

THE SALAMANDER PEOPLE, THE FIRE ELEMENT AND MY FIRE INITIATION INTO THEIR REALM

By Eileen Nauman

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Anyone who picks UP a salamander? They are of the FIRE element. My Western Cherokee medicine man, Sam, and I had a similar event happen to me. I was visiting a friend in Dayton, OH decades ago and it was the middle of winter. I found a salamander in the middle of her double car garage. It was black with white spots. And it was so cold it was alive, but could barely move. I was so overwhelmed that the poor little critter was going to freeze to death, so I picked him up, cupped my hands over it to warm it. I knew the salamander had been TRANSPORTED into it for me...it was a message and I didn't know what it was. Feeling sorry for it, I then went outside on the cold, crisp winter day and found a huge oak tree with about a foot of dry leaves. I knelt down, dug all the way down within 1/2 inch of the earth. I made a nice little cozy "room" for the salamander. I gently placed him in it and crunched leaves all over him like a blanket to keep him warm, and then about 3/4's of a foot of leaves that would act like a protective, warm blanket to keep him alive and well for the rest of the winter. In the Spring he would awaken as the temperature warmed up. When I called my teacher and told him about the salamander, he asked, "Did you touch the salamander?" I said, "Yes," and how I had saved his life and given him a protective place to hibernate and remain safe for the rest of the winter cycle. He said that they are the "fire people." The fact that the salamander was alone, in the middle of an empty concrete floor garage, it had been magically brought in by the Grandparents. What it really was an invitation to start working with the element of FIRE.

I was walking the medicine path, in hopes of becoming a medicine person. It took years and there were four initiations: air, water, earth and fire. A medicine person must be connected and part of the four elements: Earth, Air, Water and Fire was usually the last element to be worked with. I remember him sighing and saying, "Well, it is time for you to begin to work with the element." There was dread, in his voice, that was heavy with worry and an edge of anxiety for me. I had worked successfully with the other three elements and passed those initiation. . He said fire was always the last to deal with because the person could be killed trying to connect with the fire element. He said that there would be a coming initiation in which I would either live or die. If I was "worthy" I would survive the initiation. If not, I would die. I was shocked by all this, to say the least.

I had been a volunteer fire fighter for three years in West Point, Ohio, and so I was comfortable around fires of all kinds, whether it was a wildfire, car fires, structure/home/warehouse fires, mine fires (coal mines in Ohio), an airplane crash in our area etc. My teacher said "that doesn't

matter.” That the Fire People are judge and jury with anyone working to become a medicine person, that their HEART is the scale, the measure of becoming a healer to the people. If the person was working out of their heart, was unselfish, compassionate, serving her or his village/people, then they would survive the initiation.

About three months later, Dave and I were cleaning up many acres of woodlands, getting a hundred years of fallen branches, leaves off removed so that we could walk through it instead of slogging through it up to our knees. We had a snake-like brush pile that was twenty feet long and about eight feet wide. I had brought out a gallon of gasoline in a can and (stupidly) went and sloshed it here and there into the center of this pile. Once done, I placed the emptied can up on a slope that was about ten feet away. Dave was working elsewhere so I got a lighter out of my pocket, pushed my way through the center of this mass. I was down on my hands and knees. I was wearing, of all things, my old West Point nylon jacket with cuffs on my wrists. As I flicked the Bick to start the flame? Someone unseen, forced my eyelids down across my eyes.

As the flame lit, there was a tremendous “WHOOOOSH!!!” and suddenly, I felt two things simultaneously: A bubble of cooling air surrounded me in the middle of that brush pile and I was tumbling end over end, as the brush exploded and literally blew me out of the center of it. I was tumbling over and over and suddenly slammed into the slope where the gas can sat.



Shaken, I opened my eyes. My head was slammed into the slope and I found myself opposite the brush pile which was now roaring from end to end after the initial explosion. What had happened was as I put gasoline from one end to the other, the FUMES of the gas had occurred. And when I lit the Bic, thinking that it would only start a small, central fire in the brush—it did not. The fumes lying close to the earth within this snake brush pile, lit instantaneously from one end to the other, all at the SAME TIME. It was a violent, huge explosion that blew me out of the center of it all, surrounded by fire (my husband saw it happen), saw me ejected out of it like a cannon ball, tumbling end over end and slamming into the slope, far away from the roaring flames.

Dave saw it happen. I was dazed and I sat up, trying to figure out what happened. When I looked around, my mouth dropped open, the ENTIRE brush pile a raging, violent, twenty foot of flames from one end to another. I felt out of body, and trying to put it all together. I suddenly realized I had been in the MIDDLE of that fire ball that erupted, engulfing me totally. I then panicked, realizing I was wearing a NYLON jacket. I knew that nylon melted instantly under fire conditions, melting on to the skin of the human wearing it, the skin burning beneath the melted nylon. Gasping I looked down at my hands. To my amazement, my jacket was not touched. Not a sign of melting into my arms, or around my collar/neck, or across my body where the nylon hung.

