9-3-17
11:45 pm

* Cyn’s rocking
* Cyn asks for a drink and sandalwood incense
* Hanna: “is it supposed to smell musty?”
	+ Cyn: “It means you’re getting close.”
* They pass around the wine; Cyn really wants to eat the cork and drink. They finish off the wine bottle.
* Hannah giggles, “Why does it feel like I read this story?”
	+ Cyn: “Because you have.”
* Hannah starts to sound uncertain when she says she “dropped…a “who””.

**Maes Howe**

* John in front of Maes Howe: “I am in [the tomb].”
* Cyn is reaching around for something, then to the ceiling. “I can’t reach it…” Mentions “grandmother’s blessing.”
* John: “Fire burns and the smoke rises.”
* Cyn: “Bread for those who have gone before us… before them… and before we can remember. Thank you for allowing us to be.”
* The wine wasn’t right, but proceeded to give wine.
* Hannah: “There should be tears…”
* Cyn crouches and rocks slightly. Gets up and touches skull, puts her face to what is inside the box and cries. She is keening with a tune, rocking as she and Hannah hold eachother.
* John: “Mighty ancestors we bring you this wood… for your permission of coal.”

**Stenness**

* Cyn: “That’s like leaving the darkness behind. Down the path, between the stones… Oh! It’s green! I saw it brown and sad…” [end of summer]
* Cyn grabs the other travelers’ hands and places them on stones.
* Hannah: “[The stone] is breathing…”
* John: “It is alive.”
* Cyn: “Thank you… I should have flowers.”
* Hannah: “We’ll bring them when we come back.” [brown and purple]
* Cyn: “Why would the dead be anywhere else?” [the location was pretty]
* Hanna: “Why be sad when you can be happy?”
* Cyn: “… and have teeth to chew with!” [grandmother]
* Hanna laughs. The dead are happy to see them.
* Cyn: “Bread to the dead… the living, stones, bones, spirits of this circle and to the spirits of all the circles of all he henges, and to everyone in between…”
* John: “Don’t forget the fae.”
* Cyn: “[Oh yeah!] And we will never… ever. Ever confuse you for Tinkerbell.”
* Hannah: “Drink for those who will never forget, and for all to remember…”
* They collectively rip on the Druid Order. Even John!
* Cyn: “I have to go back to Maes Howe.”
* Hanna: “What did you forget?”
* Cyn: “My bone!”
* Hannah had slipped the bone in her bag.

**Barnhouse**

* Hannah: “…Is that how it smells when a lot of mead is going?”
* Cyn takes out the cloth and they all breathe into it because it smells… terrible.
* Hannah pours mead into the dipper, then pours mead into cup. Then she drinks out of the cup.
* Gag! The mead was ruined; they were resetting.
* Hannah: “Little Cynthia when she is born and old enough to drink it, it will be ready.”
* John: “We should have done this [some time ago] … and we fix it. We have fixed this and it will take a long time to… (???)”
* Cyn: “Round and round and round…”
* John to me: “Write this:

This must be a story. The story of the mead tenders who were not there. I have no idea what it’s going to end up, but it must be written and it must be told. I have until February.”

* They take oath appropriately.
* Hannah: “By the sea, starry sky above me, Brigid (first) and all the Gods, Goddesses, those in between who I serve and work with.”
* John: “Cernnunos, Danu, Morrigan, heart and soul I will do as promised.” [The severity has hit him]
* They all hug.
* Crossing the isthmus- Cyn: “Ah! Cold feet!”

**Ness of Brodgar**

* John: “Hold. The. Rope.”
* Cyn scrambles to tie the rope on the other hand and leans to grab stuff out of the water. “Smells like dead fish!”
* John to Cyn: “Feel the steam.”
* Cyn inhales from bucket. “It smells like the sea…”
* Cyn smells bread to prevent herself from puking over the dead fish smell.
* Hannah had to get the foam.
* John meets selkies: “I’m too old, ladies. I know what you are. I will not let you get in the way.”
* Hannah: “William, what was that?”
* William: “It was a spirit in this world.”
* John: “We will discuss this later.
	+ A LOUD CLANGING NOISE
	+ Hannah had kicked herself out of her world for a second. Heard a booming sound.
	+ William sent a glamour to partying neighbors.
	+ Things kept trying to get into the circle.
	+ The noise they heard was William making the circle stronger and ensuring someone didn’t come in.
	+ There was at least ONE living person and a spirit that tried to get in.
		- John MIGHT know them. Curious… whoever it is shouldn’t know about this ritual.
* The bread fell out! They leave it.

