

A Perspective on the Sidhe



History, Nature of Sidhe Existence, Relationship to Humans

And at various times, branches of the Sidhe have sprung off and moved away from the main trunk, so to speak, particularly during the times when we and humanity were separating. So there is much variation among us, which is as it should be, but it means when you think of us, you should not think of a single, unified people. We are all Sidhe but we are not all the same, just as you are all humanity but you are not all the same. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Mariel's 'Faction'--The 'Star-Weavers'")

Gaia is home to many streams of evolution and life. Humanity and Sidhe are only two points along a continuum. Nor are the edges between the different streams always hard boundaries. Overlap is possible such that at times it may be difficult for you to determine to which stream a particular individual belongs. (Phillip, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "A Trialogue on the Species of Gaia")

...you entered into a physical world predominated by telluric, lunar and solar energies. You still need a touch of stellar energy but not as much as you require forces emanating from the sun, the moon, and the land beneath you. We, on the other hand, have greater need of replenishment from stellar sources, ... Just as the salt of the ancient earthly oceans is part of your blood, as well as the iron of the earth itself, so star energies are part of our blood. We need the connection to the stars as much as you need connection to sun, earth, and water. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Star Energies")

Though this oversimplifies the issue, I could say that we come to the stars through our blood and our substance but we come to nature and the world through our minds and our hearts. You, on the other hand—and again, I simplify—come to nature and the physical world through your blood and your substance but you come to the stars through your minds and hearts. In other words, it is an inner process for you, just as connecting with the natural world of the physical earth is in many ways an inner process for us. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Ways of Connecting With Stellar Energies")



Land/World/Realm

Our buildings are alive, brought into being partly, as I said once long ago, by our singing and dancing. They are not alive as a creature would be, but they are expressions of sentient energy and thus are responsive to our living presence and our thoughts. In a way not possible for you, our buildings are only partly solid. They are energy patterns into which we weave starlight and moonlight, sunlight and earthlight, and of course, our own Sidhe-light; when we need an aspect of this structure to be solid, it is. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Mariel's Temple")

Within certain limits, it can be larger or smaller in one place or another, again depending on the need, but it is not subject to whimsy nor can it take just any shape or any size. So you see, you were correct in what you saw, but you felt it needed to be a choice, as it would be on your earth, whereas to me, both states--and others besides--are encompassed in the structure and composition of the temple. As I said at another time, our atoms hold multiple states of possibility at once. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Mariel's Temple")



Fae, Nature Spirits, Devas, and Other Beings

If by "Faerie" you mean a collection of realms that are truly part of the physical world but on a different wavelength or vibration from the one you inhabit and thus are normally invisible to you, then yes, we are Faerie beings. But if you mean those beings who are Children of Gaia, then we are not Faerie for we, like you, are children of the stars. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 3 "A Sidhe Civilization")

We are among those who are incarnated but are not densely physical as you are, David. We are also kin to you because we are both star-born in our natures. This is not true for all those who share what you are calling the continuum of incarnation. Many are more properly called the Children of Gaia. They originate from Gaia's own creative desires and expression and are the products of her evolution. We also are familiar with and work with the realm of Faerie, sometimes quite closely. For us, they truly are Gaia's children. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "A Trialogue on the Species of Gaia")

It was during this period that the realm you know as Faerie came into being as a product of this liminal magic. When a line of possible humanity was rejected, it didn't just disappear. The spirits animating this line simply moved into the etheric and continued their development, becoming the giants and little people of legend. In some respects, Faerie is the fossil remnant of early humanity.

Of course, it is more than this, and because of its origins, its nature entwines both your people and ours. But though we are partly responsible for its emergence, and though there are those among us who participate in it and even have incarnated into Faerie forms—which in some cases are the cast off forms of early humanity—we are not Faerie beings. (Mariel, *Conversations*, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "The Origins of Faerie")

Faerie is a human term, and it covers a wide variety of manifestations. Often when someone doesn't know where to put a particular phenomenon, it's relegated to the realm of Faerie. Faerie beings are on the whole an evolutionary stream unto themselves, one rooted in Gaia's life and emerging from her womb, so to speak. But there are also nature spirits who work with this stream who take on many aspects of Faerie. It is not easy for most humans to distinguish between them. (Phillip, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "A Trialogue on the Species of Gaia")

You speak of angels, Devas, elementals, nature spirits, fairies, elves, and of course, of us, the Sidhe, as well as many other beings that have arisen within your cultural folklore and histories. While such categories can be useful, not everything fits neatly within them, or even fits at all. Further, as planetary conditions evolve and change, new "species" of beings are always appearing... (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "The Faerie Realms and Beyond")

Life can originate from many sources and develop in different directions. It does not always fit into neat categories. Rather than trying to explain it or make it conform to a taxonomic system, you should consider each life in its own terms within its own ecology of connections. (Phillip, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "A Trialogue on the Species of Gaia")