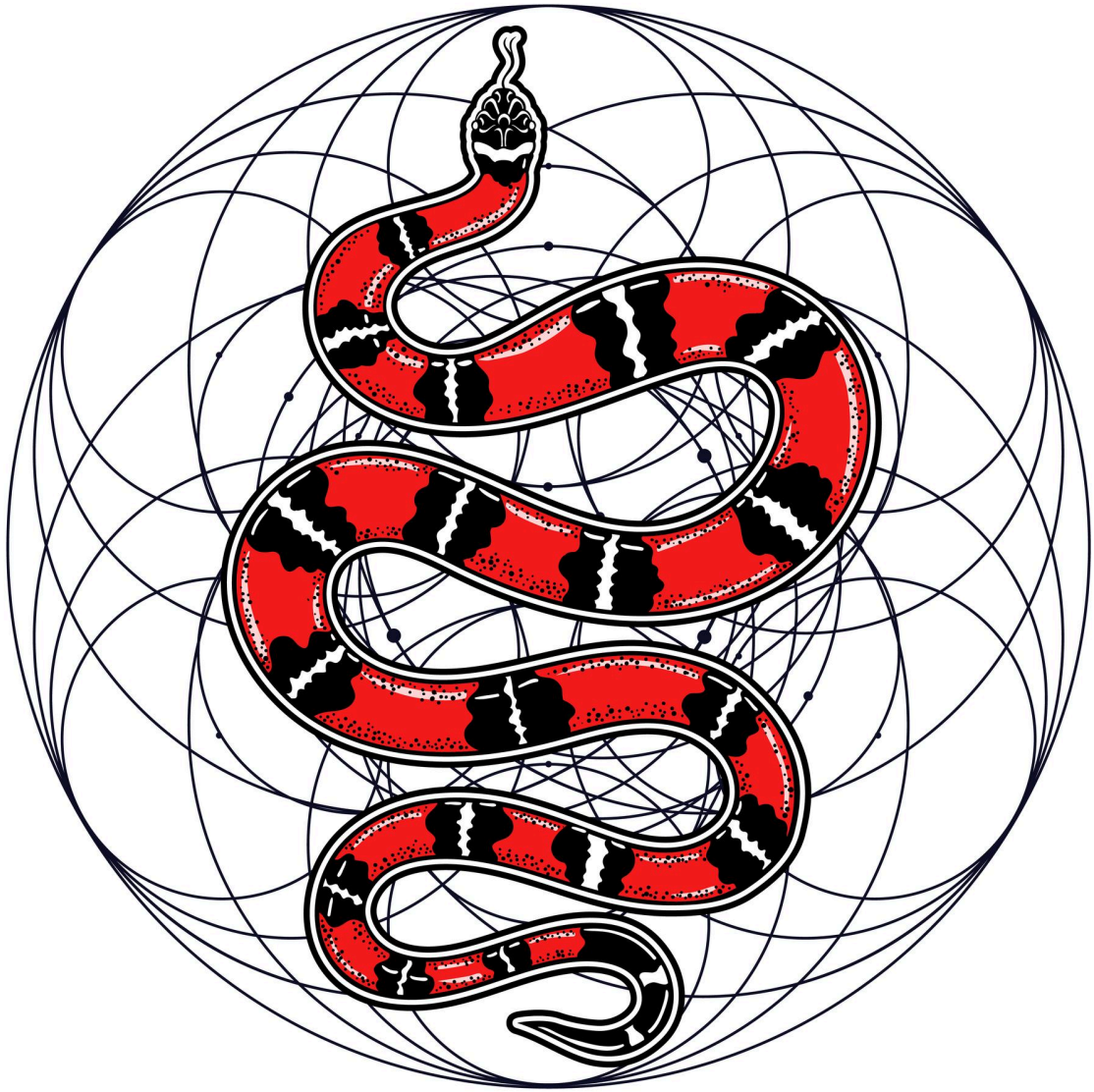
Dave raced up to me, screaming my name, thinking I was badly burned. Down on his hands and knees next to me, we checked the jacket everywhere and it was not burned AT ALL. The only sign of a first degree burn was the inside of my index finger where I had flicked the Bic to start the fire....my hair was not burned (and it should have been). My face was not burned, nor my hands, by the fiery explosion. I sat up, in shock over what had happened. And then, I recalled my teacher telling me that the Fire People would initiate me, one way or another, consuming me fully within fire and that I would either survive it and be protected from it, or I would die of horrific burns caused by it.

