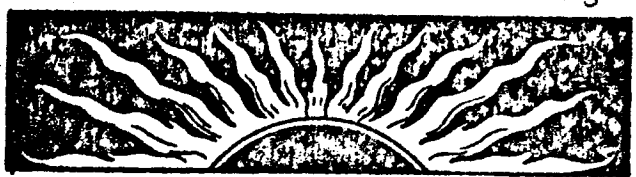


Spring Equinox



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A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers and Subscribers;

I'm sure you've been wondering where MOONSTONE has been these past months. It's a long story, but basically it runs like this. In March of '81 I had my second child and decided to take off for an issue or two in order to get acquainted with the new baby and cope with the changes he brought to the household. When I was again ready to resume my outside activities, and started to ready MOONSTONE for publication I found that our source of free printing had dried up.

The next several months were spent looking for alternatives that we could afford. Once this was obtained (and a very hearty thanks goes to the Digital Druid for that) we discovered that the old flats had disappeared, and so the issue had to be planned, assignments turned in, copy set, and printed. But, here we are again, after many delays!

There are some distinct and definite changes. After all, you can't go through a death and a rebirth without undergoing a few changes, can you? So now MOONSTONE will be coming out around the solstices and equinoxes instead of 8 times a year. Single copy prices have risen to \$2, and the subscription rate is now \$8 for four issues. I apologize for the rate hike, but with the rising cost of paper, and the loss of free printing, it had to be done to cover expenses. For those of you who are already subscribers please take note: Your subscriptions will be honored for up to four issues (one years worth) depending on how much of your subscription was used as of our last issue. New subscriptions will also be mailed first class, instead of third, so MOONSTONE should reach you quicker, and in better condition.

Other changes include our new computer typeface and our method of binding. Please bear with us on these as we are still working out all the bugs. I also like to think that the caliber of our articles has increased significantly. In the near future I am also hoping to expand the length of each issue as well.

In the future we will also be doing what I call 'theme' issues. Besides our regular features and columns we will concentrate our feature articles on a specific theme or concept within the occult field. Our Summer Solstice issue will be dedicated to Hermetics and Alchemy. Suggestions from our readers on the different themes you'd like to see are welcome, and invited! Let us know the topics you would like to see covered in our pages.

We are still working out some of our problems and integrating our new changes, so please bear with us as we try to get our act together. Comments, criticism, suggestions, feedback, art and anything else you can think of to tell us or send us is much appreciated and will be sincerely considered. All in all I think MOONSTONE will end up being bigger and better. If you have any problems or complaints, please write to us and we will try to work them out as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Before I close I would like to mention all the people who have given of their time, talent and resources in order to make the return of MOONSTONE a reality. Love and special thanks go to Sally, Charlie, Paul & Laurel, Jeff & Sheryl and all our other writers and contributors. May our new beginning be an auspicious one for all!

Blessed Be
Lady Galadriel



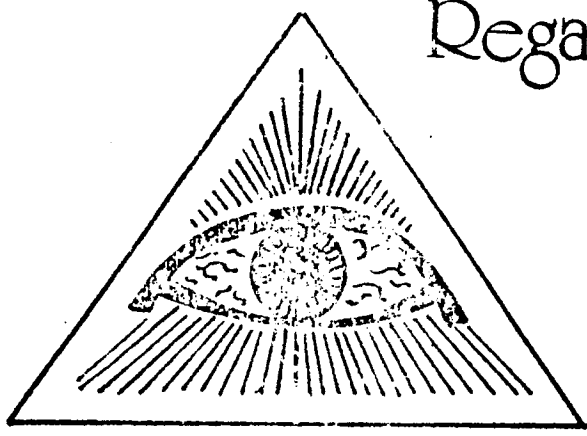
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Regarding

Propaganda,

Paranoia &

The ILLUMINATI



BY S.J. COOK

PROPAGANDA IS INTRIGUOUS; AN OUNCE OF TRUTH LIKE RAISINS SCATTERED IN A POUND OF LYING DOUGH. THE SPRINKLING OF RECOGNIZABLE FACTS IS NECESSARY IF THE READER IS TO SWALLOW THE WHOLE LOAF. BUT SPURRED ON BY THESE MORSELS, ONE CONSUMES EVER LARGER QUANTITIES OF FALSITY, DEVELOPS INTELLECTUAL INDIGESTION FROM CONFUSION AND FINALLY ENDS UP WITH STOMACH CRAMPS OF ANXIETY. THIS ANXIETY, VAGUE AS IT MAY BE, IS THE DESIRED RESULT OF ALL PROPAGANDA. THE DISSEMINATION OF ACTUAL DATA IS IRRELEVANT; ONLY THE ANXIETY AND IT'S ASSOCIATION WITH THE GENERAL CONTENTS OF THE TRACT ARE DESIRED. AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE GENERAL CONTENTS ABSOLUTELY MUST PREY UPON AN UNCONSCIOUS AND STYPAL FEAR OR PREDJUDICE RISING OUT OF IGNORANCE.

IN "LIGHT-BEARERS OF DARKNESS" AND "TRAIL OF THE SERPENT" BY INQUIRE WITHIN, A.K.A. MISS STODDARD, ONE MAY FIND PROPAGANDA THAT IS S-U-O-O AND THAT IT APPROACHES A PARODY OF THE BASIC RECIPE. ROBERT ANTON WILSON DIDN'T SATIRIZE MISS STODDARD'S FEAR OF THE ILLUMINATI; HE SIMPLY PRESENTED IT EXACTLY THE WAY SHE DID. TO GIVE HER CREDIT, SHE LEARNED ONE TRICK OF LIES WITH MORE RAISINS OF TRUTH THAN USUAL, BUT THE FUNDAMENTAL DECEIT IS ALL THE MORE MONSTROUS AS A RESULT. THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION THAT MISS STODDARD HAS A CLINICAL PARANOID OF PSYCHOTIC PROPORTIONS AND A RABID, FROTHING AT THE MOUTH, ANTI-SERITE. HER OPINIONS ARE SO STUBB, ARBITRARY AND ILLOGICAL THAT ONE SIMPLY HAS TO BREAK INTO HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER EVERY FEW PAGES TO EASE THE STRAIN ON ONE'S READER.

SHE MUST RANK AS THE QUEEN OF THE EMPHATIC GENERALIZATION JUNCTURED WITH THE ARBITRARY EXCEPTION. WHILE STATING AT EVERY TURN THAT ALL SECRET SOCIETIES, BROTHERHOODS AND ORDERS ARE EVIL, MISS STODDARD NONETHELESS APPROVES OF THE JESUITS. WHILE

ALL RELIGION IS A FRONT FOR THE VAST ILLUMINATI PLOT TO GAIN DOMINION OVER THE WORLD, ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY HOLDS THE ONLY HOPE OF SALVATION. MOST HEAD-BOGLINGS OF ALL IS HER CLAIM TO BE A FORMER "RULING CHIEF" OF THE GOLDEN DAWN. ANYONE SUFFICIENTLY PARANOID TO BELIEVE HER BASIC PREMISE WOULD THEREFORE DISMISS HER BOOKS AS YET ANOTHER ILLUMINATI ATTACK ON OUR SENSIBILITIES.

INDEED, I SUSPECT THEY ARE, AND THEREIN LIES THE TRUE HORROR OF READING MISS STODDARD'S BOLKS. IT IS NOT ONLY THAT HER ATTEMPT AT MIND MANIPULATION IS SO CLUNSY, NOT MERELY THE SKILL PALICE OF HER TONE, BUT THE INESCAPABLE FACT THAT HER FEAR IS QUITE DEFINITELY ARCHETYPAL. IT IS IMPRINTED UPON EACH AND EVERY ONE OF OUR UNCONSCIOUS MINDS AND ONE TRULY IS DRAWN TO ACCEPTING HER BELIEFS BECAUSE THEY RESONATE AND VALIDATE WITH WHAT WE FEEL IN OUR GUTS TO BE TRUE.