Their own natural shape is often highly malleable, and they are masters of illusion. They mimic humanity and they also mimic our people, the Sidhe. This can blur the lines between Faerie, Sidhe and humanity. There are also Faerie beings—and subtle beings as well—that inhabit thought forms created by humanity. So, if you encounter a tall elven being with pointed ears and a bow, are you encountering a Faerie, a Sidhe, or a humanly engendered thought-form animated by human collective energies or perhaps by a subtle being or even one of the Faerie races? (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "The Faerie Realms and Beyond")

Sidhe Culture

You must understand that we, like you, are a large and varied people. You might say we have "races" and "ethnicities" of consciousness and attitude. They are not as fixed into form as your different racial characteristics are but they can demarcate us as fully as your differences do you. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 4 "Collaboration")

...any one of us at any time can be infused with the presence of our King and Queen and in that moment become "kingly" or "queenly." This is not an act of possession or of one spirit entering the body of another. It is that the essence of Sidheness is heightened in us in a unique way, usually appropriate to the situation. Do you understand? If the Queen overlights me, then a "Queenly" aspect in me is heightened and drawn to the surface, and in this moment, I become a "Faery Queen" within the context in which I am working. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 3 "A Sidhe Civilization")

In my part of our world, there are few "nuclear" families such as you know them. Our families are more like clans... (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Mothering and Families")

Stones and Stars

The stone circle is a symbol of the portal that links the stars to earth; when you stand in it, you stand for the earth in its cosmic environment, mediators between stars and planet and midwives to the fullness of Gaia that emerges from this relationship. We are star people not because we come from the stars; you come from the stars as well. We are star people because we bring the stars to earth. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 5, "The Guardian Mantle Exercise")

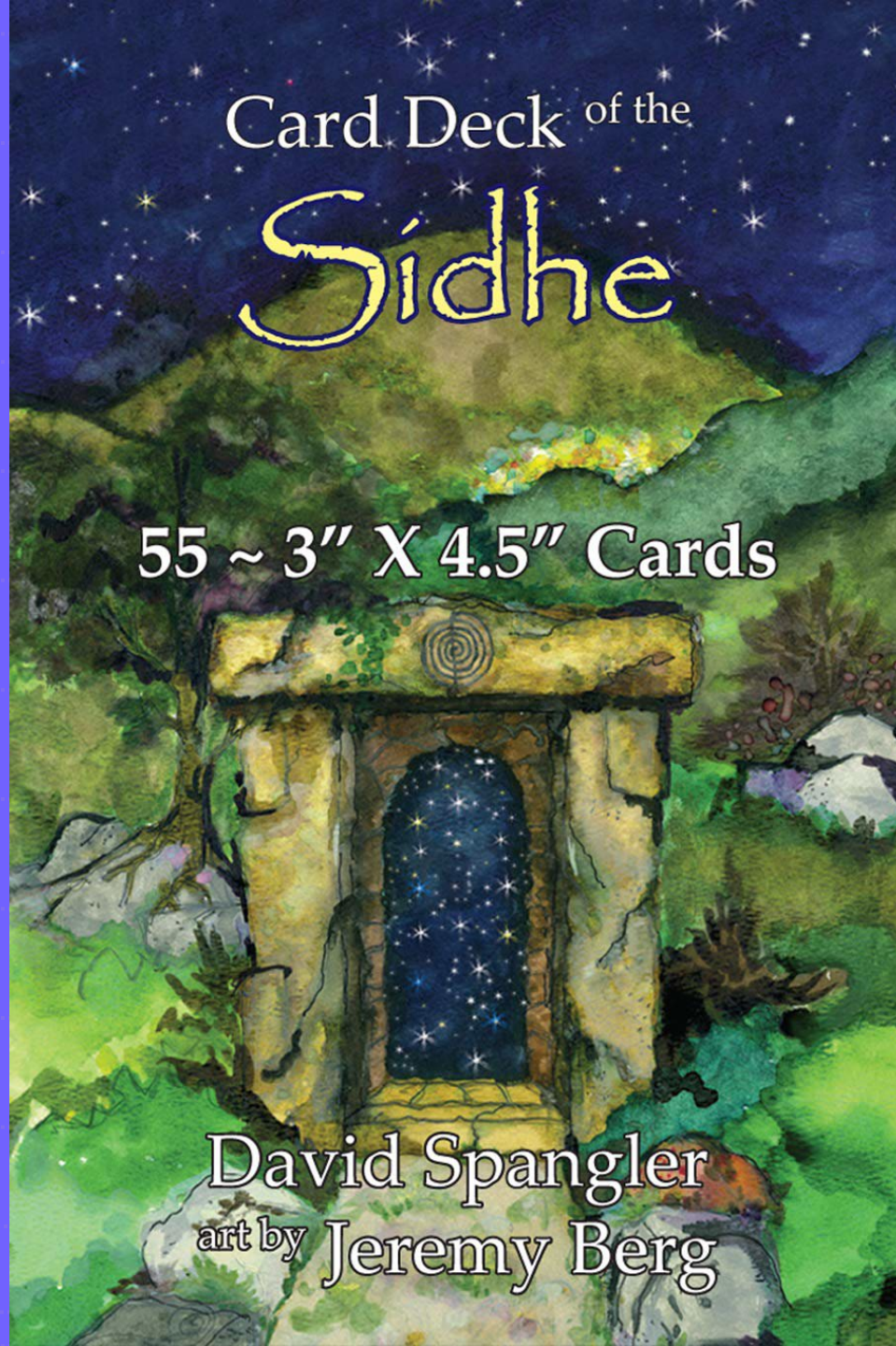
The Stone Circle is not just a portal to our realm, a connection with us, but also an organ of respiration that connects the life breath of the stars with the lungs and body of the earth. This is shown in the image of the Howe that we first presented to Jeremy, that of the stars within the earth. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Mariel's 'Faction'--The 'Star-Weavers'")

