

## **Intuitive Application in Everyday Life**

*“Faery elves whose midnight revels by a forest side or fountain some belated peasant sees, or dreams he sees, while overhead the moon sits arbitress.”*

*Paradise Lost, John Milton*

*“If there is a single common thread that weaves through all times and cultures, back to the very dawning of the race, it is the persistent belief in a realm that is not human, yet not animal...a kind of half-glimpsed world peopled by fairies and goblins, leprechauns and gremlins, and a host of other improbable creatures. Of course, our modern life-style has no room for such wraiths.”*

*Other Kingdoms by Hilarion*

Since childhood I have been fascinated by all creatures of the night, whether they be beautiful or terrible, faerie or vampire. I sincerely believe that all such creatures that are not classified under the heading “Human,” probably have some basis in fact. Of course, they may be the creatures in between levels of energy we can and cannot discern, which I am beginning to believe, or, maybe they are just necessary to our mythologies. The faeries have always been a particular favorite for me. And of course, I am fascinated by Midsummer celebrations and the lore that surrounds that magical night. Let us discuss faeries and all helpful imps that people so many of our faerie tales and legends.

The word faerie or fairy comes from the ancient French faes which is derived from Latin fata. It came into the vernacular a good 700 years ago to describe the wee folk that were a part of the oral tradition of many cultures. The word also described a condition of being in a magical state or enchanted. Being of good Scottish stock, my grandfather used to call the faeries our Good Friends. I understand that in Ireland they are referred to as Good People or the wee folk. In Wales, they were known as the Fair Ones, which might be the reason J.R.R. Tolkien saw Legolas and all fairies as “terrible” in their beauty. Often heralded as positive spirits of the earth, they are also feared when angered. The faerie is usually described by many as a small creature with dragon-fly like wings. But, these in fact may be the pixies, a smaller version of the faerie most of us know. I see the pixies as the teens of the faerie world. Queen Titania may be a more appropriate representation of a faerie to most of us!

It was believed in the old days that faeries represented the soul of man, as it was believed that the soul was the miniature replica of the human himself. And then we have the Kingdom of the Faeries existing before the advent of humans, living at different sites on earth - may be on a different vibration - which is how Tolkien pictured his very ethereal, larger-than-life creatures of light and power. And we will never forget the faerie kingdom in “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” by Shakespeare. Who can forget the bungling humans encountering the very dramatic faerie-folk on a special evening of fertility rites and magic?

We hear of the role of faeries as helpers to humanity but, they conduct themselves much better when humans are grateful and even leave small tributes on special feast days of the year: On Midsummer Eve, it is a gathering time for faeries and humans, alike. Shakespeare’s tale tells us of the King and Queen of the faeries and their very human-like squabbles as they play with vulnerable humans unaware of the spiritual strength of one very special evening in June every year! It is believed that at dusk on Midsummer’s Eve, it is easier to see the faerie-folk. The veil between worlds is less dense and the sightings are more frequent if there is a full moon as well. For years, more agrarian peoples paid homage to the spirits of the earth, whether they be the faeries of the trees and forests, the waters on earth, the fields or of the air. At Midsummer, it was a common belief that the faerie-folk and humans could mix with one another. It was not unusual for a human male or female to fall deeply in-lust with an extraordinarily handsome/beautiful person they encountered in the countryside. It is a night for fun and frolic. On such powerful days on earth, it is regarded as a smart idea to leave food out for the faeries as it will guarantee you a plentiful harvest for the coming year. The faeries also like shiny stones and beautiful plants.

The Celtic Queen Maeve is said to be part of the legend of Queen Mab of the Faeries and later, to be Titania herself. There was a spiritual folk, far above the vibration of humans called the Tuatha de Danaan who are often described as the original race of the faeries. They are kind of a titan-like group of beings who interact sparingly in the lives of humanity. While the tales we hear of introduce them as mischievous beings, it is commonly understood that they do not usually expose themselves to our attention without a purpose. The veil is more opaque on strong earthly holidays such as Midsummer, Beltane and Samhain.

In 1917, in Cottingly, England, 2 teenage girls captured what they believed to be faeries in their home garden. It helped begin the artistic capturing of faeries in the countryside and sparked interest, again, in the wee folk. Maybe after such a dreadful war as WWI, the English needed the help and peace of imagining beautiful creatures bringing forth lush gardens of beauty and peace? Or mayhap, we have always needed the faeries to help heal the Earth after destruction and war? We have only to look at our legacy of faerie tales to see into the hearts and minds of faerie-folk and the humans that love them.

#### How To See Faeries

We have ample opportunity to involve faeries in all our nature ceremonies at this wonderful time of year. At the next full moon (or Midsummer), go outside after 9 pm and place a fresh green leaf or small twig of leaves in a clear bowl filled with cool water. Leave an offering of cake, cookies or a wee bit of brandy next to the bowl. Make sure the bowl can receive the light of the moon at some time during the evening. When the light of the moon is shining brightly over the bowl, gaze down at the wet leaf as it floats on the water...and if you ask nicely, you will see one of your garden faeries's faces illuminated over the green leaf! I promise.

The faeries exist in our global mind-set because they are a particularly beautiful aspect of the Creator and we love all things beautiful! They teach us manners, how to conduct ourselves respectfully and how to play. They teach us about love and passion and how to spin gold from straw. Whether the elf be fair or foul, we co-exist with this spiritual construct and should never lose our ability to walk and converse with them. It is good to be reminded we share this wonderful planet with many light-beings. This understanding should help keep us humble...

May all your faeries be light, helpful and look like Liv Tyler or Orlando Bloom!

Light and Love and Gentle Faerie-folk to you,

Dr. Gwen G. MacGregor  
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