THE IDEA THAT OUR EXISTENCE IS CONTROLLED BY "INVISIBLE FORCES" IS SO APPALLINGLY OBVIOUS THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO RECOGNIZE FOR WHAT IT IS: LITTLE WE AGAINST BIG THEM, THE THEM BEING THE COSMIC FORCES OF THE UNIVERSE, THE ELEMENTAL FORCES OF NATURE, BIG BUSINESS, BIG GOVERNMENT, BIG JUNGLE BEASTIES, ETC, ETC. THE MORTAL LIMITATIONS OF OUR BRAINS, OUR INABILITY TO COMPREHEND EVERY SMALL DETAIL OF THE VAST WHOLE CONDENS US TO LARGE AREAS OF IGNORANCE; THERE ARE HUGE CONGLOMERATES OF DATA THAT WE WILL NEVER LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO CONSUME, MUCH LESS TO DIGEST. SO WE'RE STUCK, TRAPPED BY IGNORANCE INTO BEING THE PLAYTHINGS OF ALL THE ORGANIZED DATA WE DON'T KNOW. NATURALLY, WE'RE ALSO STUCK WITH THE OVERWHELMING SENSATION THAT WE'RE BEING VICTIMIZED BY THESE "SECRETS". BUT THE ILLUMINATI FEAR IS A LITTLE MORE SPECIFIC AND CLOSER TO HOME THAN THE GREAT UNKNOWN, THE UNCONTROLLABLE "OUT-THERE", AND THE SINISTER "THEM".

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ARCHETYPAL IMAGES ARE IMPRINTS ON THE FUNDAMENTAL CIRCUITRY OF OUR BRAINS THAT FLOAT UP THROUGH THE SUBCONSCIOUS POOL OF MEMORY AND CONFRONT OUR FRONTAL LOBES DISGUISED IN CORRESPONDING SYMBOLS. THE GREAT FATHER ARCHETYPE, FOR INSTANCE, REPRESENTS EVERYTHING OUR PRIMAL BRAIN FEELS ABOUT LIFE, ABOUT THE EXPANSIVE PROCESS OF CREATION. THE SUBCONSCIOUS HAS NO VERBAL LINKS SO "LIFE" ARRIVES LOOKING LIKE OUR GRANDFATHER,, OR THE MILK, OR AN ERECT PENIS, WHATEVER EXPRESSES OUR UNIQUE, PERSONAL REACTION. SO, ARCHETYPES ARE ACTUALLY METAPHORS FOR SOMETHING ELSE ACCESSORIZED WITH APPROPRIATE SYMBOLS IN MOST CASES, BUT ALSO DRAGGING ALONG SOME GARBAGE AND EMOTIONAL BAGGAGE. THE SYMBOLIC METAPHOR IS NOT THE THING ITSELF, ONLY IT'S REPRESENTATIVE. THE WHITEBEARDED FATHER ON A GOLDEN THRONE DOES NOT EXIST, BUT LIFE DOES.

SO WHAT, THEN, DOES THE METAPHOR OF THE

ILLUMINATI REALLY REPRESENT? LOOK AT THE BASIC COMPONENTS: IT HAS A SECRET HEAD, A SECRETIVE BODY THAT IS HIGHLY ORGANIZED AND EFFECTIVE, IT'S GOALS ARE MYSTERIOUSLY BEYOND OUR CONTROL AND DIRECTLY AFFECT OUR MINDS, OUR VERY CONCEPT OF SELF, AND IT WILL EVENTUALLY KILL THAT SELF IF WE DON'T WATCH OUT, FIND JESUS IN OUR HEARTS OR BECOME A MEMBER. ALL OF WHICH LEAD ME TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF WHAT I CALL:

COOK'S CRACKPOT THEORY NUMBER ONE

THE ILLUMINATI ARE A METAPHOR FOR OUR PHYSICAL VEHICLES ON THE MATERIAL PLANE. IT'S ALL THOSE NEURAL CIRCUITS, SYNAPTIC LINKS, HORMONE SECRETIONS AND BIO-CHEMICAL REACTIONS THAT SNEAK AROUND INSIDE US AND SEEM TO HAVE A WILL, AN INTELLIGENCE ALL THEIR OWN. IT IS BILLIONS OF MOLECULES ORGANIZED INTO "SECRET CELLS", LITTLE CABALS DIRECTED BY THE "SECRET CHIEFS" OF OUR GLANDS AND COMMANDED BY THE ULTRA-SECRET "POWER" OF OUR TRUE SELVES. THIS "SECRET SOCIETY" DEMONSTRATES ITS POWER OVER US WHEN WE NEED TO SPEAK OUT BUT ARE SO OVERCOME WITH EMOTIONS THAT OUR TONGUES WON'T WORK. IT IS THE MYSTERIOUS SURGE THAT PUTS US OVER THE FINISH LINE WHEN WE DIDN'T EXPECT TO FINISH THE WHOLE RACE. IT IS THE INVISIBLE ADMINISTRATOR THAT DECIDES WHEN, WHERE, AND IF OUR BODIES WILL BE ALLOWED TO COOPERATE WITH OUR CONSCIOUS DESIRES.

AND CLEVER, SELF-DECIEVING LITTLE HONK SAPS THAT WE ARE, WE NATURALLY DENY ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE UNPREDICTABLE RESPONSES, AND WE EXTERNALIZE, EXTERNALIZE, EXTERNALIZE. IT WAS THE DEVIL WHO THWARTED THE ABILITY TO VOCALIZE. IT WAS GOD WHO GAVE THE STRENGTH TO FINISH THE RACE. IT

WAS A GUARDIAN ANGEL OR HIGHER SELF WHO MADE ALL THOSE SUPREMELY EXECUTIVE DECISIONS. AND IT IS THE ILLUMINATI WHO STAND BETWEEN US AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN ON EARTH, NOT OUR IGNORANCE OF THE INTERNAL FUNCTIONS OF OUR VERY OWN BODIES. THIS IS WHY THE MERE IDEA OF THE ILLUMINATI THRILLS AND CHILLS US SO.

DOWN THERE ON THE PRIMAL LEVEL WE KNOW WHO THE ENEMY IS AND "THEM" IS REALLY US. BUT UP HERE WHERE WE LIKE TO PRETEND EXISTENCE IS RATIONAL AND ORDERLY, WE'RE ALL TOO CHICKEN TO ACCEPT THIS FACT AND WE PROJECT ONTO WHATEVER MOTIF SUITS US. IN MISS STODDARD'S CASE, ONE MAY ASSUME THAT AS A CHILD SHE WAS BADLY FRIGHTENED BY A HICARY OLD RABBI WITH A BIG NOSE AND GREASY FORELOCKS. LATER ON, (STILL ASSUMING) SHE WAS THE VICTIM OF ALL SORTS OF CURIOUS AND HYSTERICAL ILLNESSES. THEREFORE, THE GARBAGE AND SYMBOLS THAT ATTACHED THEMSELVES TO HER BASIC FEAR OF HER BODY CAME DISGUISED AS SINISTER JENG WITH STRANGE POWERS TO DO HER ILL.

MY THEORY HOLDS UP WHEN WE CONSIDER HERMAN HESSE'S FEELINGS ABOUT THE ILLUMINATI. HE DIDN'T FEAR THEM AT ALL, BUT RATHER LOVED THEM, ADORED THEM, WISHED DESPERATELY TO BELONG, TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS VAST "WHITE BROTHERHOOD". THE GREAT WORK, IN HESSE'S EYES, WASN'T AN EVIL PLOT TO GRANT SATAN DOMINION OVER THE WORLD BUT A PLAN FOR THE ULTIMATE PERFECTION AND LIBERATION OF HUMANITY. HOW COULD HESSE LOOK AT THE SAME CONCEPT AND ARRIVE AT SUCH CONTRARY FEELINGS? SIMPLE. HESSE WAS A HEALTHY, ROBUST, CREATIVE BEING. FOR THE MOST PART, HIS BODY SERVED HIM WELL; THE MOLECULAR ARMY OF INVISIBLE FORCES WAS AT HIS COMMAND, IN SERVICE TO HIS FINELY ATTUNED WILL. HESSE LOVED LIFE AND STROKED HIS PRIMAL FEARS WITH HIS PURE FAITH IN THE OVERALL GOODNESS OF EXISTENCE.

MISS STODDARD, GOODNESS HELP HER SOUL, HATED LIFE AND HATED HER BODY AND FEARED TO THE POINT OF LOATHING THE DARKNESS OF HER OWN IGNORANCE. BETWEEN BOOBS OF DEFENSIVE LAUGHTER, ONE IS STRUCK FULL IN THE FACE BY THE DELIRIOUS FEVER OF HER HATRED. ONE, ALMOST, BUT NOT QUITE, WANTS TO REACH OUT TO HER IN COMPASSION AND PITY FOR THE HELL HER LIFE MUST HAVE BEEN. POOR MISS STODDARD. POOR ME. POOR YOU. FOR THERE IS NOT ONE OF US WHO CANNOT EMPATHIZE, WHO DOES NOT IN SOME PART OF OURSELVES, AND AT SOME TIMES MORE THAN OTHERS, HATE BEING ALIVE ON THIS COUNTRY PEBBLE FALLING THROUGH THE VOID. AND WHEN SUCH MOODS SEIZE US, DON'T WE ALL GO HUNTING FOR THE SNARK OUT THERE INSTEAD OF CONFRONTING THE DEMONS WITHIN?

