

# YOUR GOGA CHARMS

*Fire and water are powerful elements and both are at Goga's command. Harness the magic of the old Melanesian woman for your spells.*

## TALES OF GOGA

In other versions of Melanesian mythology, animals stole Goga's fire. The first people to inhabit the area of Papua New Guinea had no fire and so ate all their food raw or left it to cook in the Sun.

One day they noticed smoke rising out of the sea and wanted to find its source. They sent animals to the smoke to bring back the fire

*In some myths, a dog finds Goga cooking over a fire.*

— a snake, a bandicoot, a bird and a kangaroo — but they all failed.

Then a dog swam out to sea and reached an island where an old woman was cooking her food over a fire. The dog grabbed a blazing stick and swam back to the first people with the firebrand.



## FIRE AND WATER

According to legend the old woman liked to keep fire to herself so she could cook her own food. Therefore, make an offering to Goga at your altar with something you have cooked, like biscuits, before starting.

Fire is a dynamic, powerful element. Use its magic in spells to invoke passionate love, to bring sudden

change or to purge something from your life that is holding you back.

Water is cleansing and regenerative. Use it for purifying rituals, to initiate new starts, or to work through your emotions.

*Bake some cakes as an offering to Goga before you use her fire in a spell.*



## BRING ORDER

Goga was believed to have brought order to the first people and regulated social life. If you feel like your life is lacking order and that everything happens haphazardly, call upon Goga's wisdom to get things running smoothly again. You can use the symbol of a snake for

this ritual, as the creature — or medium — which brought Goga's gifts to humankind.

Identify the area of life where disorder is regularly occurring, such as study. Do you find you are constantly distracted or interrupted?

Make a bookmark from a piece of card and draw a snake on it. Ask Goga to bring order to your studies, while concentrating on the snake's image. Then use this charm with your study books.

*Make a Goga charm to bring order to your life.*



## FIRE OF THE GODS

To primitive people fire was absolutely vital to survival, but they believed that the gods would not have shared it freely. The story of how fire came to humans through trickery is a common theme in many world mythologies.

In Greek myth fire belonged to the gods, until the Titan Prometheus stole it from them and gave its gifts to humankind.

*Worldwide there are myths of how the gods' fire was stolen.*

The Marshall Islands in the northwest Pacific have many legends concerning a mischievous trickster god called Letao, who was born in the magical land of Eb. Through his escapades, Letao introduced fire to the human population of these islands.

