

**Horned
Snakes
and
Feathered
Serpents
of the
Americas**

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Horned Snakes and Feathered Serpents of the Americas

Dedicated to all the
snakes, serpents, lizards, reptiles, dinosaurs,
frogs, salamanders, toads, crocodiles and alligators
who dwell all around us, and who creep ever coiling
within our draconian/reptilian limbic brain.

These were our First Initiators,
our primal Ancestors,
and Them we honour.

The Amerindians of the Northeast in their later Theologies, perhaps filtered through the early missionaries' dualistic history, generally saw the Serpent in a negative light. But who's to say what their ancestors before contact with the Vikings and later other Europeans believed?

The native Algonquins, Iroquois, Susquehannocks and Shawnees of Pennsylvania and the Appalachian mountain chain referred to their ethonic deity as <The Great Horned Serpent>. The Adena, Hopewell, an Indian tribes of the Mississippi and Ohio waterways and valleys left their great earthworks aligned to the sky. In SW Ohio is the largest serpent effigy in the world in the form of the <Serpent Mound>. It's 1/4 mile long coils align with the rising of the Sun on the Equinoxes and Solstices, and it sits atop an upwelling of the earth beneath an ancient meteorite hit, as a great coiling Serpent with it's mouth open to the elliptical sky/sun/egg before it.

In Central and South America there are 3000 years of history of the Olmecs, Toltecs, Zapotecs, Mayans, and Aztecs their religion in which the Serpent central. Their great teacher Quetzalcoatl / Kulkulkan is carved and worshipped everywhere in their stone pyramids.

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As in all non-Judeo-Christian-Islamic religions in the world, the Serpent is an image of the God/Goddess of Wisdom, Power and Knowledge of the Underworld and Subconscious. The Snake also represents the energies of Nature and Sex, and the Mysteries of the Sacred Tantrik Marriage of Sun and Moon. In Alchemy the Snake is the Spirit of Mercurius, the Transformed Adam Kadmon, the Fire energy of the Great Work. In Yoga and Tantra the Serpent represents Wisdom, Energy, and Sex.

But in the Dualistic Patriarchal Religions of today, the Dragon is Lucifer, the Serpent is Satan, the Snake is Lust! Well of course we know that there is nothing wrong with any of that. But some people are offended by the raw chaotic lustful nature of the Gods and Goddesses of this planet.

The Confederacy of the Iroquois consisted of five nations speaking the Algonquin language in southern New York. These Indians and the Susquehannocks of Pennsylvania and the Shawnees of West Virginia all lived in the Appalachian mountain chain, which abounds in snakes of all types, several poisonous, like the rattlesnakes of the rocky mountains and the copperheads of the wet valleys.

As a Wiccan/Shaman Priest living in these mountains of Pennsylvania, I work with the Standing Stones I have found on the local mountains and at streams and burial sites. These Stones usually have a guardian spirit connected with the energies of the most recent Indian Shaman/ess and the local earth spirits, just waiting to be awakened once again. This can be done by first just being quiet and listening to the *genus locii*, then later crystals can be added to enhance the energies of the site. Meditation and ritual connect you further to the local ethonic Old Ones.

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In this way the old Indian Shamans and River women may communicate their hidden knowledge and ways to you. The Yogis/Shamans/Tantrikas of the Himalayas are also by these methods able to contact the Naga/Serpent guardians of both physical and astral spiritual teachings in the form of Terma hidden by the Tertons of the past to get these teachings thru the dark times of the dualistic religions of destruction into the promise of this present New Aeon. Be patient, and honour all the Indians and Indian spirits of the Americas, for we wiped out their whole culture and society, but maybe we can still learn from their Religions.

Here is a list of some of the names of the Snake, Serpent, and Dragon Gods of the AmerIndians of North, Central, and South America :

Tawiskara - Iroquois crocodile of the Dark realms

Axkakses - Algonquin 'little Snake'

Waxakkoq - Great Horned Serpent

Usququ-haga - Snake clan

She-me-ne-to - 'Blacksnake'

Feathered Serpents :

Topiltzin-Quetzalcoatl - Aztec, Feast 3 February

Tlahuizcalpanteculti-Quetzalcoatl - Morning Star

Kulkulkan - Mayan

Gucumatz - Mayan

Hu-Ru-Kan / Hurricane - Caribbean storm Dragoness

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Mixcoatl – Cloud Serpent and Father of Q

Chac / Can / Coatl – 'Serpent' in Mesoamerica

Cihuacoatl / Quilaztli – white snake woman

Chicomecoatl – Mayan Seven-Snake goddess

Tezcatlipoca / Tonacatllicoatl – Aztec Sun-Serpent
called Smoking Mirror, enemy of Quetzalcoatl

Cinacohuati / Tonacacihua – female of above god

Tonantzin – Eater of Filth

Tlaloc – Rain Goddess

Oma – SW Amerindian rain Serpent

Xolotl – female of the same

Coatllicue – Aztec wrathful
Serpent-skirted Earth-goddess

Xiuhcoatl – Aztec Fire Serpent

Peruvian Shamanic Serpents :

Huairamana – air mother

Yacumama – water mother

Sachamama – forest mother

Canessa, Uzela, Vedina – princess Serpent tamers

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Durahua - Water Serpent who can transform into a submarine for shamanic travel under water, or into a vapour for crossing water.