BY SYLVANUS

BUT, LIKE ALL TRULY INSANE PEOPLE MISS STODDARD POSSESSED A STREAK OF PURE GENIUS. REMEMBER LILLY'S AXIOM: "WHAT YOU BELIEVE TO BE TRUE IS TRUE, OR WILL BE TRUE..." AND FIGURE THAT THE IDEA OF AN ILLUMINATI HAS BEEN GHOSTING AROUND THROUGH THE HUMAN BRAIN FOR AT LEAST SIX THOUSAND YEARS AND YOU ARRIVE AT THE CONCLUSION THAT THE ILLUMINATI ARE A VERY REAL ORGANIZATION BY NOW. MISS STODDARD WAS RIGHT; THERE IS A REAL CONSPIRACY GOING ON, PROBABLY EVEN FIVE OF THEM, COMPETING FOR WORLD DOMINATION FOR GOOD, EVIL, AND INTERMEDIATE LEASING. BUT SHE WAS WRONG TO HATE JEWS IN PARTICULAR, HYSTICISM, MAGIC, SEX, FREEMASONRY AND OCCULTISM IN GENERAL. WHATEVER MADE HER PRESUME THAT ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY WASN'T AN ILLUMINATI PLOT LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE? FOR HER, LIFE WAS A BATTLEGROUND, NOT A PROCESS, AND SHE LIVED IN FEAR FOR HATE. YOU SAID IT IS TO HAVE NO FAITH...

THROUGH OUT HISTORY, MAN HAS BEEN MYSTIFIED AND SOMETIMES TERRIFIED OF DREAMS. RECURRING ARCHETYPES HAVE MANIFESTED IN THE DREAMS OF PEOPLE FROM ENTIRELY DIFFERENT CULTURES; THE DIVINE FORTRESS OF THE ANGELS OF CHRISTIANITY, THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE NAVARD, THESE ARE EXAMPLES OF ARCHETYPES SPONTANEOUSLY MANIFESTING. THESE TWO CONCEPTS ARE SO SIMILAR, YET THE CULTURES WHICH SPANNED THEM DEVELOPED INDEPENDENTLY. THE EXPRESSION OF THE ARCHETYPE VARIED FROM CULTURE TO CULTURE, YET THE BASIC ARCHETYPE REMAINS THE SAME. CUSTAV JUNG RECOGNIZED THAT THE UNCONCIOUS MIND HAD A MEANINGFUL MESSAGE IN DREAMS, AND THAT VARIOUS ARCHETYPES REPRESENT DIFFERENT THINGS TO DIFFERENT DREAMERS, DEPENDING ON THE HOLISTIC CONTEXT OF THE DREAMER'S LIFE. YET, EVEN AS MODERN JUNGIAN PSYCHOLOGISTS RECOGNIZE A COLLECTIVE UNCONCIOUS, THE IDEA THAT THE ARCHETYPES EXIST INDEPENDENTLY OF THE HUMAN PSYCHE IS NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY, AND THIS MAY BE A HOOT POINT.

TYPICALLY, AN ARCHETYPE MAY APPEAR IN A DREAM SPONTANEOUSLY, UNINVITED BY THE DREAMER. IN THIS CASE THE DREAM SYMBOLOGY IS LIKE A PALACE WHERE THE UNCONCIOUS MIND BLUNTLY POINTS OUT THE OPPOSITE PSYCHIC POINT. IS IT POSSIBLE TO SOLICIT A DREAM, TO CONSCIOUSLY PURSUE PSYCHIC CHANGE? THIS PURSUIT IS NOT ONLY POSSIBLE, IT IS ONE OF THE METHODS OF HIGH MAGIC.

BY RECOGNIZING THE LIMITATIONS OF BEING HUMAN, AND REALIZED THAT ONE MAY ASPIRE TO GODLINESS, BUT ON THIS PLANE MAY ATTAIN ONLY A GLEAMER OF THE IDEAL; BY ALIGNING ONESELF WITH THE DIVINE NATURE, AND BY IDENTIFYING WITH THAT DIVINE IMAGE IN RITUAL, ONE MAY GAIN SPIRITUAL ENLIGHTENING AND GUIDANCE IN EVERYDAY LIFE. IT IS AN EASY MIND CONCEPT TO UNDERSTAND, BUT VERY DIFFICULT TO PUT INTO ACTION.

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THE SIGN OF THE HOPE, FAMILY AND NURTURING PRINCIPLES IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE OBSERVATIONS OF GENI. AFTER WE LOOK AROUND US WE CAN COMMIT TO A HOME AND FAMILY. CANCER IS THE PRINCIPLE OF EMOTIONAL CONNECTEDNESS THAT FOLLOWS GENI. PERCEPTIONS. IT IS THROUGH THE SIGN OF CANCER THAT WE DEVELOP THE PRINCIPLE OF MEMORY AND CONNECTIONS TO THE PAST.

THE EMOTIONAL SECURITY AND CONNECTEDNESS OF CANCER GIVES RISE TO THE CREATIVE IMPULSES OF LEO. AFTER BIRTH, BODY, MIND AND HOME WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO PROJECT THE PERSONALITY THROUGH CREATIVE ACTIONS. LEO IS THE SIGN OF CREATIVITY AS EXPRESSED THROUGH THE PERSONALITY, ART FORMS, AND CHILDREN. ONLY AFTER SECURING EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING IN CANCER CAN THE CREATIVE URGE HAVE THE SAFETY TO EMERGE. NO CHILDREN SHOULD BE BORN TO THE HOMELESS, NOR IS ART MADE BY THE HUNGRY. LEO IS THE CREATIVE SOLAR PRINCIPLE THAT BOLDLY COMES OUT FROM THE NEST WITH A NEW GENERATION OF IDEAS AND PEOPLE.

LEO'S CREATIVE URGES ARE ADAPTED TO PRACTICAL PURPOSES THROUGH THE REFINING QUALITIES OF THE SIGN VIRGO. THE EARTHY VIRGO PRINCIPLE DEALS WITH UTILIZING RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY. THE VIRGO PROCESS ALLOWS US TO SYSTEMITIZE AND REGULATE THE CREATIVE URGES OF LEO FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL. VIRGO'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HARVEST MAY COME FROM THE ADAPTATION OF THE WILL TO CREATE (LEO) INTO THE FRUITS OF ONE'S LABOR (HARVEST). WITH VIRGO WE COMPLETE THE FIRST HALF OF OUR CYCLE. THE LAST SIX SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC REPEAT THE PATTERN OF THE FIRST SIX, ALTHOUGH THEIR EMPHASIS IS ON COLLECTIVE ACTION AND CONSCIOUSNESS RATHER THAN INDIVIDUAL ACTION.

LIBRA IS THE BEGINNING OF THE FALL SEASON AND THE FIRST SIGN OF THE SECOND HALF OF THE ZODIAC. WHERE ARIES IS THE INITIATION OF LIFE, LIBRA IS THE INITIATION OF PARTNERSHIP. IT IS THE BIRTH OF THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF OTHERS AS EQUAL TO SELF. IN LIBRA WE BEGIN THE PROCESS OF SHARING. LIBRA'S INTRODUCTION TO THE SOCIAL MILIEU IS FOLLOWED BY SCORPIO'S GROUNDING OF THE SOCIAL IMPULSE INTO COLLECTIVE ACTION. AS TAURUS GROUNDED THE ENERGY OF THE INDIVIDUAL BY GIVING IT FUEL OR A BODY, SCORPIO GROUNDS THE ENERGY OF THE COUPLE THROUGH SEXUALITY AND DEEP SHARING. THE SCORPIO PRINCIPLE CONCERNS ITSELF WITH MEASURING THE COLLECTIVE GOOD, WHILE TAURUS REPRESENTS INDIVIDUAL VALUES.

