

WE ARE THE JOURNEY

Northwest Region Unitreat June 2012

Group Leader Guidelines for Thursday Ceremony

Opening Song:

**We are all travelers moving through life
We choose our own roads guided by inner light
The steps we are taking we must take alone
To reclaim the Truth and to find our way home
Find our way home**

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Chris: Though all have the opportunity to embark upon the hero's journey, not all choose to do so. It takes a knowing soul to walk over the threshold that leads to presence and power. The hero's journey reveals who we are in the depth of our being. It invites us to be present to the moments laid at our feet. It shakes out the cobwebs of fear and doubt and builds new structures of confidence, bravery, trust, honor, spontaneity, enthusiasm...on and on. The many virtues of the hero are dormant in us all. They must be awoken by conscious choice and subsequent action. From these choices the true gifts of life appear out of the mists of old beliefs and patterns.

The hero is willing to lay down everything to achieve that which he or she is seeking. The hero knows how to use the learnings of the past, to call out to the wisdom held in the ethers, and to ask for help at the moment when one has appeared to reach personal limits. Ever on...new vistas...endless possibilities...moments of rebirth...celebrations...and choices to pick up and start the journey anew.

There is only one initial hero's journey. From that foundation many more will follow. You all have a knowing now...it is in your cells. It will reveal the truth even when your mind and your personality forget. You have earned that. You have stepped over that first threshold and dove with purpose into the abyss. And like the Phoenix you rose out of your own ashes in a greater glory. You have awakened and claimed your inner hero. No thing can ever take that from you.

Today's ceremony reminds you of your accomplishment. It blesses you with an honor and a recognition that you have done something remarkable that will always be yours. United by purpose and experience every one of you will always have an unbreakable bond with one another...hero's one and all. We salute you, we celebrate you...we see you.

In this life you get what you give. Participate fully in this ceremony and see how good it feels. Then watch how the Universe reciprocates to you in the days and months to come...

White Stone Ritual: (*counselors give white stone to each traveler*)

Chris: “Take now this white stone, a solid symbol of your Light, your strong heart, your pure intention, and your willing spirit. Carry it with you throughout the ceremony in your left hand and allow the teachings to flow into your deepest being...allow your own personal guides to fill you with what you need for this next phase of your life. The stone is a receiver. Again...keep it in your left hand throughout the ceremony.”

1. After Chris opens and you give each traveler a white stone then all families will begin to walk in a clockwise circle around the fire pit to the pulse and step of the drum. All will participate in the call and answer chant.

THE WALKING CHANT

**I Am the path, the journey's end
The goals, the stops, where I begin
All lessons learned along the way
Shall guide me on each blessed day
Bravery, Honor, Trust and Flow
Virtues four I'm glad I know
Spontaneity, surely I call my friend
On Enthusiasm too, I so depend
I Celebrate these virtuous traits
In choices and in steps I take
For, if indeed, as hero thrive
These signposts I must utilize**

2. One by one the families will separate from the group circle as they cross the front of the stage and head up the road to each of the signposts in this order: PURPLE, BLUE, YELLOW, RED.
3. Continue the cadence of call and answering the chant as the group walks in rhythm as one to the next signpost. Remind them of the white stone in their left hand...receiving information downloads just for each of them
4. At each successive signpost, cease the chant, identify the word and, in call and answer, speak each line of the 4 line chant with, you, the counselor, giving the call.
5. Upon completion of the Virtue chant for the signpost word, all speak the following:

**“And so it is given, and so I receive
I embrace this Virtue most thankfully”**

6. Continue on to the next signpost, repeating the Walking Chant in call and answer... repeat the process at each signpost (*4 line chant call and answer followed by the completion phrase.*) until you have visited all six.

7. Back at the campfire, resume the clockwise walk, joining the walking Chant call and answer until all families have rejoined the community.
8. When the drumming stops, turn and face the stage to begin the closing. Now hand out the Traveler Reference Page and refer them to the Closing. We shall speak this together as a community.
9. We shall proceed through a walk back through the week as we sing each of the 4 songs twice. The final song shall be taught and sung thrice.
10. We shall break the circle as we walk to families singing the theme song: "We are all travelers". Please encourage the travelers to keep the white stone and lyric page to remind them of their individual and collective experience.

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