

HOMEFRONT *newsletter*

FOR THE FOLK CONSCIOUS HOME



THE IRISH DARA KNOT

Dara comes from the Old Irish word daur, meaning oak tree. In Celtic folkish traditions, the oak was a powerful sacred symbol representing:

- Strength
- Wisdom
- Endurance
- Leadership
- Inner resilience

To carry or wear a Dara Knot is to invoke:

- The strength of the sacred grove
- Protection of ancestral spirits
- Steadfastness in one's path
- Harmony between seen and unseen worlds

The traditional Celtic knotwork is arranged to resemble:

- The root system of an oak tree
- Interwoven roots symbolizing hidden strength
- Connection to ancestry and heritage
- Its meaning is typically interpreted as: Strength from within, grounding, stability, and deep rooted wisdom.



It echoes....

The strength of The Dagda

The inspiration of Brigid

The ancestral depth of Danu

The sovereignty of Lugh

The fate bound power of

The Morrigan

It becomes a symbol of rooted divinity, strength drawn from our land, our ancestors, and the old gods of Ireland.

Hail Our Folk.



INGWAZ

THE RUNE OF POTENTIAL, GESTATION, AND INNER COMPLETION. INGWAZ IS OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH REST, INCUBATION, AND THE QUIET PHASE BEFORE GROWTH OR TRANSFORMATION.



DRAWN LIKE A DIAMOND, IT IS CLOSED, PROTECTED AND CONTAINED, REFLECTING THE IDEA OF ENERGY HELD SAFELY WITHIN A BOUNDARY, LIKE A SEED POD OR WOMB.

IN A MORE POETIC SENSE, INGWAZ IS THE MOMENT BETWEEN WINTER AND SPRING. WHEN LIFE IS INVISIBLE BUT ALREADY PREPARING TO EMERGE.

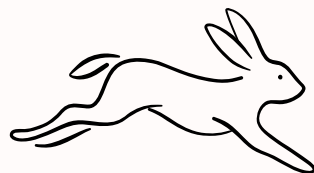
OSTARA

She is a goddess of spring, dawn, fertility, and renewal. She embodies the moment when the earth awakens after winter and life begins to stir again.

Ostara is associated with the spring equinox, when day and night are equal and light begins to triumph over darkness. During this time, Ostara represents rebirth, growth, and the fertile power of the land.

Ostara is seen as a bringer of life, moving across the land to awaken the seeds, warm the soil, and call animals from their winter rest. She reflects the sacred cycle of nature where death in winter gives way to life in spring.

Ostara is the spirit of the returning light the gentle power that turns the wheel of the year from stillness towards life.



MYTHS & LEGENDS

ONE SPRING, OSTARA FOUND A SMALL INJURED BIRD IN THE SNOW NEAR THE END OF WINTER. WANTING TO SAVE IT FROM THE COLD, SHE TRANSFORMED THE BIRD INTO A HARE SO IT COULD SURVIVE THE HARSH WEATHER AND RUN FREELY ACROSS THE LAND.

ALTHOUGH THE CREATURE NOW HAD THE BODY OF A HARE, IT STILL CARRIED THE MEMORY OF ITS FORMER LIFE AS A BIRD. BECAUSE OF THIS, ONCE EACH YEAR DURING THE SPRING FESTIVAL OF OSTARA, THE HARE WOULD LAY EGGS AS A GIFT TO THE GODDESS.

IN SOME VERSIONS OF THE STORY, THE HARE DECORATES THE EGGS WITH BRIGHT COLOURS AND LEAVES THEM FOR PEOPLE TO FIND AS A CELEBRATION OF SPRING'S RETURN.



THE OLDEST KNOWN SOURCE FOR THE SPRING GODDESS EOSTRE COMES FROM THE 8TH-CENTURY ANGLO-SAXON MONK BEDE IN HIS BOOK DE TEMPORUM RATIONE ("THE RECKONING OF TIME"), WRITTEN AROUND 725 CE.

A TRANSLATED PASSAGE READS ROUGHLY:

"EOSTURMONATH... WAS ONCE CALLED AFTER A GODDESS NAMED EOSTRE, IN WHOSE HONOUR FEASTS WERE CELEBRATED IN THAT MONTH."

OSTARA QUESTIONS



- What seasonal event is Ostara traditionally celebrated at?
- Which animal is commonly associated with Ostara and fertility?
- What natural balance occurs during the Spring Equinox?
- What symbol of new life is often decorated or painted during Ostara celebrations?
- Which season begins around the time of Ostara in the Northern Hemisphere?
- What two things become equal in length during the equinox?