GENI FOLLOWS TAURUS BY PROVIDING A LOOK AT THE IMMEDIATE ENVIRONMENT. SAGITTARIUS FOLLOWS SCORPIO BY PROVIDING A COLLECTIVE POINT OF VIEW WHICH IS OFTEN CALLED RELIGION. IN GENI WE ARE CONCERNED

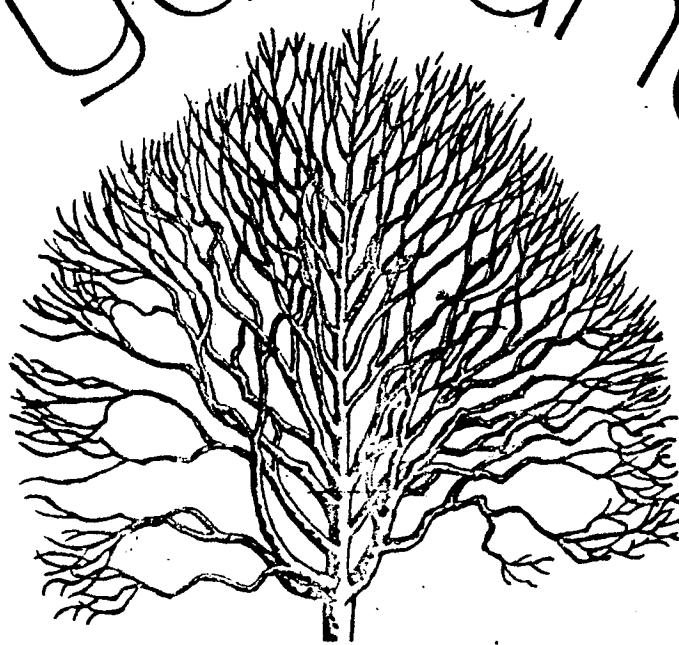
WITH COLLECTING THE FACTS ABOUT OUR IMMEDIATE WORLD. IN SAGITTARIUS WE ARE CONCERNED WITH COLLECTING THE TRUTH OR HIGHER MEANINGS OF THE UNIVERSE.

CANCER FOLLOWS GENI BY PROVIDING A SENSE OF HOME OR EMOTIONAL CONTINUITY. CAPRICORN FOLLOWS SAGITTARIUS BY TURNING ITS BELIEFS INTO LAW OR CULTURAL LIMITS. IN CANCER WE SEEK SECURITY THROUGH THE PERSONAL LIFE, IN CAPRICORN WE SEEK SECURITY THROUGH EXTERNAL STRUCTURES SUCH AS JOB, LAWS, SOCIAL FORMS. AFTER THE SECURITY OF CAPRICORN WE FIND THE COLLECTIVE CREATIVITY THROUGH AQUARIUS. AQUARIUS' OPPOSITE LEO PROVIDED THE IMPULSE FOR PERSONAL SELF EXPRESSION, WHILE AQUARIUS IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH GROUP CREATIVITY, FREEDOM AND COLLECTIVE ACTIONS OF WILL.

LEO'S CREATIVE URGE HAS FOLLOWED BY VIRGO'S ADAPTATION TO PRACTICAL PURPOSE. THE VIRGO SYMBOL INCLUDES IN IT THE PRINCIPLE OF INDIVIDUAL SERVICE AND DIMINUTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EGO (IN PREPARATION FOR MARRIAGE IN LIBRA). PISCES, THE LAST SIGN OF THE ZODIAC GOES BEYOND ALL BOUNDARIES TO CREATE THE REALM OF SPIRITUAL SERVICE AND UNIVERSAL CONNECTEDNESS. PISCES REPRESENTS THE TURNING POINT WHERE WE CAN DISSOLVE OUR PERSONALITIES AND RETURN TO THE VOID, OR WHERE WE SACRIFICE PERSONAL GOALS TO TAKE A NEW PATH BEGUN IN THE SIGN OF ARIES. THE WHEEL CONTINUES TO TURN.

THIS BRIEF DISCOURSE ON THE SIGNS IS DESIGNED TO REINFORCE THE CONCEPT OF CIRCULARITY THAT THE ZODIAC REPRESENTS. THE WORD ZODIAC COMES FROM THE GREEK FOR "CIRCLE OF LITTLE ANIMALS". WITH AN APPRECIATION FOR THIS CYCLIC NATURE OF THE ZODIAC IT BECOMES APPARENT THAT NO SIGN IS ANY BETTER THAN ANY OTHER, AND THAT EACH HAS ITS PLACE IN THE SCHEME OF THINGS. BY LEARNING TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THIS PATTERN IT IS POSSIBLE TO "TAME" THESE LITTLE ANIMALS AND MAKE THEM YOUR OWN. WE ARE ALL INFLUENCED BY ALL OF THE SIGNS. THE PRESENCE OF PLANETS IN PARTICULAR SIGNS AT THE MOMENT OF BIRTH IS MEANT TO SHOW THOSE POINTS ALONG THE EVOLUTIONARY ROAD THAT ARE THE MOST FRUITFUL FOR OUR EXPLORATION. BUT THE PROCESS OF INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT IMPLIES A PARTNERSHIP IN THE GREATER SCHEME OF THINGS AS WELL. WE CAN ALL BE AS BOLD AS AN ARIES, PATIENT AS A TAURUS OR AS FLEXIBLE AS A GENI. THE STUDY OF ASTROLOGY IS DESIGNED TO PUT US IN TOUCH WITH SUCH POSSIBILITIES. IN THE MONTHS TO FOLLOW WE WILL CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE STARRY PATH IN THIS MANNER. THERE ARE NO LIMITS.

dryamane



BY LADY GALABRIEL

ANCIENT PEOPLES USED TO TREAT TREES, AND ALL PLANTS, WITH A VERY SPECIAL RESPECT. OFTEN PARTICULAR PLANTS AND TREES WERE ACCORDED WITH HAVING A "SPIRIT" OR SPECIAL CONCIUSNESS THAT RESIDED WITHIN THEM. IT IS EASY TO SEE WHY TREES WERE PARTICULARLY REVERED, FOR THEY BORE FRUIT AND NUTS FOR FOOD AND PROVIDED RAW MATERIALS FOR SHELTER AND TOOLS. THE PEOPLE OF OLD TREATED THEM LOVINGLY, FOR WITHOUT TREES THEIR EXISTENCE WOULD HAVE BEEN INCREDIBLY DIFFICULT.

THE SPIRITS THOUGHT TO RESIDE WITHIN TREES WERE COLLECTIVELY CALLED DRYADS, ALTHOUGH EACH TREE HAD A DEFINITE PERSONALITY OF ITS OWN, DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF TREE AND THE SPIRIT THAT RESIDED WITHIN IT. DIFFERENT TREES WERE ALSO REGARDED AS SACRED SYMBOLS BELONGING TOO, AND HAVING THE PROTECTION OF CERTAIN GODS AND GODDESSES. OFTEN THEY WERE USED IN TEMPLE CEREMONIES, PLANTED IN SACRED GROVES, OR USED FOR THE PURPOSES OF DIVINATION AND AUGURY.

AS I STATED BEFORE, EACH TREE DOES SEEM TO HAVE A PERSONALITY UNIQUE TO IT, JUST AS HUMANS DO. HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED HOW SOME TREES SEEM MENACING, WHILE OTHERS INVITE YOU TO CLIMB THEIR BRANCHES OR TO SHARE THEIR SHADE? THE NEXT TIME YOU ARE IN A FOREST, TRY TO SENSE THE DIFFERENT ENERGIES SENT OFF BY THE VARIOUS TYPES OF TREE. WHICH DOES DISPLAY WARMTH AND FRIENDSHIP? WHICH ARE ALLOOF? WHICH ARE PLAYFUL?

ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN IMMORTALIZATIONS OF TREES AND THEIR VIRTUES IS IN THE EPIC POEM "CAD GODDEAU", OR "THE BATTLE OF THE TREES". ROBERT GRAVES, IN HIS BOOK "THE WHITE GODDESS" BELIEVES THAT THE POEM CONTAINS A KEY TO THE CELTIC OGHAM ALPHABET AND CONNECTS EACH TREE WITH A CERTAIN LETTER OR VOWEL. HE ALSO "EXTRACTED" A SHORTER VERSION OF THE POEM FROM ITS ORIGINAL LENGTHY FORM WHICH GRAVES SAYS WAS SEVERAL POEMS INTERMIXED. I MUST ADMIT THAT HIS REARRANGED VERSION OF THE POEM MAKES MORE SENSE TO ME. IT ALSO SERVES TO DESCRIBE THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS AND PERSONALITIES ASCRIBED TO THE VARIOUS TREES. SEVERAL STANZAS OF GRAVES' VERSION ARE QUOTED BELOW.

"THE ALDERS IN THE FRONT LINE
BEGIN THE AFFRAY;
WILLOW AND ROWAN-TREE
WERE TARDY IN ARRAY.

THE HOLLY, DARK GREEN,
MADE A RESOLUTE STAND.
HE IS ARMED WITH MANY SPEARPOINTS
WOUNDING THE HAND.

WITH FOOT-BEAT OF THE SWIFT OAK
HEAVEN AND EARTH RUMB;
"STOUT GAURDIAN OF THE DOOR"
HIS NAME IN EVERY TONGUE.

GREAT WAS THE GORSE IN BATTLE,
AND THE IVY IN HIS PRIME;
THE HAZEL WAS ARBITER
AT THIS CHARMED TIME.

