Mark Vincent

THE SIGIL SECRET

using magic symbols to protect, heal and create



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For Zoe

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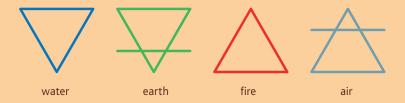
1. SIGILS

Sigils, in their simplest form, are a graphic, visual representation of an intent, notion or concept. They are either a symbolic, or a pictorial representation.

Sigils exist in many places in every day life – even traffic signs and icons like toilet signs are sigils. All chemical elements have their own sigil, as well as planets and astrological signs. In these instances, sigils are used either as an abbreviation of an otherwise lengthy word or sentence, or as a clear sign that even small children, illiterates or foreigners can understand.

Company logo's are also a type of sigil. A simple example is the golden arches of the McDonald's logo – that welcoming logo, inviting you to come in. Think also of the Nike swoosh. I'm guessing that as soon as you thought of that swoosh, you also thought of the slogan "Just do it". In a sense you just experienced a minimalist version of sigils at work. Just seeing the swoosh made you think of the slogan. The sigil produced an effect – and that is exactly what the companies want.

In occult or magic areas, sigils are often used to represent and invoke other worldly entities like spirits, angels and demons. The four elements of fire, air, earth and water all have their own sigils (see image below).



A brief history

The notion of representing ideas within a symbol dates back to the dawn of mankind. The first written languages, like hieroglyphics, use symbols representing an idea or thing. Egyptian hieroglyphics could be said to be an early ancestor of the modern sigils. Some languages to this day employ symbols rather than words made up of individual building blocks (letters), the most well known of course being Chinese.

Other than for the use of registering texts, laws or financial data, symbols were used early on for divination purposes. Norse runes, as well as the Chinese I Ching, are an example of this. For centuries, dating back to matriarchal times, women have embroidered sigils onto clothing while chanting verbal sigils, to protect and safeguard its wearers, or onto samplers, with intentions for healing, fertility, protection and rich harvests.





Top: Magic wand with sigils for protection, Egypt, ca. 1981–1640 B.C. *Bottom*: 4 Falus Coin with Sigil of Solomon, Morocco, 1873 A.D. *Left*: Fragment of linnen clothing with sigils sewn on, Koptic, ca. 500-799 A.D.

Throughout the ages, versions of sigils have existed in art and architecture around the world. Sigils were used for protection of a building, for fertility,



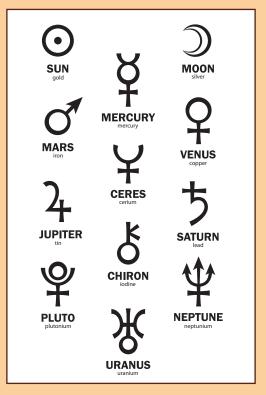
or for health. Sometimes sigils were added to works of art or to buildings as a hidden message, especially during times of inquisition or when a certain truth could be seen as heresy. At other times, sigils were used openly, for example on coins.



Top: Table of chemical and philophical symbols, Basil Valentine's Last Will and Testament, 1670 A.D. *Right*: symbols for celestial bodies and metals.

The idea of using symbols, or sigils, to protect, heal and create dates back to the matriarchy, and survived not just the test of time. but many witch hunts. inquisitions and other persecutions. Sigils have been and are used in cultures all over the world. The

The Greeks started using sigils to represent astronomical objects and their corresponding elements as early as 800 B.C., and this led alchemists and scientists to create sigils to represent newly-discovered objects and elements. These sigils are used to this day in science, astrology, esoterics and magick.



swastika is a sigil that is found as early as prehistoric times, and in cultures all across the globe. All major religions around the world have their own versions of sigils; Christianity has the cross, Islam the moon, and Judaism the star of David. We find the pentagram in Wicca and the Baphomet in LaVeyan Satanism. These are all versions of symbols that convey emotional meaning and are magical in nature. Medieval grimoires (magic books) contain many different examples of sigils.





Left: Buddha with Swastika sigil, Po Lin Monastery, Hong Kong. *Right*: Swastika's on a necklace, Iran, ca. 1200 B.C.

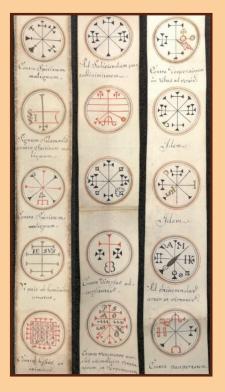






Top right: Adrinka sigils on stamps, Ghana. Bottom right: modern rendition of the Mayan Muluk sigil for rain, life force and prosperity. Bottom left: Pakua, the Yin-Yang sigil for balance surrounded by the eight i-ching oracle trigrams, China. Top left: Anahata, the heart chackra sigil, India.





Magical sigils, copied onto an 17th-century English amulet roll, against evil spirits [1st column, 1st to 3rd rows], venomous snakes [2nd column, 5th row] and poverty [3rd column, 5th row] (England, 17th century): Add MS 25311. From https://blogs.bl.uk/digitisedmanuscripts/2019/07/magical-seals-in-an-english-book-ofhours.html by Clarck Drieshen.

The modern rise in using sigils is largely due to the English artist and occultist Austin Osman Spare (1886 – 1956), who developed a more modern kind of sigil, and the use of gnosis to empower these, based on his occult and esoteric studies. Chaos magic, a movement risen from the philosophy of Spare and developed in the 1960s out of a need to use magic without the religious connotations and based on results rather than elaborate, ornamental, dogmatic and ritualistic elements, has hugely popularised the use of sigils. The internet has further enabled people from all over the world to embrace sigils and their use is becoming increasingly widespread and common.

