

## Dea, Rites and Mysteries of the Goddess

By: Olivia Robertson

### 5. Summer. Ritual of the Sun.

**Invocation:**

"Dwells the holy Sidhe of Fire,  
In the hollow of the earth:  
Glow the holy Sidhe of Fire,  
In the seed that giveth Birth  
Lightly blows the wind of Mari,  
Draws her veil about the sky,  
Dims the golden rays of Grainne,  
Moves the tree-tops with a sigh."

Grainne, Goddess of Sun and seed, with thy grace fulfil our need.

#### Oracle of the Goddess Grainne through Her Priestess

"My golden hair is wheat and oats,  
My robe the ever-changing sky;  
The lady-bird my finger bears,  
My eyes shine forth in lake and sea.

From the depths of earth my inner sun  
Glow through the hearts of all existences.  
Atoms and stars: creatures that grow and move,  
Know me as Mother and as Consciousness.

My breath inspires every breath:  
The healing rays are mine.  
Look upwards, round about and down,  
For I am everywhere."

*Let a fire out-of-doors, or incense indoors, burn in the centre of the circle. An altar is placed by the fire and upon it let there be flowers and fruit. If there be one Devotee, the sun dance is visualised and the Goddess's gifts are taken from the altar.*

**Invocation:** I invoke the Sun Goddess Grainne.

*Devotee drops incense on the fire or in the pot.*

Divine Grainne, accept this incense, in gratitude for thy life-giving rays.

The teeming summer has come, bringing life in its arms, and strews rosy flowers on the face of hill and dale. In lovely harmony the wood has put on its green mantle, and summer is on her throne, playing her string music. The willow whose harp hung silently when it was withered in winter, now gives forth melody - hush! Listen! The world is alive.

*Dancers glide towards the fire, and one representing Grainne sinks by the altar, as if asleep. The others, representing planets, form a maze dance around the fire.*

**Devotee:** The God Lugh stretches his long white arm above the hills. Across the sky fly the immortal children of the Light, the White Swans of Lir. They call upon their sister who gilds their wings with gold.

*Dancers hold out their arms to Grainne. Slowly she awakens and rises to her feet. She gives the dance of the sun, bestowing her golden rays. Then she moves to the altar and from it gives the planetary dancers gifts of flowers and fruit. She sinks to rest. The dancers unwind their maze pattern.*

### **Meditation**

Let the Vision be of Elysium seen by the poet Pindar:

"While we in night lie hidden, there in Elysium below  
Bright shines the sun: in the meadows about their city's wall  
The fruit of gold hang heavy, crimson the roses blow  
From fragrance-breathing boughs the shadows fall...  
With steeds, and games of strength, and games of skill,  
And music they make merry; perfect peace  
Wreaths all their days with flowers;  
While perfumes fill  
That lovely land where without cease  
From the Deities' far-flaming altars the mingled incense rises."

**Devotee:** We give thanks to the sun goddess Grainne for her gifts: for earthly life; for abundance; and for warm-hearted love. May all earthly creatures receive her bounty.

**End of Rite.**

**Sources:** "A Celtic Miscellany", Kenneth Hurlstone Jackson, Routledge. "Greek Poetry", Everyman's Library.

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