UNCOUTH AND SAVAGE WAS THE FIR,
CRUEL WAS THE ASH TREE -
TURNS NOT ASIDE A FOOT-BREADTH,
STRAIGHT AT THE HEART RUNS HE.

THE BIRCH, THOUGH VERY NOBLE,
ARMED HIMSELF BUT LATE;
A SIGN NOT OF COMARVICE
BUT OF HIGH ESTATE.

THE HEATH GAVE CONSOLATION
TO THE TOIL SPENT FOLK.
THE LONG ENDURING POPLARS
IN BATTLE MUCH BROKE.

VERY WRATHFUL WAS THE VINE
WHOSE HENCHMEN ARE THE ELMS;
I EXALT HIM NIGHTILY
TO RULERS OF REALMS.

STRONG CHIEFTAINS WERE THE BLACKTHORNS
WITH HIS ILL FRUIT;
THE UNDELOVED WHITE THORN
WHO WEARS THE SAME SUITE.

THE SWIFT-PURSUING REED,
THE BROOM WITH HIS BROOD,
AND THE FURZE BUT ILL-REMOVED
UNTIL HE IS SUBBED.

HERE IS ANOTHER POEM THAT IS AN OLD
FAVORITE OF ENGLISH COUNTRY FOLK. IT
INDICATES WHICH TREES ARE GOOD FOR FIREWOOD,
AND WHICH ARE NOT.

OAK LOGS WILL BURN YOU WELL,
THAT ARE WARM AND DRY;
LOGS OF PINE WILL SWEETLY SMELL
BUT THE SPARKS WILL FLY.

BIRCH LOGS WILL BURN TOO FAST,
CHESTNUT SCARCE AT ALL;
HANTHORN LOGS ARE GOOD TO LAST -
CUT THEM IN THE FALL.

HOLLY-LOGS WILL BURN LIKE WAX
YOU MAY BURN THEM GREEN;
ELM-LOGS LIKE TO SNOLDERING FLAY,
NO FLAME TO BE SEEN.

BEECH-LOGS FOR WINTER TIME,
YEW-LOGS AS WELL;
GREEN ELDER-LOGS IT'S A CRIME
FOR ANY MAN TO SELL.

PEAR -LOGS AND APPLE-LOGS
THEY WILL SCENT YOUR ROOM,
CHERRY LOGS, ACROSS THE DOGS,
SMELL LIKE FLOWER OF BROOM.

ASH-LOGS SMOOTH AND GREY,
BURN THEM GREEN OR OLD,
BUY UP ALL THAT COME YOUR WAY -
WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD.

PEOPLE VERY OFTEN CONSULTED TREES AS
ORACLES FOR ANSWERS TO THEIR QUESTIONS. THIS
WAS EITHER DONE BY ENTERING INTO A STATE OF
COMMUNICATION WITH A PARTICULAR TREE, OR BY
FASHIONING A SET OF RUNESTICKS OR "WITCHES
HANDS" FROM THE BRANCHES OF A FAVORED TREE.

FOR EITHER METHOD IT IS NECESSARY TO
FIRST LOCATE A TREE WITH A DRYAD THAT FEELS
MAGICKAL TO YOU, AND WITH WHOM YOU CAN
ESTABLISH A RAPPORT. THIS IS BASICALLY DONE
BY USING YOUR PSYCHIC SENSES AND INTUITION
UNTIL YOU FIND A TREE THAT SUITS YOU.

IF YOU ARE GOING TO ESTABLISH A "DIRECT"
LINE OF COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR TREE AND ITS
SPIRIT YOU SHOULD BEGIN BY SPENDING TIME WITH
THE TREE AND "FEELING" OR SENSING ITS
ENERGIES. TALK TO THE TREE AND ITS SPIRIT,
BECOME ITS FRIEND. HUG IT ALOT! YOU MAY BE
SURPRISED HOW EASY IT IS TO ESTABLISH A
RAPPORT WITH A TREE JUST BY HUGGING IT, BUT
THEY WILL RESPOND TO AFFECTION JUST AS HUMANS
DO. YOU MAY ALSO WANT TO BRING IT A SPECIAL
OFFERING. THIS CAN TAKE THE FORM OF WATER
(ESPECIALLY IF IT HAS BEEN DRY LATELY),
FERTILIZER OR EVEN FOOD. AFTER ESTABLISHING A
RAPPORT WITH YOUR TREE YOU MAY WISH TO ENTER
INTO A TRANCE OR MEDITATIVE STATE UNDER THE
TREE, OR SEATED WITHIN A SAFE SPOT IN ITS
BRANCHES. ONCE YOU HAVE STARTED YOUR COMMUNION
WITH THE TREE YOU MAY ASK IT YOUR QUESTIONS.
THE ANSWERS MAY COME IN VARIOUS FORMS: THE
RUSTLING OF THE LEAVES, A CHANGE IN ENERGIES,
OR THE FORMATION OF PICTURES OR WORDS WITHIN
YOUR MIND.

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A SET OF
RUNESTICKS, AGAIN, FIND A TREE THAT FEELS GOOD
TO YOU, AND ASK ITS PERMISSION TO TAKE SOME
OF ITS BRANCHES. EXPLAIN TO THE TREE WHAT YOU
INTEND TO USE THEM FOR. YOU MAY WISH TO GIVE
THE TREE AN OFFERING AS WELL. IF THE TREE
SAYS "YES" AND GRANTS ITS PERMISSION, THEN
CAREFULLY REMOVE THE BRANCHES OR STICKS YOU
WILL NEED WITH LOVE AND RESPECT. IT IS
IMPORTANT THAT YOU FEEL A DEFINITE POSITIVITY
FROM THE TREE, AS ITS ENERGIES WILL REMAIN IN
THE WOOD AND CAN HAVE A DEFINITE EFFECT ON
THE OUTCOME OF ANY DIVINATION YOU MAY DO WITH
THEM.

THERE ARE MANY MAGICKAL AND SACRED TREES, WITH VARIOUS ASSOCIATIONS HANDED DOWN FROM THE PAST. ALTHOUGH THE TRADITIONAL ATTRIBUTES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHEN SELECTING A TREE FOR USE, THE CHOICE STILL NEEDS TO BE AN INDIVIDUAL AND PERSONAL ONE. HERE IS A SELECTION OF SEVERAL TREES AND WHAT THEY REPRESENT TO HELP YOU MAKE YOUR CHOICE.

ALDER--OFTEN USED FOR ORACLES BECAUSE OF ITS CONNECTION WITH PURIFICATION BY FIRE.

APPLE--SACRED TO APHRODITE, USED FOR DIVINATION IN MATTERS OF LOVE.

ASH--A GUARDIAN TREE, OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE GODDESS, WHO HAS BEEN SAID TO DISPENSE JUSTICE UNDERNEATH IT.

ELDER--SACRED TO THE GODDESS, IN ALL THREE OF HER ASPECTS. TRADITIONALLY A TREE ACCORDED WITH HAVING MAGICKAL PROPERTIES AND HIGH ENERGIES.

HAZEL--OFTEN CALLED THE TREE OF WISDOM.

IVY--THIS IS HELD AS BEING SACRED TO BACCCHUS/DIONYSUS, WHO WAS CROWNED WITH A WREATH OF IVY. IT GROWS SPIRALLY, AND SYMBOLIZES STRENGTH, AS WELL AS PLIABILITY.

LAUREL--SACRED TO APOLLO, AND THE ORACLE TREE OF DELPHI. IT IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN FIRST CREATED BY ARTEMIS WHEN SHE TURNED THE NYMPH DAPHNE INTO A TREE SO THAT SHE COULD ESCAPE APOLLO'S ROMANTIC ADVANCES.

OAK--ASSOCIATED WITH THE GOD ASPECT IN VARIOUS PERSONAS- IT IS A TREE OF TRIUMPH, STRENGTH, AND ENDURANCE. IT WAS OFTEN USED FOR PLANTING SACRED GROVES, AND WAS THE LOG USED TO KEEP THE VESTAL FIRES BURNING. IT WAS MUCH REVERED BY THE DRUIDS.

ROWAN--OFTEN KNOWN AS THE WITCHES TREE OR AS "WITCHWOOD". ITS NAME IN OLD ENGLISH COMES FROM THE SAME ROOT AS "YEW". IT IS THOUGHT BY MANY TO BE THE PERFECT TREE FOR USE IN ALMOST ANY TYPE OF ENCHANTMENT.

SILVER FIR--IN GREECE THIS TREE WAS SACRED TO ARTEMIS, THE MOON GODDESS.

WILLOW--AGAIN A TREE OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH MAGICK AND ENCHANTMENTS. IT IS SAID TO GROW ONLY ON NEGATIVE POWER POINTS IN THE WILD, AND IT IS ALWAYS LOCATED NEAR WATER. SACRED TO THE GODDESS.