To say the least, I was shaken and in shock. Dave got me to my feet, my knees weak and wobbly. I was still coming in and out of semi-conscious state. He got me back to the house, shucked the jacket off me, looking for burns on my jeans I wore, on my hiking boots, and there was none. My hands were shaking.

How could that be? Dave was as shaken by it as I was. The fact that the nylon jacket was absolutely untouched by flames, had not melted at all. It took me another hour to feel like I was back in my body, put what had happened, all together again. I had a fire initiation. I completely enveloped by a ball of explosive fire, I'd been ejected out of it like a cannon ball shot out of it. I had NO BURNS anywhere, except for a ¼ inch first degree burn where I'd been holding the lighter. My hair had not been singed at all. And as I moved through the sequence, I remember the cooling air bubble that surrounded me, and that "someone" pulled my lids down over my eyes to protect them for what was coming.

I had survived my fire element initiation. I got on the phone and called my teacher and told him what had happened an hour earlier. There was silence at the other end when I finished my experience. I heard my teacher sigh, and then he said, "You're alive. You passed the initiation test." I asked him what that meant going forward. He said the Fire People had accepted me as an initiate on the fire path, and that I would now be given fire energy that would support me, protect me, to and to use it in healing to help others, and "all my relations." Fire isn't just 3D flames in a fireplace. There is COSMIC FIRE that is produced by the Kundalini, which resides in the tailbones and is symbolized as a coiled snake. Snakes are cosmically about energy and connection with Love. When our Kundalini arises, it weaves in and out of chakras, rising from the Root Chakra and moving upward along our spinal column until it move up and out of Crown Chakra which is located at the top, center of our head. From there, the energy connects with Universal Love and you are enveloped, embraced with it and every cell of your body is bathed in it. This is called "being Enlightened." When the cosmic snake awakens, She is of the FIRE PEOPLE. And one must have both in place in order to be triggered and working for us while we're in body. MISSION SOULS almost always are working with an "awakened" Kundalini because love transcends every dark human emotion. They are also known as WARRIORS FOR THE LIGHT. Their "weapon" is Love.



