



Cultus Cucurbitus

Laboratory Report

No. One

RITUAL TEA

The following recipe for Ritual Tea comes from *Liber II vel Ares Animo: Rex de Arte Regia*, being the record of sex-Magickal operations performed by Fra. Belarion of the Temple Order of Baphomet from February 15, 1985, e.v. onward, at the New Abbey of Thelema. Although this tea may be suitable for all ritual work, it was especially formulated by Daeva Ares Animo, 325, for sex-Magick, including but not limited to Lesser and Greater Work of Sol as well as (IX) opera (both hetero- and homo-sexual).

Cultus Cucurbitus presents this recipe for research purposes only and makes no claims as to either its efficaciousness or its safety. Cultus Cucurbitus specifically warns that it does not advocate use of this Ritual Tea for any purpose soever.

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Balance and equilibrium are essential for the Great Work; hence, the chemical ingredients in this Ritual Tea are composed of equal parts of yang and yin. The masculinity of the ginseng find its counterbalance in the damiana, for example. Furthermore, the bitterness of some ingredients (e.g. damiana) is compensated for by the sweetness of others (spearmint and honey). Try to follow the recipe as closely as possible your first time out; then experiment by adding or deleting ingredients until you reach the balance and equilibrium that is right for you.

YOU WILL NEED:

Mortar and pestle
Aluminum tea ball
Saucepan
Cup

INGREDIENTS:

1 Contac brand time-release cold capsule
1 heaping tablespoon dried damiana leaves
1 teaspoon jimson weed
 $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon dried, ground yohimbe
1 teabag Celestial Seasonings brand Ginseng Plus tea
1 dollop honey

METHOD:

Using mortar and pestle, grind entire contents of Contac capsule into a powder. Place powder in bottom of saucepan. Place damiana leaves,

jimson weed, and yohimbe into aluminum tea ball and place tea ball in saucepan. Put Ginseng Plus teabag into saucepan. Add one coffee mug of water. Bring to boil and allow to boil approximately a minute. Remove from heat and add honey. Let steep five minutes.

NOTES:

Contac capsules in their "heyday" contained some ingredients that are not found in such cold remedies today, such as extracts of the nightshade and henbane plant families. The purpose was to make them narcoleptic and/or hypnotic. One finds no hyoscyamine, atropine, hyoscine, or scopolamine in today's cold capsules; instead, you find Phenylpropanolamine hydrochloride and Chlorpheniramine maleate. But...Surprise! These two "safer" ingredients have the same effects upon the nervous system. If you wish, some of the herb mail order outfits can probably sell you henbane and nightshade, but why take the risk in not knowing proper dosages?

Damiana is *extremely* feminine in nature, that is, yin. Especially if the working is of a negative nature or undertaken under the influence of the Moon should damiana be employed, but as sex-Magickal workings most often are undertaken in the spirit of the Great Work (union of opposites), the ginseng will counterbalance, as it is solar-phallic and very, very yang. Celestial Seasonings' Ginseng Plus brand of tea was chosen because, when honey is added, its combination of sweet herbs counterbalances the bitter taste of the damiana: chamomile flowers, spearmint leaves, crystal malt, orange peel, and spearmint oil. Other brands may suffice, of course.

The jimson weed comes from the nightshade family and is poisonous in large doses. It can be left out of the recipe or, if desired, smoked, either by itself or with a little kiff.

WARNINGS:

Because you are concentrating the ingredients of the Contac capsule, be sure to READ THE WARNINGS ON THE BOX so that you can determine if the chemicals are contraindicated.

Yohimbe, from the bark of an African tree, has been determined by the Food and Drug Administration to be the first known true organic aphrodisiac. (Yes, we know, cantharides is also organic -- from a beetle -- but it is *not* a true aphrodisiac, since it irritates the genitals without stimulating the brain.) The FDA, operating by the good old standard of the protestant work ethic which declares that anything fun should be illegal, promptly took yohimbe off the market. Our suggestion is this: Buy one of the sleazier "men's" magazines and order a catalogue from an outfit that sells sex toys. Often, these mail order companies will have yohimbe as well, and it is often high quality yohimbe.

For some reason yohimbe is considered unsafe when taken with alcoholic beverages of any type. We have found, however, that a little ritual wine, or some of the Guild of the Golden Athanor's recipe for absinthe will not be contraindicated.

Be careful.

Have fun.

Enjoy.