THERE ARE SEVERAL METHODS THAT CAN BE USED IN THE MAKING OF RUNESTICKS. I SHALL DESCRIBE TWO OF THEM HERE, BUT THERE ARE OTHERS. YOUR RUNESTICKS SHOULD BE KEPT IN A SPECIAL RECEPTACLE, SUCH AS A BOX OR POUCH IN ORDER TO KEEP THEIR ENERGIES CLEAR AND PURE.

THE FIRST METHOD IS TO CUT 7 BRANCHES OR STICKS. 3 SHOULD BE 9 INCHES LONG, 3 SHOULD BE 13 INCHES LONG, AND THE LAST ONE CAN BE ANY LENGTH YOU DESIRE, AS LONG AS IT IS DISTINGUISHABLE FROM THE OTHERS. I SUGGEST 11 INCHES. TRIM OFF ANY TWIGS OR LEAVES, SAND AND POLISH. CONSECRATE AND DEDICATE YOUR RUNESTICKS IN A RITUAL DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR THAT PURPOSE. YOU MAY WISH TO DECORATE THE 999 STICK AS A WAY OF MARKING IT AND MAKING IT INDIVIDUALLY YOURS.

TO USE THESE RUNESTICKS TAKE THE SINGLE STICK AND LAY IT HORIZONTALLY ON THE GROUND OR FLOOR IN FRONT OF YOU. HOLD THE OTHER 6 STICKS IN YOUR HANDS, AND MIX THEM UP WHILE ASKING YOUR QUESTION. THIS CAN BE DONE EITHER SILENTLY OR OUT LOUD. IT WILL AID YOUR CONCENTRATION IF YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES, AND WITH THE OTHER HAND REMOVE ONE STICK. LET THE OTHERS DROP TO THE GROUND.

IF THERE ARE MORE LONG STICKS ON THE GROUND THAN SHORT ONES- THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION IS YES. IF THERE ARE MORE SHORT ONES THAN LONG ONES THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION IS NO. IF ANY OF THE STICKS ARE RESTING ON THE HORIZONTAL STICK THEN THE PERSON THE QUESTION IS BEING ASKED FOR OR ABOUT PLAYS A VERY STRONG ROLE IN THE OUTCOME. IF NONE POINT TOWARDS THE HORIZONTAL STICK THEN THE QUESTIONER DOES NOT HAVE MUCH INFLUENCE ON THE OUTCOME.

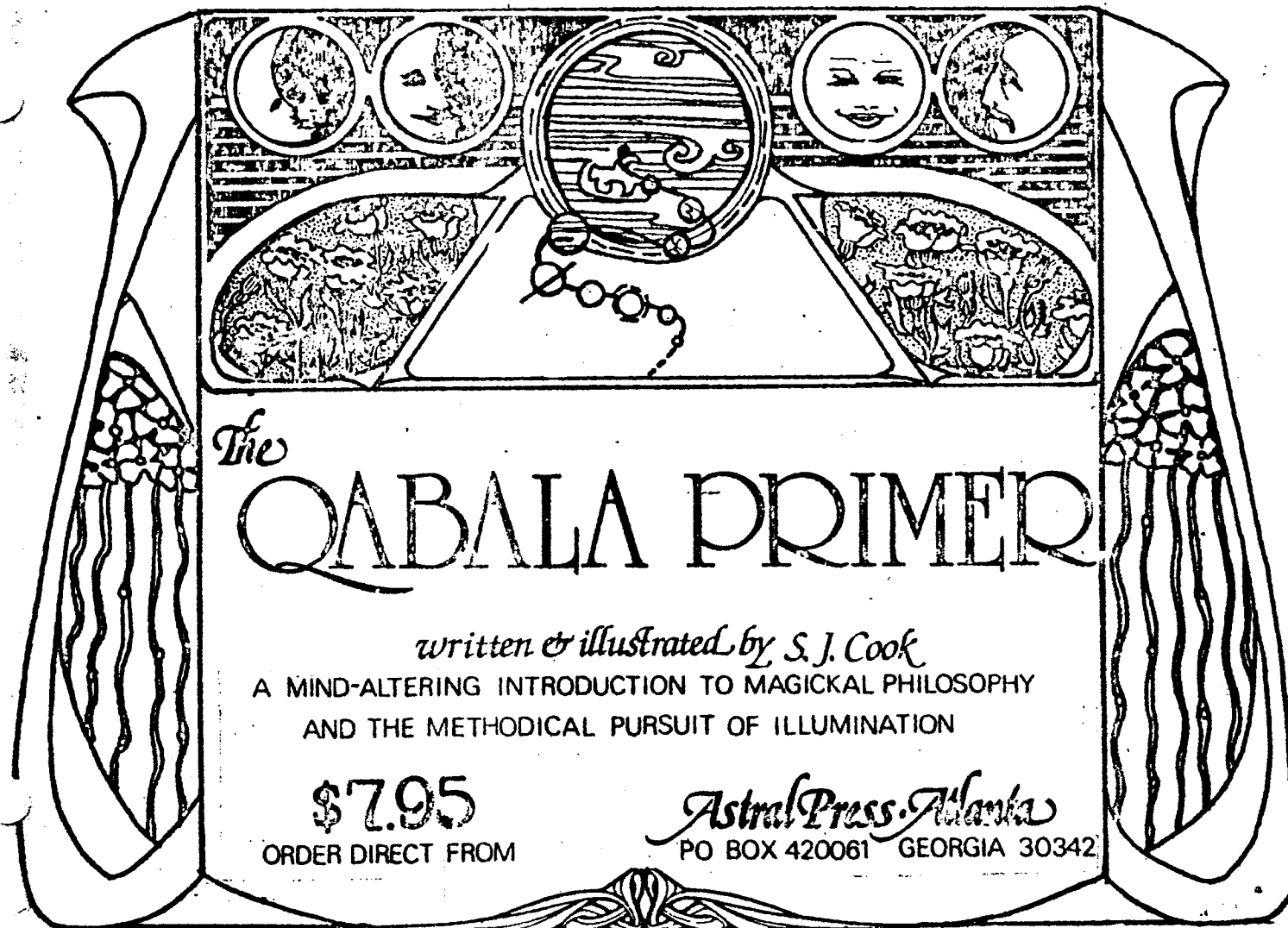
THE SECOND METHOD HAS A SLIGHTLY LARGER RANGE OF INTERPRETATIONS, WHICH REQUIRES THE INTERPRETER TO USE THEIR INTUITION IN WEAVING THE ANSWER TOGETHER. FOR THIS METHOD YOU WILL NEED 7 STICKS OF 7 INCHES EACH, AND ONE STICK 13 INCHES LONG. TAKE THE LONGER STICK AND DECORATE IT APPROPRIATELY. IT WILL BE USED AS YOUR QUERY STICK TO REPRESENT THE QUESTION. THE OTHER STICKS SHOULD BE DIVIDED IN HALF BY PAINTING OR CARVING A LINE AT THE MIDPOINT OF EACH STICK. TAKE YOUR FIRST STICK AND MARK ONE END WITH a circle containing a dot, WHICH REPRESENTS A MALE, AND THE OTHER END WITH a circle containing a cross, WHICH REPRESENTS A WOMAN. WITH YOUR SECOND STICK MARK ONE END WITH a circle containing a triangle, WHICH SYMBOLIZES ANGER OR QUARRELS AND CONFLICTS; AND THE OTHER END WITH a circle containing a heart, WHICH REPRESENTS LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP. THE THIRD STICK SHOULD BE MARKED WITH a circle containing a dollar sign, WHICH STANDS FOR MONEY AND POSSESSIONS, AND a circle containing a cross with a horizontal bar, WHICH REPRESENTS LOSS AND RESTRICTIONS. THE FOURTH STICK SHOULD BE MARKED WITH a circle containing a caduceus, ON ONE SIDE, AND THIS MEANS INTELLIGENCE, RESOURCES, WISDOM, PLANS,

WHILE ON THE OPPOSITE END IS Δ , OR FLUCTUATION, CHANGE, DREAMS AND VISIONS. THE FIFTH STICK IS MARKED WITH Δ REPRESENTING FIRE AS PURIFICATION AND STRENGTH, AND WITH ∇ FOR THE EARTH, FOUNDATION, HOME AND GROWTH. THE SIXTH STICK SHOULD BE MARKED WITH Δ FOR AIR, AND IT REPRESENTS IDEALS, GOALS, DESIRE, WHILE ∇ REPRESENTS EMOTIONS AND HIDDEN FORCES. THE LAST STICK SHOULD BE MARKED WITH H FOR GOOD FRIENDS AND GOOD FORTUNE, AND ON THE LEFT WITH Ψ INDICATING PSYCHIC MATTERS AND FORCES.

