

Nicrophorus marginatus (pt.1)

This first part of the beetle and mouse story helps me to bring the experience into the context of excursion. The coincidental arrival of the beetles to the altar with their carrion mouse and my witnessing of this event can be owed in part to the regularity, openness, and iterative nature of practice. This is a facet of ritual, which presents variation in consistency. One day you stack a shiny stone you found on the altar, and the next day you are visited by a curious crow. This continuity of events elicited narrative, signification, and complex metonymy. Most significantly, I had moved the circle (an actor in my first miraculous experience, the “cloud event”) a far distance and connected it (metonymically) in new ways with Glastonbury by burying the “energised” crystals and earth under the altar stone. This produced an extremely charged metonymical matrix within my grief story and process, affectively tethering two continents. A week later, when I found the mice, what would have been a rare and fascinating encounter under any circumstances took on an intensive quality of enchantment as a result of my iterative excursions.