

You talked a bit about how your ASH is very tied to the land you live on. What ideas (if any) do you have about how ASH practitioners who are not in England or have any tie to England per se can have a similar connection?

Every place has its own spirit of place, its own entities that are venerated there (except Antarctica, but you're not there, so no worries!) You don't have to confine yourself to a pantheon or history. It doesn't matter "when" they're from, but "where" they're from. Of course, there's no reason the gods can't be universal.

Maybe the spirit doesn't have a name - He who lives in this tree, she who lives in this lake. That's fine. You can still venerate them like that. You don't need a bestiary of every spirit everywhere like the witcher 3.

This may come from a very modern/social media perspective but is there such a thing as a point of authority within the pagan spheres? I was introduced to this with the concept that there are "no rules" and with the seeming rise in people claiming priesthood/godspouse, I wonder if there are real life sources we can turn to for certainty.

I vibe with the no rules thing! I don't have that authority. As much as we want it to be, it's still not ours. Me giving you a list of dos and don'ts to be a heathen would make me even less of a heathen. We have no holy book - don't let anyone tell you what you can't do.

Priesthood? Depends on the process you're looking into. We don't have one in ASH. As for godspousing? WOAHA. You're about to kick up a storm with that. I don't think it's attested in ASH, though there are stories about ASs doing the deed with the Earth, which is mother earth - but they were weird, don't take that as a valid source.

what role, if any, do you see paganism playing in cultural revitalisation efforts?

ASH has the potential to bring back lost stories and lost holidays. Folklore was, in many small villages, social glue that holds people together. We still have some things in England - magpie divination for example - but many of the old tales are being lost.

What do you like in the ASH community and what should change?

What I like: It's a niche. Beofeld said it's the softer, warmer cousin of Norse heathenry - I thought that was very beautiful. That's what roped me into it - it's not loud, it's not boisterous, it's comfy. It's very small compared to the other paths. I like that it's becoming universal! I like that people from other places are picking it up.

I don't like that there's few people from England picking it up and more people from elsewhere (ironically). No interest in England, despite it being a native english religion. I also don't like how scholarly it is at the moment. There's a bunch of essays from non-academics - the ratio of

scholars to devotees is really bad. Devotion channels dead, translation channels lit up. It'd be much better if people treated it more as a spirituality and less as a springboard for academia.

What does your personal praxis look like? Tell us as much as you want about what you do. Let me see inside that pretty head.

It looks like this: I go outside with rice or seeds, I dig a hole, I bury them, then I go back inside. I'm not into household heathenry - I can't do everything in my bedroom. I like to do things outside that are relevant to the gods I'm worshiping. To Wada: Throwing things in the water.

Hierarchy: Spirits, Ancestors, Gods. Better to turn to something that's nearby than something that's far away. Hellhounds, magpie divination, are the two big ones. There are loads of magpies near my house (they nest here) so I see them all the time.

Why ASH instead of Nordic?

You're asking why I chose ASH instead of Norse? I touched on that before, but it's because where I live it's characterized by Anglo-Saxon history. We have sacred groves and springs here - it's a luxury to have direct connections to the religion. It helps me believe it more if I can interact with it in real life. I can't follow religions that are based on other countries across the sea. I'm ASH because it's what I see when I look out the window. I don't see anything Viking - but I see lots of Anglo Saxon stuff.

I've been curious about authorian legend lately and how it might relate to anglo-saxon heathenry (as that is the celtic stories most influenced by ASH to my knowledge) Are there parts that can be obviously seen as anglo-saxon influence, just as one can see the obviously Christian influences?

Arthurian stuff is hard because there's so many variations on it. Look at pre-galfrydian arthur stuff - before it was christianized. In BT dict we have unicorns and other arthurian stuff; they influenced the ASs.

How would you approach myths of deities that tend to be difficult to digest for the modern day morality?

Damn, that's deep! Trying to think of an example. Woden's wild hunt. In ASH it's sometimes damaging - you have restless dead thrashing through the countryside leaving a mess. It's weird to balance something like that - on the one hand, Woden's doing a good thing, collecting the lost dead, but on the other hand he's ruining everything. But then again it's just a myth. Not much of a problem - it's not literal. The myths are not fact.

Can you go off on one about Sif/Sib, the wife of Thunor? How does she differ from her Norse equivalent?

There's not much there! They changed the f to a b and that's it. She's only mentioned once in Beowulf. You could poach some Norse stuff, or patch it up with folklore. She could be one of Frig's weavers, as Grimm, or maybe she's just a name.

What's your favorite thing about ash c:

I like how small it is. Almost untouched but it is being ruined lol. How quiet it is and - how worldly it is. The lack of myth is refreshing, freeing. You're left to build your own and interpret. And that's what heathenry is about - finding out for yourself. The only unfortunate thing is it's a bit scary and hard for newcomers to get in. But after doing it for a while, I find it refreshing - and mythbuilding is fun and hell!

What about Hengist and Horsa? Bulletpoint thoughts. Watchu think about em?

- Ancestors
- Apotheosis
- Made into divine elves
- First to step on the beaches of Kent
- Reached divine status like Roman emperors
- Horsehead gables - put on houses and homesteads - strike me as protectors/defenders of the home.