In this book, you will learn various methods for you to work with sigils to protect, heal and create, most of which stem from Chaos Magic – the system of magic that has no system. The basic tenet is that nothing is real and everything is permitted: whatever works to get you to the results you want, is what counts and is valid.



Top: Sigils drawn by Austin Osman Spare. *Bottom*: Sigil for the Philosopher's Stone or the Elixer of Life, for rejuvenation, enlightenment and bliss.



2. WHAT TO USE SIGILS FOR

The types of sigil in this book have a distinct purpose: they are a manifestation aid. These sigils are used to influence the world around you, to create change in accordance with your will and to allow your deepest desires to materialise by penetrating deep into your unconscious, bypassing your conscious doubting mechanisms. In this book you will learn how to convert your wishes, goals and desires into a symbolic representation.

Sigils are extremely versatile. You can use sigils to conjure everything from a small amount of money to career changes – pretty much any real world effect or goal you can think off. I have used sigils to help me join the right kind of musical group for me, for relationships, and for money. Sigils can be used both for physical as well as mental desires. Sigils for physical desires are designed to influence the world on a material level. They can be created to obtain things like:

- a house
- a partner
- protection and health
- fertility
- a job
- a status

Sigils for mental desires are designed to influence your subconscious and program your brain to act in a desired manner. They can be created to obtain things like:

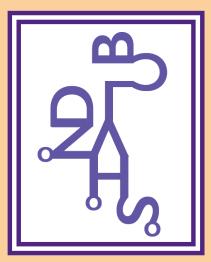
- self esteem
- stop procrastinating
- creativity
- clarity
- calmness
- reaching a goal
- courage
- forgiveness

You can use sigils to help you nudge probability in your favour to acquire things that you want. Sigils allow you a mechanism for bypassing your doubts and ego-based objections, permitting your unconscious to seek out the things that you truly want. It also provides a way of bypassing any tendency to self sabotage. I find the biggest value is that they bypass my doubting mech-

anism, helping me release and let go of control.

You might want to work with sigils if you find yourself constantly blocking your own successes. You may want to try sigils if you have tried other systems and have had limited success. And you definitely want to apply sigils if things you want to manifest are important to you.

Sigils are used to help you magically acquire that which you desire.



Sigil for: Money flows to me in avalanches of abundance.

'In 2011 I lost my job and my house and had to move from the city. I decided to create my own personal sigil to find a good place that suited me, though I did not have enough money to pay any rent. After 2 or 3 weeks someone I didn't know contacted me to answer a message I posted, offering me a room. It was exactly what I had made the sigil for, even including the swimming pool I desired. And even better, a few days before that, a friend of mine from Germany had contacted me because he needed a copywriter urgently. I had the house and the job in less than twenty days with my sigil.' – Olibana, www.holistictimesblog.wordpress.com

'My mind used to wander everywhere, even when I was trying to concentrate on my work. Some thought would pop into my head, usually unrelated to what I was doing, and I would feel the urgent need to pursue that first. I did a sigil for concentration and after a few hours I already noticed a difference. Now, I am hyperfocussed when working.' – Aedith Empress

All is good

As discussed, a sigil enables you to spell cast your desire into being. In other words: sigils help you manifest your wishes. The nice thing about working with sigils is that you can't create anything unwanted. The very worst that can happen when you use it incorrectly, is that nothing will happen. When used correctly, what you want to happen, will happen.

All you are doing is activating certain parts of your brain to nudge the odds in your favour. There is nothing to be afraid of because the only thing changing is you. The use of sigils simply allows you to bypass that part of your brain that doubts that you can do the things that you already can do. There's just you, your beliefs and the result.

I know you'd probably like to get started on making sigils, and you *could* skip chapter three and fast forward to the sigil making part of this book – it's chaos magic after all: everything is allowed, there are no rules and no systems. However, successful spell casting is more than just executing specific tasks like devising and drawing a sigil. It is a process, wherein the actual sigil making is one of the final steps. The magical ritual consists of answering six questions, the making of the sigil, and the activation of the sigil. But even before we can start answering the six questions, you need to understand why and how sigils work, and what will keep your sigils from working, in order to get the best result from your sigil work.

3. WHY SIGILS WORK

The workings of the unconscious brain

I've been practising Sigil magic for a very long time. I started my journey many years ago as a teenager fascinated by Satanism. I still have a copy of the Satanic Bible and I'm quite a big fan of Anton LaVey, probably because I'm a bit of a contrarian: I'm not a fan of dogmatic systems. I have dabbled in what I hesitate to call "voodoo" and various forms of ceremonial magic.

Believing that results count more than anything else, and being a person who enjoys counter culture, I suppose it was inevitable that I eventually came across chaos magic and sigils.

Then I trained as a hypnotherapist and cognitive behavioural therapist. This allowed me to delve deeply into the nature of belief and the effect that conscious repetition has on our deep-seated beliefs. It allowed me, under a controlled environment, to learn methods of communicating with the unconscious, and to understand that the unconscious works in symbols and emotions. Most importantly, I became deeply familiar with the workings of the unconscious brain and how it is purely logical – but not even remotely rational. The more I began to understand these factors, the more I began to see the links with chaos magic. What is a therapeutic practice after all if not but manipulation of belief towards a result?

I've been a musician for many years and have used sigils in my career from time to time. My most obviously successful use of sigils was when I used them to join a band called Spearhead. At the time I was a little bit lost, musically speaking. I had been in bands for a long time, grown tired of it, and dropped out. I decided one day that I was going to audition for a band who advertised they were looking for a drummer. This band had a record deal and were reasonably well-known.