



## Plant Allies of the Gaian Tarot



### *Additional Reading and Resources*

There are zillions of books, courses, and resources out there. These are just a very *few* of my favorites. Working with the energies of plants and flowers is a wonderful, exciting lifelong journey, and gardeners and herb people are some of the nicest you will ever meet! Enjoy!

[Cunningham's Encyclopedia of Magical Herbs](#) by Scott Cunningham

A classic sourcebook of hundreds of herbs and their energetic properties.

[Magical Herbalism](#) by Scott Cunningham

Unlike the Encyclopedia, which is a compendium of the many herbs and plants that might be used in magic, this book offers a number of recipes and spells for creating various results.

[Green Witchcraft](#) (Book One) by Ann Moura.

Offers a very helpful list of many herbs and flowers, and their energetic properties, as well as a very readable, knowledgeable introduction to the Earth-based spiritual traditions. Gentle, but not silly.

Anything and everything written by my magical sister and renowned herbalist, [Linda Ours Rago](#), including:

- [Blackberry Cove Herbal: Healing with Common Herbs in the Appalachian Wise-Woman Tradition](#)
- [Mugworts in May: A Folklore of Herbs](#)
- [Dooryard Herbs](#).

All of these are classics, as cozy and fascinating as sitting down with the village wise woman for tea. They are renowned among magical people and serious herbalists alike. You can also visit her at: <http://www.lindarago.net>

[Magical Gardens: Myth, Mulch and Marigolds](#) by Pat Monaghan

No longer in print, but readily available from various used book sites, this is one of my favorites in terms of sparking our creativity and making our gardens sacred space. While a few of the gardens she suggests are somewhat doubtful in terms of actual horticultural practicality, this widely respected Goddess expert has a lovely philosophy of how we can co-create with plants.

[A Druid's Herbal for the Sacred Earth Year](#) by Ellen Evert Hopman

This guide to the plant lore of the Druid and Celtic traditions suggests appropriate herbs and rituals to celebrate the eight major festivals of the year, and includes medicinal and magical uses of herbs for each season.

[The Botany of Desire: A Plant's Eye View of the World](#) by Michael Pollan

Pollan focuses on the co-evolutionary relationship between humans and plants. His premise is that plants are, in their own ways, cultivating us, for their own species' successes, as much as we are cultivating them for ours. He's not the only one with such ideas, but might be the most fun and entertaining to start with. Also on DVD and streaming from Netflix.

[The Secret Life of Plants](#) – Peter Tompkins and Christopher Bird. Written about 40 years before their time, this may have been the first modern scientific inquiry into the intelligence of plants. Languished until being rediscovered in the 60s and 70s, when alternative consciousness became widely accepted in the popular culture.

[Primary Perception: Biocommunication with Plants, Living Foods, and Human Cells](#) – Cleve Backster. Cutting edge research that demonstrates the mind/body connection and intercommunication with all living things.

[Plant Spirit Medicine: The Healing Power of Plants](#) - Eliot Cowan. Eliot uses plants for healing by first calling on their spirits, having found that the leaves, roots, etc. are comparatively ineffectual without connecting in this magical/shamanic way.

[Behaving as if the God in all Life Mattered](#) and

[Perelandra Garden Workbook: A Complete Guide to Gardening with Nature Intelligences](#) by Machaëlle Wright  
Machaëlle Small Wright is a spiritual pioneer with the ability to “see” and “hear” the invisible forces of nature. The first book is the amazing, can’t-put-it-down story of how she discovered her ability to communicate with the world of nature spirits and devas.

The second is, as the title suggests, a workbook for anyone seeking a new way of collaborating with the devas and overlighting guardians of plants. Like a Western Hemisphere version of the amazing work being done at [Findhorn](#), “Perelandra” is her 45-acre private nature research center in Virginia, where Machaëlle devotes her life to understanding and demonstrating a new approach to health and ecological balance. She also has a wonderful website: <http://www.perelandra-ltd.com>.

### ⌘ Few other recommended resources:

[Mountain Rose Herbs](#) - Since 1987, they have provided outstanding, fresh, quality herbs, gathered in mindful, ethical, often organic, and always sustainable methods. This is my resource for the Soul Card (Birth card) ingredients I am not able to grow myself. Speaking of which...

[Beth Owl’s Daughter’s Soul Card Kits](#): Based on my extensive knowledge of the energetics, lore and magic of the Plant Allies, I have formulated nine unique herbal mixtures that harmonize with the characteristics of each of the **Soul Cards** of the Major Arcana. Details & order info are [here](#).

[The Essential Herbal](#) – A fun and excellent herbal magazine/newsletter with six issues per year. They also have a wonderful website. Written by and for passionate herbal people!

[Herbs from the Labyrinth](#) is a woman-owned herb garden and herbal products business in southeastern Pennsylvania. All of Sarah Campbell’s outstanding herbal body-care products, herbal health care and wellness products (including tinctures & syrups), and herbal ceremonial products (including dream pillows, dried herbs and sweetgrass braids) are made by hand and in small batches, with a sacred awareness of lunar and seasonal cycles. She will custom blend teas and tinctures, even smoking blends, to your needs.

[Susun Weed](#) is a world-renowned herbalist and author of women’s health books, who has pioneered the Wise Woman Tradition of herbal medicine healing, and how to make home remedies.

[Rosemary Gladstar](#) is the “godmother of American herbalism.” She is the author of many books, the founder of the California School of Herbal Studies and a passionate champion of sustainable practice and protection for medicinal plants.