YOU SHOULD DEICATE AND CONSECRATE YOUR RUNESTICKS BEFORE USING THEM. TO USE, LAY THE 13 INCH STICK ON THE FLOOR HORIZONTALLY AFTER FIRST CHARGING IT WHILE HOLDING IT IN YOUR HANDS AND FORMULATING YOUR QUESTION. THEN JUGGLE THE OTHER STICKS AND LET THEM FALL TO THE GROUND. ANY STICKS THAT TOUCH THE QUERY STICK HAVE A BEARING ON YOUR ANSWER. THE STICKS THAT ARE NOT TOUCHING SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED WHEN FORMULATING YOUR ANSWER. WHEN YOU ARE INTERPRETING THE ANSWER NOTE WHICH SYMBOL IS ON THE END OF THE STICK THAT TOUCHES THE QUERY STICK. USE THESE SYMBOLS AS THE KEY TO YOUR ANSWER. THIS FORM OF THE

RUNESTICKS TAKES A LITTLE GETTING USED TO, AS WELL AS THE USE OF YOUR INTUITION TO "WEAVE" THE ANSWER FROM THE SYMBOLS YOU ARE GIVEN. REMEMBER TO USE ONLY THE SYMBOL THAT IS CLOSEST TO THE QUERY STICK. IF A STICK IS RESTING ON ITS MIDPOINT AND ONE SYMBOL IS NO CLOSER THAN THE OTHER THEN BOTH ASPECTS FIGURE IN THE REPLY TO YOUR QUESTION.

RUNESTICKS ARE A FORM OF DIVINATION THAT IS FAIRLY EASY TO USE. PICK THE METHOD THAT SUITS YOU THE BEST. IF NEITHER OF THESE SUITES YOU THAN RESEARCH SOME OTHERS. YOU'LL BE SURPRISED ONCE YOU'VE STARTED WORKING WITH THEM HOW QUICKLY YOU CAN ESTABLISH A RAPPORT WITH YOUR RUNESTICKS, AND HOW WELL THEY WILL WORK FOR YOU. ANOTHER ADVANTAGE THAT THE RUNESTICKS HAVE OVER OTHER FORMS OF DIVINATION SUCH AS THE TAROT OR THE I CHING, IS THAT THE INTERPRETATIONS ARE NOT LENGTHY, AND SO THEY ARE EASY TO MEMORIZE, YOU DON'T NEED A BOOK TO LOOK THE INTERPRETATION UP IN. BLESSED BE, AND GOOD DIVINING!



The
QABALA PRIMER

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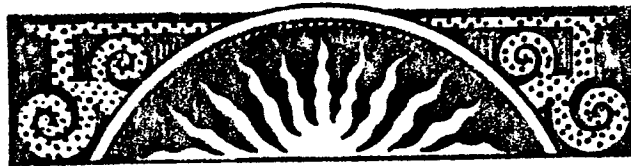
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RITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS

and

DAILY LIFE

BY CHARLES MOODY

WAKE UP, GET DRESSED, GO TO WORK, GO TO LUNCH, CLOCK IN, CLOCK OUT, GO HOME, EAT DINNER, WATCH T.V./GO OUT/READ A BOOK/TAKE A BATH, GO TO BED...

THESE DAYS, IN AMERICA, THE REGULAR EVENTS AND OCCURANCES OF OUR DAILY LIVES ARE CONSIDERED UNPROFITABLE, BORING AND RESTRICTIVE. INDEED, OUR LIVES AND JOBS ARE USED AS A PARADIGM OF TEDIUM AND SOPORIFIC WASTE BY THE ADVERTISING COMMUNITY AND BY OUR PEERS, WHO ARE NO BETTER OFF.

IT IS TRUE, AS THIS IMPLIES AND MANY METAPHYSICIANS HAVE STATED, THAT MANY PEOPLE DO GO THROUGH LIFE AS IF SLEEPWALKING, UNCONCIOUS OF THE BEAUTIES OF THE WORLD AND OF LIFE. SIMPLY PUT, THEY DO NOT PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT IS AROUND THEM. "BLIND ARE THEY WHO HAVE EYES BUT DO NOT SEE" BUDDHA'S FIRST NOBLE TRUTH IS THAT LIFE IS SORROW; AND THIS LACK OF ATTENTION, THIS LOW LEVEL OF AWARENESS, IS THE SOURCE OF THAT SORROW.

MANY, IF NOT MOST, OF LIFE'S FRUSTRATIONS, ACCIDENTS, MISTAKES, AND MISSED OPPORTUNITIES CAN BE TRACED TO A LACK OF SUFFICIENT ATTENTION, OR "NOT KEEPING YOUR MIND ON WHAT YOU'RE DOING".

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, CULTURES HAVE SPANNED METAPHYSICAL AND AESTHETIC SYSTEMS,

AND ATTENTION OR AWARENESS IS CENTRAL TO ALL OF THEM. THE YOGIS TRAIN THEMSELVES TO THE AWARENESS OF THE BREATHING PROCESS; THE T'AI CHI STUDENTS AND MARTIAL ARTISTS ARE TAUGHT TO GIVE THOROUGH ATTENTION TO ALL MOVEMENTS AND POSTURES; THE ZEN MEDITATOR SEEKS TO SO EXTEND THEIR AWARENESS AS TO MERGE AND FUSE WITH THE OBJECT OF THEIR MEDITATION.

IN THE WEST, PROFESSIONALS ARE ALL TRAINED TO NARROW APPLICATIONS OF THIS PRINCIPLE: THE PHYSICIAN TAKES VITAL SIGNS AS HIS SPHERE OF SPECIAL AWARENESS AND ATTENTION; THE ARTIST HAS THEIR TONES AND SHADES OF LIGHT AND COLOR; TO THE MECHANICS TRAINED EAR, THE SOUND OF AN ENGINE WILL TELL QUITE A STORY. THE ORATOR'S SENSE OF A CROWD'S MOOD AND THEIR OWN CHOICE OF WORDS; THE ACTOR'S SENSE OF THE AUDIENCE, THE OTHERS ON THE STAGE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF INFLECTION AND GESTURE; THE WIRE WALKER'S FINE-TUNED ATTENTION TO WIND, MOVEMENT, VIBRATION AND BALANCE IN MOTION; THE GOURMAND'S FINE APPRECIATION OF TASTES, TEXTURES, ODORS AND TEMPERATURES; THESE ARE ALL EXAMPLES OF FOCUSED AWARENESS, OF CONSCIOUS ATTENTION TO THE ELEMENTS OF AN ACTION, EXPERIENCE OR EVENT.

THE PROCESS OR TECHNIQUE OF INVESTING ACTIONS, EVENTS AND PERCEPTIONS WITH ATTENTION IS CALLED "DEAUTOMATIZATION" BY PSYCHOLOGISTS, WHILE OCCULTISTS KNOW IT VARIOUSLY AS "RITUAL AWARENESS" AND "MAGICKAL CONCIUSNESS".

IN THE FIELD OF PRACTICAL METAPHYSICAL WORK, THIS TECHNIQUE IS ESSENTIAL TO ANY SUCCESSFUL RITUAL WORKING. COUPLED WITH THE TECHNIQUE OF MAGICKAL OR RITUAL INTENTION, IT FORMS BOTH THE HEART AND STRUCTURE OF RITUAL; SO, TOO, DO THESE TWIN TECHNIQUES PROVIDE THE KEY TO THE RITUALIZATION OF DAILY LIFE EVENTS.

WE NOW FACE THE QUESTION OF WHY RITUALIZE OUR LIVES? AREN'T THEY BORING AND POINTLESS ENOUGH TO BEGIN WITH? YES, LIFE CAN BE POINTLESS AND BORING ENOUGH AT TIMES FOR ANYONE. IT IS, IN FACT, THE BOREDOM AND THE LACK OF ANY ACHIEVABLE GOAL THAT LULLS US TO SLEEP IN THE FIRST PLACE. BY PAYING ATTENTION, BY BEING AWARE OF THE PEOPLE, THINGS AND EVENTS IN OUR LIVES, WE WAKE UP. AFTER ALL, ISN'T THE GOAL OF LIFE TO ACHIEVE "LIFE, MORE LIFE, AND THE FULLNESS THEREOF"?