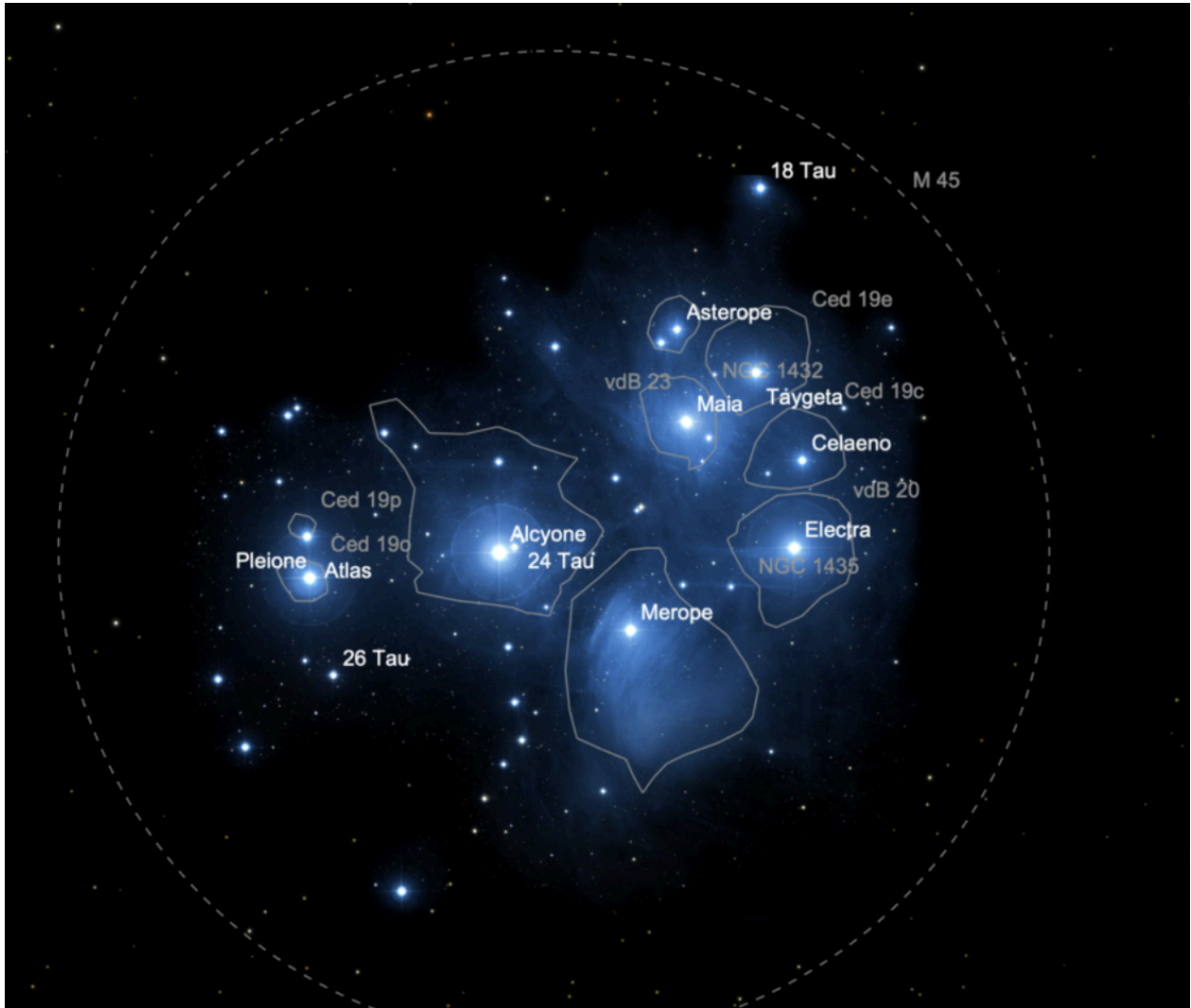




And all because I'd picked up the "invitation" of that black salamander with white spots. My teacher said the black was symbolic of the North energy, the winter darkness longer than the light. The white color spoke of my star person heritage, the blood in this incarnation that was from the stars. And that my connection cosmically would work through me to help/heal all my relations, moving forward. That felt right to me because of my powerful connection to the Pleiades, and in particular, to the star called Maia. Native Americans understand that they come from the stars, that Mother Earth was a 'teaching' planet for souls to come to and have incarnations in order to be educated and grow, hopefully into their heart, being compassionate by nature and understanding that love is the greatest and most positive/healing human emotion

that we have. We are designed to walk the path of Love as a soul. It felt good to hear that from my teacher. And interestingly, the Pleiades is high in our Northern hemisphere sky at night in the WINTER, when my initiation occurred. I felt very protected when I went through the fire initiation, by my home and by my star parents who are always with me in this incarnation.

My teacher chuckled a little when we got finished talking about the whole event. He said, "I'll bet you'll think twice before you pick up another salamander, knowing what you know now?" I laughed a little. I told him I had no regrets in saving that little black polka-dotted white spotted salamander than had been TRANSPORTED into that garage, designed such that I would, of course, pick up the poor creature and save it's life. Since then, salamanders have cropped up in my life and I always pick them up and carry them to a place of safety so they can continue to live. I also ask, when they show up to me in either 3D or 4D, "what message do you bring me?" and inevitably? They appear when a message from the fire people is being given to me, about something I need to know or understand. It is ongoing training and education by them, for me, as an initiate in their realm, to continue my ongoing training with them. That is how it works, at least via my Western Cherokee medicine man teacher. I'm humbled and grateful to be walking the Medicine Path. My mission this incarnation is to serve, aid in healing all my relations, this lifetime.



THE PLEIADES constellation with the names of the stars that can be seen with a naked eye. Maia is my soul home.

SALAMANDERS:

Are Salamanders poisonous? **While salamanders are not venomous (meaning that their bite is not toxic), their skin is poisonous.** If you happen to come into contact with a salamander, be sure to thoroughly wash your hands afterward and avoid rubbing your eyes or touching your mouth to prevent irritation.



Slimy Salamander is black with white spots

Are black salamanders rare?

Black salamander is **one of the rarest species among the salamander family.** It is almost extinct by now, and thus has become a rare sight.

Is it safe to touch a spotted salamander?

For starters, **don't touch—unless you are moving them out of harm's way.** Salamanders have absorbent skin and the oils, salts and lotions on our hands can do serious damage

Are there poisonous salamanders in the US?

Are salamanders poisonous? Yes – **all salamanders are poisonous.** If you were to accidentally ingest their toxins, it can make you very sick. California newts are quite poisonous

because their skin secretes tetrodotoxin, the same toxin found in puffer fish, making them deadly to animals that eat them.

What is a black salamander with white speckles?

Description: **The slimy salamander** is mostly black with white flecks and blotches along the sides and top portion (dorsum) of the body. The belly is typically lighter in base color than the rest of the body. The slimy has 15 to 17 (typically 16) coastal grooves (vertical flanks along a salamander's sides).

What is the most poisonous salamander?

The rough-skinned newt (*Taricha granulosa*) produces the neurotoxin tetrodotoxin, the most toxic nonprotein substance known. Handling the newts does no harm, but ingestion of even a minute fragment of skin is deadly. It is black with YELLOW spots on its body.

