

Let me pause to tell the things I think that Celt might have seen in her husband's mother's mother's mother~stone. (And yes, I do believe that Celt communities revolved around their female hubs, and that husbands [when required] came and went ~ for is it not the female child who is most valued in an existential crisis in a wilderness?)

*Stanley's 'Just a Conjecture' Feature... No 2.*



Celt's husband's mother's mother's mother~stone.

Many moons ago, a raindrop falls into the cup prepared to catch it. It is the solitary cup upon a lonely stone that Celt's husband's great-grandmother carved on the morning that her husband left to rejoin his mother's village. The raindrop is a sign that her womb is blessed with child, and she is happy; and after the child is born she will carve a partial ring around that cup to show that the soul as given in a drop of rain, has passed through her and into her child ~ like a wave upon the surface of a pool. And when she asks her husband to come again, and the rain drops fall, filling her cup with the soul of her second child ~ after it is born she carves a second ring into the stone, to show that that child too will have the soul passed on. And so it is until she has no more.

When sons are born, she carves a simple cup into the stone, for they will be husbands and will not set up a family of their own. But when her first daughter is born, she carves a line that leaves the circle through the gate. Sometimes it goes simply to a cup, and sometimes it goes to another cup, where rings have later been carved to show that this daughter is a woman now, and that she has her own family. Water in the singular ~ soul of the community ~ singularity as the souls of many things ~ things as environments of the soul.