turn to sacrifice to You, and bid You farewell until next Spring. *(forcefully)*

Jarilo, accept this sacrifice!

All : **Jarilo, accept this sacrifice!**

OD : Marzhanna, Goddess of Harvest, Witchcraft, Winter and Death, You are reborn as the beautiful twin sister of Jarilo each Mazlenitsa. You are the first to meet Jarilo, returned from across the sea and You fall in love, court each other and are married at Summer Solstice. The Harvest is the sacrifice of Vegetation; the sacred sacrifice of Your beloved Jarilo. As You grieve, the land reflects Your gradual aging and loneliness, until finally Your Witchcraft transforms Autumn into Winter, bringing a seeming death to the land. Marzhanna, You sacrificed Your Beloved to ensure the mortal lives of humans with Your rich, bountiful Harvest. Now it is our turn to sacrifice to You, and offer our condolences to ease Your loss. *(forcefully)*

Marzhanna, accept our sacrifice!

All : **Marzhanna, accept our sacrifice!**