

IMPERIAL DRAGON ORACLE

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INTRODUCTION

“Congratulations!” This word is a blessing that we say to one another when everything seems to be going great. It is a word that acknowledges the sacredness of the moment. At these special times we feel at one with our destiny; in the right place, at the right time, and doing the right thing. By choosing to discover the Imperial Dragon Oracle, you have just connected to your destiny. It is no accident that you are reading these words, for it was your intuition that led you here, so “Congratulations!”

You have just begun an exciting journey; one that will take you deep inside of yourself and enable you to discover the wonders of your inner microcosmic universe, where you are the creator and guide. Once you understand the microcosmic universe, you will also understand the macrocosmic universe. The world then becomes a place of true wonder as you watch the energies of change unfolding around you. You understand how to navigate these energies to walk in harmony and peace. This vision is not a fantasy, but a potential reality in your life. Imagine being able to understand why things need to be and to have inner peace with every unfolding energy. To live in a place

beyond good and bad, where you no longer divide and separate but accept everything with love and joy. Such a place does exist and you are progressing towards it. Many people understand the concept of living a peaceful life but few have yet to experience it as reality. This is because the road to finding inner peace involves experiencing change and some pain in order to learn deep and powerful lessons.

Life is filled with lessons. From the moment we are born we begin to learn from our greatest oracles; our mothers. When a mother tells her child not to touch the flame, she knows in her heart that in order to understand the power and danger of fire that child must touch the flame. The child hears the wisdom but does not understand it. At first he trusts his mother and listens to her wisdom, never daring to reach out his hand. But the flame is so beautiful; it dances and glows in a magical and mesmerising way. The child thinks “How can something of such beauty be dangerous?” Sooner or later curiosity will override all other thoughts and the hand enters the flame. The pain is beyond imagining. The child snatches its hand back and screams in agony. Mother arrives with her special healing magic and lovingly nurtures her child back to a place of peace and harmony. The child now knows the wisdom of not touching the flame. How

can this be a bad thing? Certainly pain is not pleasant, but the wisdom that arises from painful experiences can be of great value. The wisdom of not touching the flame will save that child's life a thousand times over. It is the ability to make fire that raised us up above the other animals, but fire can kill. Without the wisdom of not touching the flame, one would not live very long. It is one thing to understand the concept of danger but quite another to have experienced danger first hand. Life can be painful at times, but if we learn to embrace these challenging times with love and joy, we walk from the pain of experience into the priceless wisdom of understanding.

There was a time, many tens of thousands of years ago, when mankind was just another animal. It was a time when many of the creatures that we now know of only in mythology actually existed in physical reality. At this time dragons ruled the world. They were the guardians of the planet and held the energies of creation in balance. But everything that has a beginning has an end; the time came for the reign of the dragons to cease. It then became the turn of humankind to watch over Mother Earth. As a parting gift, the dragons gave humans the knowledge of the power of fire. It was this power that has brought us to these amazing times in which we now live.

What is even more amazing is that the dragons are back. They have returned to help us make the leap of consciousness that will bring our planet and all its inhabitants up to this higher level of being. Dragons have always been harbingers of change so it should be no surprise that we feel attracted to their energy at this time. This Oracle connects you to the dragon energy and in doing so enables you to start to understand the power of change and the wisdom to be found within it. This in turn will enable you to navigate through life with calmness and ease. Welcome to the world of the Imperial Dragon Oracle. Let it guide you through these changing times.

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PART ONE

THE WORLD OF DRAGONS

The dragon is without doubt the most widespread of all the guardian spirits of the earth. The word dragon comes from the Greek *drakon* meaning “the seeing one.”

Most commonly depicted as a huge, bat-winged, fire-breathing, scaly serpent with a barbed tail, the dragon has embodied since the dawn of time a powerful, protective energy. These fearsome beasts were often seen as gatekeepers to other realities, and guardians of treasure and spiritual wisdom. There is a common theme throughout much of world mythology in which the hero does battle with a dragon in order to secure a hoard of treasure. Examples include the Greek hero Jason, and the Celtic and Germanic heroes Arthur, Tristram, Beowulf and Sigurd. In India, in the Naga region of Assam, the local tribes tell of dragons who may assume human or half-human, half-reptile form. They are guardians of treasure, most notably pearls.

Links between dragons and pearls can be found in many other cultures as well. Chinese dragons are depicted with “thunder pearls” in their mouths that they spit out. In other traditions, dragon deities are connected to the moon, “the night-shining pearl” or

“the pearl of heaven” as it is called in Mexico. Buddhist legends from India and Japan tell of “the precious pearl that grants all desires” that is obtained from a sea-dragon.

One of the earliest written records relating to dragons comes from Herodotus, the Greek father of history, in the 5th century BCE. He describes the dragon as a creature of both water and land. He says it lays its eggs on the land and lives there during the daytime, while at night it lives in the water. “Its claws are strong and the scaly skin on its back cannot be sundered.” Some cultures depict the dragon as a serpent born from a rooster’s egg incubated in manure, while others say it arose from the combining of a human or worm with metal. Ancient Chinese sources say that dragons are hatched from stones as snakes, or born from sea plants or aged pine trees.

In most traditions, dragons were intrinsically linked to the natural world. The Babylonian creation myth tells of the she-dragon Tiamat, the mother of all the gods. When she was slain by her descendant, Marduk, the world was formed from her body. In India, the drought-demon was a dragon that confined water. It was slain by the Vedic god Indra with a thunderbolt bringing about the annual rainy season. In ancient Egypt, Osiris, the god of the underworld, kept a

dragon that he released once a year. The dragon rose up from the underworld into the physical world causing the annual flooding of the Nile River, creating the rich and fertile flood plain. Some Chinese dragons are also rain-bringers that sleep in pools during the winter (the drought season) and arise in the spring to fight, causing the thunder and lightening of the spring storms.

The ancient Chinese art of feng shui determines the best positions of buildings according to how the energy of the local dragons courses through the land. In Greek mythology, the fertility goddess Demeter rode a chariot drawn by dragons and brought the knowledge of agriculture to the people. References to fire-breathing dragons can be found in many Middle Eastern cultures including the Egyptian “fiery flying serpent” and the Leviathan, which is graphically described in the Book of Job in the Bible as follows:

“His sneezes flash forth light and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning. Out of his mouth go burning torches; sparks of fire leap forth. Out of his nostrils smoke goes forth, as from a boiling pot and burning rushes. His breath kindles coals and a flame goes forth from his mouth.”

These evil dragons were considered symbols of death and destruction. The Greeks and Romans, although accepting the Middle Eastern concept of dragons as a

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