

Foreword Review BODY, MIND & SPIRIT

Container Magic: Spellcraft Using Sachets, Bottles, Poppets & Jars

Charity L. Bedell Llewellyn Publications (Jan 8, 2023) Softcover \$17.99 (240pp) 978-0-7387-7261-5

Charity L. Bedell's Container Magic makes crafting spells in self-contained receptacles easy.

First covering the types of containers to use, with details on how to clean, fill, and dispose of them, the book takes a practical approach to magic. There are a variety of spells; each includes a list of materials and instructions, including chants and guidance on working with energy. A resource section follows this work, with lists of herbs, crystals, and other curios and their appropriate uses, as well as recipes for oils and incense.

The spells in the book are creative. There are money jars and healing poppets as well as spells made with clear glass; there are plastic balls for protection, boosting wellness, or getting rid of bullies. There are spells in boxes and tins, as with a spell to banish fears that utilizes a cardboard box and a magical tin to stop gossip. The variety is inspiring, showing the many possibilities of container magic.

The book contains ethically questionable hexes and curses, too, as with one to harm a relationship and another to cause bad luck. Though there is not a significant discussion of ethics, Bedell states in the introduction that such workings need to be used as a last resort, and that the energy from such work can and will backfire on the practitioner.

Though a novice could follow these instructions, the book will be of the most use to those with previous experience with working magic. The ability to raise and channel energy into an object is crucial, as is the ability to release excess energy. For those with this foundation, the book includes a wealth of useful information, pulling from systems including witchcraft and Hoodoo for maximum accessibility.

Container Magic is a thorough introduction to crafting spell containers with an impressive array of spells to learn from.

CATHERINE THURESON (January / February 2023)

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