A Solitary Rite of Uncrossing

This is a practical magic rite built in the ADF Order of Ritual, with only one major variant. Rather than focusing the Return Flow on blessing a cup and drinking, perhaps followed by magical work, this rite calls for the Return Flow to come directly into the elements of the spell, and the working of the spell is the 'receiving' of the blessing, shaped and directed by the Druid's will.

Special items needed, in addition to the ordinary offerings: a small glass of whiskey or other beverage; a small censer with an uncrossing incense, or a fresh handful of incense sticks; a twig of Rowan wood, if possible, or oak if not.

Opening Prayers:

- Affirmation of Intention
- Earth Mother Offering
- Opening to Inspiration
- Outdwellers' Offering

Statement of Purpose:

I have come to do as the wise ancients did, to make offering to the powers and to work the Druid's ways. I am come to the Fire and Well to make myself clean, to banish all affliction, to turn aside every ill, to overcome all that stands between me and the Blessing of the Gods. Let my paths be open before me, and all obstruction fall away! So be it!

Blessing the Hallows: Bless the Fire, Well and Tree, and cleanse the Grove with water and incense as usual.

• Affirm the Grove

Open the Gate

Kindred Offerings: Make the Offerings to the Kindreds, saying:

Gods and Dead and mighty Sidhe, Powers of Land and Sky and Sea,

By Fire and Well and sacred Tree, offerings I make to thee!

Aid me in my work, I ask, Holy Ones, hear my will and let these gifts make peace between us, that my will may be true.

To those who dwell below, to those who dwell above, to the tribes of spirits in land, sea or sky, hear your true worshipper (your name) as I make due sacrifice.

• Old ones, my ancestors, remember me as I remember you! Grandmothers and Grandfathers, I have not forgotten you! Wise Ones, I seek your Wisdom! All you Mighty Dead, I honor you with this offering! Hear me now, I ask, and make my ways open to me. Let nothing stand before me, in land or sea or sky, let no obstacle stop me nor opponent overcome me. Let my paths be open before me, and all obstruction fall away! Ancestors, accept my sacrifice! Make the offering.

- Spirits of this land, Aid me as I aid you! Beast and bird, stone and stream, soil and sky, I remember you! You with whom I share the world, I offer you peace! Spirits of the Land, I honor your power with this offering! Hear me now, I ask, and make my ways open to me. Let nothing stand before me, in land or sea or sky, let no obstacle stop me nor opponent overcome me. Let my paths be open before me, and all obstruction fall away! Spirits accept my sacrifice! Make the offering.
- Gods and goddesses of elder days honor me as I honor you! Shining Powers of Wisdom, I open my heart to you! Eldest and Mightiest, I remember you! Gods and Goddesses all, I worship you with this offering! Hear me now, I ask, and make my ways open to me. Let nothing stand before me, in land or sea or sky, let no obstacle stop me nor opponent overcome me. Let my paths be open before me, and all obstruction fall away! Shining Ones, accept my sacrifice!

Make the offering.

Prayer of Sacrifice: Open your heart to the assembled Kindreds, make a final offering to the Fire, and say:

Let my voice arise on the flame
Let my voice resound in the well
Oh honored ones, (insert names of the patrons)
Hear me now as I offer up this sacrifice.
Accept my worship and reverence.
Grant me the opening of my ways, and give me your blessing!
Holy Ones, accept my sacrifice!

Omen: Cast for a simple omen, with this charm:

Holy Ones, I have offered to you.

Now let the true sight be in me, the true speech be mine,
Answer me now, O spirits,
What blessing do you offer me, in return for my offerings?

Meditate on the omen, seek to understand what blessings the powers offer in return for the sacrifice.

Calling for the Blessing: Then compose of all this - the image, the intention, and the omen - into a single gestalt of energy. Affirm the returning flow of power, saying:

The worlds are in me, and I am in the worlds
The spirit in me is the spirit in the worlds
By Fire, Well and Tree; By Gods, Dead and Sidhe;
I call the power now to me!
Biodh se abhlaidh!

The Spell: Prepare a small glass of whiskey or other beverage, and a small censer with Offering Incense, or a fresh handful of incense sticks. Have ready a twig of Rowan wood, if possible, or oak if not.

Find your center and your power, and begin the spell by saying:

Come I to the Fire and Well A spell to weave by word and hand I stand in power, by the Three By Sea and Sky and by the Land

If possible take a spark from the main Fire and light new fire in the censer, saying:

Fire to Fire, Blessing to Blessing. Let the power of blessing be in this fire, By the might of the Holy Ones.

Once the charcoal is hot put a large amount of offering mixture onto it and, as the smoke rises, bathe yourself in the smoke, saying three times:

By this smoke of herb and flower and tree, let me be cleansed and blessed. Let this blessing free me from every snare, and drive away every sprite and wight that might wish me ill. Make my ways open to me. Let nothing stand before me, in land or sea or sky, let no obstacle stop me nor opponent overcome me. Let my paths be open before me, and all obstruction fall away!

Take up the Whiskey and the rowan twig, dip the wood into the drink, and bless the whiskey, saying:

By the Quickbeam's power (or by the strength of the Oak) I make this whiskey Uisge na Beatha, I make this water the Water of Life. Holy Kindreds bring your spirit into this spirit, that it may bear the power of cleansing. Where this blessing is let no ill be. Let no enchantment stand, let no bane or malefice thrive. Let this be the Fire in the Water, to sweep away every bond and every binding, every obstacle and every impediment. Let this blessing be fuel in my belly, and freedom in my veins.

Drink the whiskey. Take the twig and make Xes on your forehead, palms and feet. Toss the twig into the Fire, saying:

Let wound be wound and bound be bound! So all is done, and done, and well done, And thus I claim what was begun!

Closing: When all is done, give thanks in the usual way, to the Kindreds for their aid.

- Thank the Gatekeeper and close the Gate
- Thank the Earth Mother, and end the rite.