**Meeting with the Guardian at Ness of Brogdar**

* John: “The hill my Gods is she big…” [a lot steeper than expected; ~43ft tall]
* John: “Hail to you Guardian of this Henge, Lady of this place.”
* “We do not come as ill guests.”
* “We do not come lightly on a whim… no, we do not.”
* John sees the Guardian stepping aside, and a fire larger than he ever imagined… “James would like that.”
* “James, Vaashti, Isaac… wanna come with us?”
* They proceed as a group [*Wizard of Oz* style]

**Ring of Brogdar**

* John: “If I reached for a coal in that fire, I would burn.”
* Cyn changes hands with rope, gives John stone, and reaches a thing into fire. [She wanted to get the log out of the fire – she got it!]
* John: “I envisioned current like a cool water… after all these years, the fire does not die down. The fire is not lit in this world… but it will be.”
* Hannah swears she has seen this place before.
* Cyn: “We speak of Danu as the mother of our tribe… but we are children of the fire.”
* John: “You have the medallion of the Lady of the Forge.”
* Hannah: “Spit, flow, ash, worm… oldest words we know. But never water.” [70k years ago and more ancestors deal with fire.] [4 elements that Gardner gave us… But not the original]
* John: “There were people that gathered around the flame long before people came to Orkney…” [man but not woman; thou, we who]
* Hannah: “Do you think they’d be scared on the other end if I started to dance?” Hannah tries to dance but almost trips.
* Cyn stands and goes back to the entrance. She bows and dances around the fire on her own. She coughs [smoke was a lot thicker on that side]. “Halfway there.”
* Hannah joins Cyn and they spin together until they collapse.
* Meanwhile John looks very focused, studying, and contemplating heavily.
* The girls get back up and dance backwards, slowly. Occasionally they reach out to something “warm”. [Touching the stones or the fire].
* Hannah: “John, do you want to join us?”
* John: “What you are doing is just as important as what I’m doing.” [we need to be attractive to people with baskets; babies in baskets on our doorsteps]
* Cyn: “Vaashti would be upset if I forgot how to enjoy myself.”
* They all take a swig of mead.
* Hannah: “I’m still worried about where the keepers are.”
* John: “We were supposed to be there a year ago.”
* Cyn: “…They were waiting for us.”
* John: “We tried to bring people along who did not want to be here.” [the mead tenders]
* Hannah: “They wanted to be *fairytale* here.”
* John “failed” to exercise the power to make the call of what belongs “here” and what doesn’t.
* Hannah gets up and pours alcohol and goes back to her seat.
	+ “You’ll fall over!”
	+ “I haven’t fallen over yet!”
	+ “Don’t fall in the fire.”
* “Baskets”?
	+ Handling baskets? – Houston, Atlanta..
* Hannah: “The people will come to you and say they’re ready, but they’re not. Throw them back into the water.” [Handling the baskets and work to be done.]
* John: “Baskets…honored… Good Gods I love it.”
* Cyn: “Honored, terrified, and love it!” [Cyn and Hannah have two batches of baskets]
* “Then listen.”
* Cyn does hand motions and shakes her head. “I don’t understand.” [language barrier]
	+ *“A henge is not made in one doing, in one great moving of Earth. It is made bit by bit. It is made by many baskets filled with stones by many hands until the work is done. But the work is never done, only finished for a season, then it starts to grow again.”*
* Hannah: “Who did I drop? And where did they go?”
	+ “Sometimes they can’t come with you, Hannah. You didn’t drop them, they just can’t come.”
	+ Wasn’t someone she lost.
	+ “Right here.” Points to her head. “They can’t come out…Really important. Thought I got all of them back… dropped everything I worked on?”
	+ Cyn goes to grab Tehuti, God of Memory. [Hannah: “Not him!”]
	+ Hannah presses her head to Tehuti… and remembers! It was Cerridwen.
* The group gets up to pour the fire, checklist their offerings, pour sacred fire into other, making it one.
* [And then lit candles; Hannah’s wouldn’t light]