




Otherkin and Religion

Group discussion (moderated by Arethinn)



Before we begin...

- "Religion" is being used as a catch-all
- Voice chat is not required; feel free to use the text chat
- Does everyone know where to find the text chat?



Poll: How would you characterize your current religious or spiritual practice, if any?

Choose all that apply, even if it's "sometimes" or "it's complicated" or "I'm lazy about it".

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- Who here practiced any kind of religion before they Awakened, that is, before they became aware that they were nonhuman (or partly nonhuman), whether chosen or something you just grew up with?
 - Did you come to think or feel differently about any of your religion's beliefs or practices after Awakening?
 - Did you find yourself somehow in conflict with that religion, e.g., it proclaimed that fairies either did not exist or were demons, and yet here you were, a faerie; or that elfae beings exist, but cannot possibly incarnate as human?
 - Or perhaps on the contrary, did anyone find that it strengthened or gave new depth or color to their previous practice? In what way?

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- Is there anyone who did *not* practice anything before Awakening, but took up a practice afterwards?
 - What was it about Awakening that prompted you to do that?
 - Why did you choose what you did?

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- Does anyone here practice a religion, or at least some elements from a religion, that they either remember from another life or have crafted in this one to fit with their nonhuman self?
 - How is it similar to or different from Earth-human religions that you know? Does it borrow from them in any way or is it purely non-human (at least as much as that's possible)?
 - Did you have instinct or clear memory, or did it take you a while to build it up through exploration of personal gnosis? Or perhaps you adopted something from a fictional source (e.g. using the Calendar of Imladris as described in The Lord of the Rings as a ritual year)?
 - Can you share anything about your practice that may be unique to or characteristic of it, such as ideas about cosmogony (the origin of the universe), gods or spirits, legends, holidays or ritual year, symbols or implements, use of magic or "energy", personal practices like prayer or meditation...?

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- For those who practice an Earth-human religion in some form...
 - Have you ever omitted or adjusted a belief or practice to make it more comfortable or sensible for the way you experience yourself as nonhuman? In what way?
 - Conversely, have you added anything to it either by borrowing or by your own creation that specifically relates to your nonhuman self?
 - Does your religion have any lore about your kind of being? Do you match up with it or not?
 - Does your interaction with your religion's gods or spirits, if any, differ from what is expected as "normal", or no?

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- Is anyone here a member of any kind of organization, whether it's as large as the Catholic church or as small as a small witches' coven?
 - Are other members, or anyone in a position of spiritual leadership, aware that you are otherkind? If so, what do they think? Has it changed how they relate to you (positively or negatively)?
 - Have you ever participated in a ritual or similar kind of thing with only other otherkind present? Was that different to you in any way?