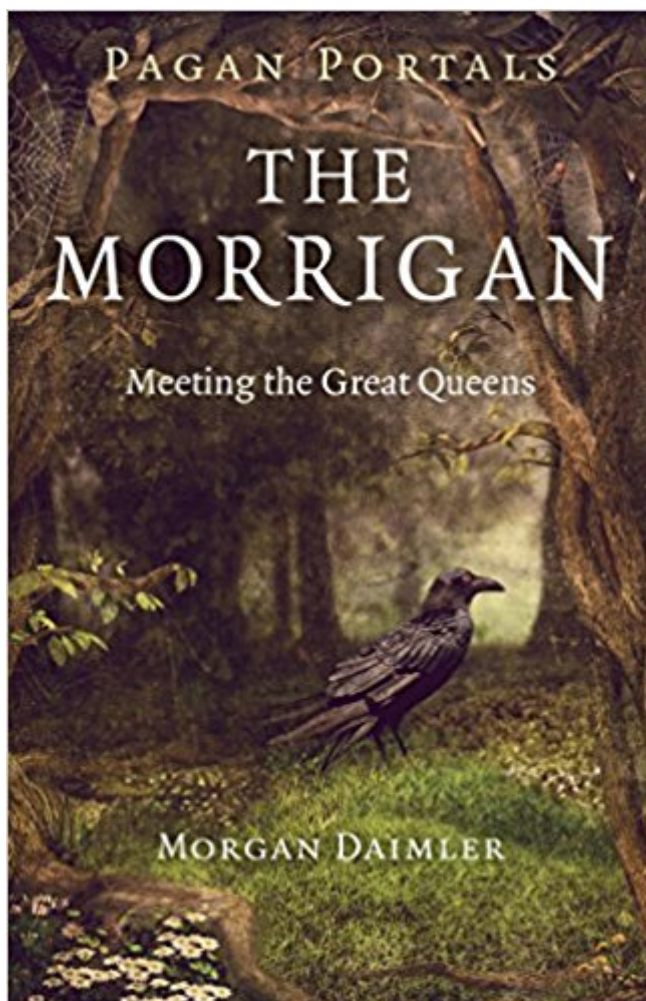


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Pagan Portals - The Morrigan: Meeting The Great Queens



Synopsis

On shadowed wings and in raven's call, meet the ancient Irish goddess of war, battle, prophecy, death, sovereignty, and magic. This book is an introduction to the Morrigan and several related goddesses who share the title, including Badb and Macha. It combines solid academic information with personal experience in a way that is intended to dispel the confusion that often surrounds who this goddess was and is. The Morrigan is as active in the world today as she ever was in the past but answering her call means answering the challenge of finding her history and myth in a sea of misinformation, supposition, and hard-to-find ancient texts. Here in one place, all of her basic information has been collected along with personal experiences and advice from a long-time priestess dedicated to a goddess who bears the title Morrigan.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Morgan has created a fascinating and endlessly useful volume for anyone who has either been called by or is seeking the Morrigan. This book combines serious academic research with deeply personal experience to build a balanced yet evocative image of this Irish goddess. A brilliant read for anyone interested in Celtic spirituality but absolutely essential for anyone studying the Morrigan and her sisters." -Â Mabh Savage, author of *A Modern Celt: Seeking the Ancestors*"Morgan presents us with solid, well-researched information on the Irish Morrigan from some of the best academic sources out there, and does it in a way that is engaging and approachable."

-Â SegomÃros Widugeni, previously known as Aedh Rua, author of *Celtic Flame: An Insider's*

Guide to Irish Pagan Tradition" There are so many faces of this amazing goddess and Daimler brings them together in a very readable way that enchanted me into turning page after page."

- Elen Sentier, author of *Elen of the Ways* and *Trees of the Goddess*

Morgan is an Irish Re-constructionist with Heathen tendencies who has been a polytheist since the early '90s. A wandering priestess of Odin and dedicant of Macha, she teaches classes on Irish and Norse magical practices, fairies, and related subjects around the northeastern United States. Morgan's writing has appeared in a variety of magazines and anthologies including 'By Blood, Bone, and Blade: A Tribute to the Morrigan' and 'Naming the Goddess'. Morgan is also the author of nine books including 'Fairy Witchcraft' and the urban fantasy novel 'Murder Between the Worlds'