Boa Chichusushisca - begot by a Boa

Corimachaco - meandering Serpent with golden rings on its body

Machaco Gacelas - women with Snake's bodies

Mamatuas - Snakes from the bottom of the river

Serasta - Horned Snake who lives in high trees

**Snake-Gods of the
Chilean Mapuche Indians and from Peru :**

Cai Cai Filu - earthquake ocean Snake

Tren Tren - hill Snake rising above flood

Chinufilu - Snake-haired deity

Supaya - commands Snakes

Aserropatahata - 'cut Snake' mountain near Lake Titicaca

Copacati - Snake idol

Wak'ani - place of power, dwelling of the Serpent, in a cave, gully, canyon

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Lanzon - 500bc deity with Snake hair
and Feline Fangs demanding human sacrifice

Qiapaec - later version of same

Sacred Indian places in the Susquehanna Valley :

<Chief Stone>

Behind the juncture of North and South Fork Creeks
on the North side of Peter's mountain.

A large 7 foot lingam of conglomerate
standing upright in a small stream bed
on a triangle of land.

Under which is buried the last Indian chief
whose tribe was wiped out by yellow fever
after they were forced into this huckleberry bog
by the French and Indian Wars.

I was first taken there by a friend whose Uncle had
photographed and written about this stone
in an earlier history book on the town of Halifax.

I took a large crystal which I put upon this stone
and I looked and traveled down under it to a
small cave in which sat an old Indian Chief
who looked up and smiled at me with great joy.

Whenever I see an animal dead by the roadside
I always pray that it be reborn

far away from roads,

then at Autumn I gather all their animal spirits
and take them up to the Old Chief for him to
heal them and make them reborn in the Spring.

I have buried quartz crystals at the four directions
marked by local stones of appropriate shapes
and a double-terminated crystal by the monolith.

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There is also in the north a small natural stone
on which can be easily seen the image of
the Horned God.

Up the hill from this standing stone
is an old tree with a deep hollow and bumps
that looks exactly like an old Mother Goddess.

Near her is a hemlock with a semi-erect lingum
standing out from it's broken bark.

Farther up to the top of Peter's mountain
there is a large flat under which one can sit
at the MidWinter Solstice at noon
and in this rock cave be bathing in the sunlight
incense curling in the rock mouth of this Dragon.

Once standing by the chief Stone I saw a vision
of a Deer-headed-man walking down the steep hill.

<King's Stool>

On Third mountain above Dauphin.

Two 30 foot tall and only 5 foot wide
monolithes of sandstone, one of which is
shaped exactly like a coiling horned Snake
sitting upon a Turtle with outstretched neck.

This stone is famous from the story that one Winter
the Paxton Boys from Harrisburg
(a vigilante group who slaughtered lots of
the last Indians in this area) came up here and
shot and left for dead an old Indian
who lived in a cabin by the springs
on the north side of Peter's mountain.

But before he died this old man climber up over
this mountain and across a small valley and then up
Third mountain to the King's Stool where he died.
In Spring people found his bones left there.

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This pinnacle is a little hard to climb
and harder yet to descend from
but from it's top is a magnificent view
down the mountain to the
Susquehanna River valley below.

<Pinchot Lake>

South of Harrisburg near Lewisburg.
Glacier erratic Druid Stone shaped like
a recumbant Egg surrounded by Oak trees
with a depression that has a pool of water on top
sitting over other stones leaving a tunnel under it
that gives a comfortable seat looking towards
the Sun setting over the sparkling lake..

<Rock Cave>

On Peter's mountain SW on the Appalacian Trail.
A narrow triangular rock cave about 30 foot deep.
Enter it to overcome fear and to meet the Nagas.

<Rock Shelter>

On Peter's mountain NE on the Appalacian Trail.
A large rock overhang about 50 foot high
under which you definitely feel the presence
of the Indians who once camped there.
Once I was on top of it and there was a
rattlesnake coiled on the rocks with a
black vulture soaring above us
and I held a Forked stick with black feather therein.

<Winter Solstice Rock>

On Peter's mountain SW up above the <Chief Stone>.

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Climb the mountain up a steep rocky trail to the top
and there you will find a large recumbant rock
under which you can comfortable sit crosslegged
at the MidWinter Solstice at noon and be bathing
in the sunlight and incense curling in
the rock mouth of this Dragon.

I do hope you have enjoyed this little history, grimoire, and
opinions of what I know of the AmerIndians and their
Serpent Religion and Cult of the Snake. So often we look
far from home for the exotic aspects of our spirituality.
But it is all here in this country and just under the surface
of our history, geology, and subconscious that we can re-
discover these Serpentine Gods just waiting to hiss into
our ears.

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