Card Deck of the

Sidhe

55 ~ 3" X 4.5" Cards

David Spangler
art by Jeremy Berg



There are pathways of energy and consciousness between the stars which we have always known how to navigate... (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 3 "A Sidhe Civilization")

Stars are such fields of life and energy, most of them great beings.
(Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "The Star Priestess")

...stars are not places; they are not points of light in the sky. They are beings which may hold within their fields of energy vast collectives of consciousness. This is true for our sun which is a star; it sounds its own note of consciousness, yet it also contains within its aura all the lives that you know of here on earth, both physical and non-physical, and many other types of lives of which you do not know. For none of the planets in the solar system are truly barren of life, though they may not support physical life as this world does. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Star Energies")

Abilities/Magic

There are Sidhe who delight in shapeshifting and are adept at it. They can wear many faces and enjoy doing so. Not all of us participate in this. I, for instance, am not of the shapeshifting race, though I am capable of doing so. For ones such as myself, continuity and stability of form is important. With shapeshifting comes adaptability but also a loss of power and focus, both of which are regained when the form is allowed to settle and remain stable. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Mariel's 'Faction'--The 'Star-Weavers'")

For instance, there is a magic of glamour and illusion which operates almost entirely in the realms of thought and desire. [...] In our world, it is as often performed directly through the mind in telepathic ways. If used with a human being, it can lead the individual to see and to feel what we suggest, weaving about them a skein of illusion.

In my world, this kind of magic is often used for performance and is considered a form of art. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Ways of Connecting with Stellar Energies")

Deep magic changes us when we use it, and in a way, this is partly its purpose. It does not originate from our minds. It can be guided by our wills, but it originates first from our bodies and the life and spirit within them. It is a sharing—even a giving—of our life force to the world that together we may craft and shape something. And in this crafting, we are changed as well. The world enters us and lives in us. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Ways of Connecting with Stellar Energies")

Understanding magic as a form of communion and engagement with the world, born of honoring and loving the world, means that we can live in magic. It is not just something we do, arising out of our will and desire. It is something we experience, something we are because of our relationship with the life of the world around us. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Ways of Connecting with Stellar Energies")

Think of magic as the capacity to widen the spectrum of possibility, allowing more manifestations and outcomes to be capable of emergence than might happen otherwise..

You make much of faerie magic. This is often the magic of a place acting through those deeply attuned to it, those who are embodying the life of this place. Such beings, incarnate in an etheric realm, may seem very magical to you because even though "mediated" as your colleague says, they are part of the circulation of life within the land they occupy. They can seem like gods or goddesses at times because of the power that emerges from their connectedness. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "A

Triologue on the Species of Gaia"



Fae, Nature Spirits, Devas, and Other Beings (again)

And we have cooperated and participated with the great Devas of nature to fashion forms that bear our imprint but are part of the realms of the nature spirits more than a part of our world. This has given rise in part to what you call the Faerie world. While some Faery are indeed Sidhe in native or in altered forms, others are hybrids born of our influence and creativity in partnership with the Soul of the World and her Devic handmaidens. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "Mariel's 'Faction'--The 'Star-Weavers'")

The realm of Faerie is more wide-spread across your globe and more diverse in its manifestations than our realm. Many in this realm are true nature spirits, but others are hybrids, bearing in their lineage the energy and memory of being almost human. Many Faerie beings are simply ancient and alternate forms of humanity which died out or were pushed out of the physical realm but which continue their existence and development parallel to yours and to ours. They continue to stand in their own magic, even as you do in yours and we do in ours. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "The Origins of Faerie")

They are beings who live close to and entwined with the living forces of the planet. They are not necessarily nature spirits, though they may work closely with them—indeed, many of them are not "spirits" at all but are beings engaged, even as we are, in modes of incarnation that lie at the edge of the physical world but not wholly in it. (Mariel, Conversations, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "The Faerie Realms and Beyond")

There is that branch of humanity, of which you and I are representative, whose consciousness was stimulated by stellar forces and whose souls have their origins amidst the stars. Then there is a parallel branch whose consciousness was quickened and heightened by angels and Devas working as part of Gaia. So you could say there was a stellar humanity and a planetary humanity. The boundaries between the two were not—and are not—hard and fast, for there was cross-fertilization between the two. [...]

These "planetary humans" are loved by Gaia and are close to her; they are often the "little people" or the "forerunners" that are spoken of in your legends and folklore. (Mariel, *Conversations*, Ch. 6 "An Experiment", "The Faerie Realms and Beyond")