Much has been said and written about the Morrigan, and I'm going to go out on a limb and say much more will be written about Her, much of it will be fantasy, and some will be academically dense. This book is a very short survey of what we know about the Morrigan in an easy, presentable way. It is aimed at the person who is not ready yet to read the more dense books or needs a compass to navigate the confusing material in books and websites. The book is made up of an Introduction and seven chapters. The Introduction starts by laying out the aim of the book and then goes into the different Morrigan, and their functions that the author will be talking about. It also discusses the different meanings that we have for the word Morrigan. Chapters 1-4 give you everything you need to know if someone asks you who are the Morrigan. Each of the first three chapters discuss Morrighu, Badb, and Macha and then the fourth chapter discusses the other Goddesses who MIGHT be conflated with them or are considered one of them. The author in most cases gives you the historical material associated with each of the Goddesses, their relationships (mothers, fathers, husbands), the forms they take, their associations and realms of influence and then the author gives us a poem, or an invocation or an offering prayer at the end of each chapter. Chapter 5 gives us a glimpse of The Morrigan in mythology. In chapter 6 the author talks about The Morrigan and animals, and in chapter 7 the author talks about The Morrigan in the modern world and how to find Her. As an introductory text this book is an awesome start. There is no way you can fit all the contradictions that are The Morrigan in one text, but this book does a good job of it. I especially loved the poems, invocations, offerings and prayers and of course the bits of the author's life that she chose to share with us. I think that if you are interested in The Morrigan, then this book is a must on your shelf. It is well researched, well written and engaging to

the last word.

When looking for texts on ancient deities--especially Celtic ones--I tend to find either incredibly dry texts written by academics, or fluffy, touchy-feely books without a great deal of scholarly info. This text is accessible and interesting, but also includes a great deal of historical information, cites sources for further reading and follow up . . . And then also offers insight into how a modern-day devotee of the Morrigan might translate ancient understanding of the goddess(es) into contemporary, daily practice. If you're looking for a good place to begin understanding the Morrigan I highly recommend Daimler's book.

This is the first book I've read on Fairy Witchcraft or Wicca, so I don't have anything to compare it to, but I found Daimler's entry to the Pagan Portals series to be a particularly strong one. Along with basic information (tools, magic, holy days) about Fairy Witchcraft, Daimler also shares personal experiences with fairies and elements of her own personal practice. This makes the book both an instructional and personal one--an interesting combination that keeps the reader interested as well as informed. It is also very nice to see a pagan book with cited sources and encouragement to seek knowledge elsewhere, namely in the classics. Daimler does an excellent job of giving the reader alternate resources to supplement the information she gives in FAIRY WITCHCRAFT. Very adept and stylish. This one is definitely worth a read.

I've been reading whatever I can find about The Morrigan, but kept getting confused. There's so many interpretations, and I could never wrap my head around them. This book solved a lot of my problems. The author lays out the interpretations and explains who and what each of them are. Then she explains how she interacts with that part of the goddess in a way that brings it all together. Things make sense now, and I have much better idea of who The Morrigan is.

Morgan Daimler always provides clarity and well founded insight in everything she writes. I recommend this book and all others she has authored as you will not start off wrong in your studies to begin with them. You will also be pleased to continue using her books as your studies become more complex and detailed. She has been down that path and what she has kept is well worth keeping for yourself. This book is a good map for learning about and experiencing the Morrigan. Years from now, when you are much wiser in these ways, you will come back to her works and think to yourself what a blessing it was to have started your studies reading what she has

written. You will better understand that you started in the right direction and were nurtured along the way. All that she has stated will still be valid and each item will be a strong supporter of what you have discovered for yourself. Morgan Daimler gets my highest recommendation as a writer, teacher, student and practitioner in Celtic studies for those seeking to place the traditions into practice in their daily lives.

Morgan Daimler is easily becoming my favorite author on the craft. She packs these books FULL of her knowledge from her own experiences and well known and respected resources. Between her 2 books on fairycraft, her overflowing knowledge of especially Irish folklore and the Goddesses, The Morrigan and Brigid and the Gods and Goddesses honored within fairycraft I am learning more than I ever have about the craft. I'm not disregarding my own experiences thus far.. although I am understanding and processing many experiences more clearly through Morgan's writings and shared knowledge. She has a way with words and sharing her wisdom in a very straight to the point manner, meaning and matter. She is a fabulous teacher.

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