AS FOR RITUALIZING OUR LIVES, THE BENEFITS ARE MANY; FOR LIVING RITUAL (I.E. RITUAL WE ARE AWARE OF, AND IN WHICH WE TAKE PART ACTIVELY AND WILLINGLY) ENHANCES AND EMPOWERS LIFE. IT IS DEAD RITUAL, THE HOLLOW FROM WHOSE MEANING IS NO LONGER SEEN AND IN WHICH WE PARTICIPATE IGNORANTLY OR PASSIVELY (IF AT ALL), THAT RESTRAINS AND CONSTRICTS THE SURGE OF LIFE.

RITUAL IS A COMBINATION OF INTENT, ACTION, AND STIMULATION USED FOR SEVERAL PURPOSES. PRIMARILY IT IS USED TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO AN ALTERED STATE OF CONCIUSNESS WHOSE CHARACTERISTICS INCLUDE: CONTACT WITH, AND USE OF, ENERGY SOURCES WITHIN THE SELF, BEYOND THE SELF, OR BOTH; A FOCUSING OF WILL IN THE DIRECTION OF ONE'S INTENT; A FEELING OF POWER, HEALTH AND CONNECTEDNESS - THAT IS, OF UNITY WITH THE COSMOS AND ALL ITS PARTS. THE SECONDARY PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE A FORM, A STRUCTURE, OR A CONTEXT THROUGH WHICH TO CHANNEL THE ENERGY CONTACTED. THE TERTIARY PURPOSE IS THE DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE PERSONALITY WHICH ATTENDS THE OCCUPATION AND USE OF THE RITUAL STATE.

BEFORE DEALING WITH THE FUNDAMENTALS OF INCORPORATING RITUAL INTENT AND AWARENESS INTO OUR LIVES, LET US BRIEFLY EXAMINE THE STEPS OF FORMAL RITUAL PREPARATION, WHICH ARE; FASTING, ABSTENTION, ABLUTION, AND MEDITATION. FOR THE DETACHED OBSERVER THESE ARE MERELY THE AVOIDANCE OF FOOD, DRINK, DRUGS, AND SOMETIMES SEX; BATHING; AND

SITTING OR LYING QUIETLY. IT IS THE TWIN MECHANISM OF RITUAL INTENT AND RITUAL AWARENESS THAT TRANSFORMS THESE STEPS AND GIVES THEM THEIR POTENCY.

IN FASTING AND ABSTENTION WE DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ALCOHOL, OR TAKE DRUGS, AND THIS AIDS US IN THESE WAYS: SYMBOLICALLY, WE TURN AWAY FROM MATERIAL NEEDS IN ORDER TO PREPARE OURSELVES FOR SPIRITUAL WORK; BIOLOGICALLY, IT GIVES OUR BODIES A CHANCE TO COMPLETE THEIR CHORES OF DIGESTION AND ELIMINATION, AND ALLOWS OUR BIOCHEMICAL LEVELS TO BALANCE OUT AND REST; SPIRITUALLY THIS BIOCHEMICAL/BIOPHYSICAL BALANCING AND RESTING RAISES OUR VIBRATORY LEVELS, BRINGING US NEARER TO THE RITUAL STATE OF CONCIUSNESS WE DESIRE AND AIDING IN THE GENERATION AND CHANNELING OF ENERGY.

ABLUTION IS A BATHING OR WASHING WHICH IS INTENDED TO REMOVE NOT ONLY PHYSICAL DIRT AND GRIME, BUT ALL IMPURITIES AND IMPERFECTIONS FROM ALL LEVELS OF THE ORGANISM. RINSING AWAY ANGER, LONELINESS, FRUSTRATION, ILLNESS AND ANXIETY IS NOT A TANGIBLE, PHYSICAL ACT, BUT A SYMBOLIC ONE; AND GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE EMOTIONAL STATES LISTED, THIS SYMBOLIC SCRUBBING IS QUITE EFFECTIVE. IF PROPER ATTENTION AND INTENTION ARE PRESENT ONE SHOULD EMERGE FROM THIS BATH FEELING FRESH,, RELAXED, CONFIDENT, AND READY FOR THE RITUAL. THIS IS BECAUSE WE REINFORCE OUR BUDDING RITUAL CONCIUSNESS BY STILLING AND REABSORBING THE ENERGY THAT HAD BEEN INVESTED IN DISTRACTING EMOTIONS, RATHER THAN TRYING TO GAG AND REPRESS THOSE ENERGIES. THEREFORE, OUR ENERGY RESERVES ARE AGAIN ENHANCED, OUR EMOTIONAL STATE IS BALANCED, AND THIS HARMONIOUS CONDITION RAISES OUR VIBRATORY LEVELS STILL HIGHER.

MEDITATION IS YET ANOTHER ACT OF PURIFICATION AND HARMONIZATION, THIS TIME WITHIN THE MENTAL SPHERE. IN MEDITATION WE STILL THE MIND AND SOOTHE THE RAGGED, HIGH-SPEED FLOW OF THOUGHTS THROUGH OUR HEADS. THIS IS NOT A MINDLESS CONDITION OF RESTRAINED AND SUPPRESSED MENTAL ACTIVITY; IT IS A MATTER OF CLEARING THE DECKS FOR ACTION AND MAINTAINING A HIGH LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS FOR THE COMING RITUAL. SUCCESSFUL MEDITATION, AT THIS POINT IN THE PROCEEDINGS, HAS THE EFFECT OF PURGING AND PURIFYING THE THOUGHT PROCESSES, AND BRINGS ABOUT A HIGHER LEVEL OF HARMONIZATION AND A RESULTING ENHANCEMENT OF OUR VIBRATORY LEVEL AND OUR RITUAL CONCIUSNESS.

WE CAN SEE, THEN, HOW INTENTION AND ATTENTION CAN ENHANCE AND TRANSMUTE COMMON DAILY ACTIVITIES, CAUSING THEM TO BEAR THEIR GREATEST FRUIT. VIEWING THIS FROM A BROADER

PERSPECTIVE, WE PERCEIVE A HIERARCHAL ORGANIZATION OF ACTIONS, ALL POINTED TO THE ONE GOAL OF PREPARATION FOR A FORMAL RITUAL WORKING. THE SAME ATTITUDE APPLIES TO ALL RITUAL, WHETHER FORMAL OR INFORMAL, WHETHER PREPARED OR SPONTANEOUS. OUR SEQUENCE OF PREPARATIONS IS FOR A PREPARED GOAL, A RITUALISTIC EXPERIENCE. THAT IS, THE STEPS WERE PLANNED OUT AND IMPLEMENTED IN ADVANCE OF THE RITUAL.

LIFE IN SOCIETY PRESENTS US WITH MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS APPROACH, AS ALL SCHEDULED EVENTS AND PLANNED OCCASIONS CAN BE USED AS FOCAL POINTS FOR INFORMAL OR PREPARED RITUALS. WHETHER IT BE AN EXAMINATION IN SCHOOL, A SALES APPOINTMENT, A DATE, A WEDDING, A DINNER PARTY, A VACATION, A BUSINESS MEETING, A BIRTHDAY OR HOLIDAY CELEBRATION, YOU CAN ENHANCE THE EVENT OR EXPERIENCE FOR YOURSELF, AND, BY BEING MORE IN TUNE WITH THE PROCEEDINGS, GET MORE OUT OF IT. PUTTING FORTH DELIBERATE AND AWARE ATTENTION MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.

PLEASE NOTE THAT BY REFERENCES TO "RITUAL" AND "PREPARATION" WE REFER TO ATTITUDES AND PERSPECTIVES. WE ARE NOT NECESSARILY RECOMMENDING THAT ONE FAST BEFORE A TEST, OR TAKE A RITUAL BATH BEFORE A BIG DATE; THOUGH WE HAVE NEVER KNOWN EITHER TO HURT. ALL YOUR PREPARATION SHOULD BE APPROPRIATE IN GOAL, AND IN ESSENCE, TO THE OCCASION.

THERE ARE OTHER EVENTS IN LIFE; UNPLANNED MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS, ANXIETY, COMMUNION WITH FRIENDS, DANGER, ETC., WHICH LEND THEMSELVES TO UNPLANNED OR SPONTANEOUS RITUAL. FOR EXAMPLE, THE WATER SHARING RITUAL IN ROBERT HEINLEIN'S "STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND" IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF SPONTANEOUS RITUALY-INTENDED ACT PRODUCING RITUAL EFFECTS. SHARING INTOXICANTS WITH A NEW FRIEND TENDS TO CEMENT THE RELATIONSHIP, EVEN WHEN IT IS NOT RITUALY CHARGED. WHEN DONE WITH THE RITUAL INTENT OF INCREASING FRIENDSHIP AND COMMUNICATION, IT PROVES TO BE VERY POWERFUL.

AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THESE EXAMPLES, SPONTANEOUS RITUALS TEND TO BE ACTS, RATHER THAN EVENTS. THEREFORE, ONE'S PREPARATION TAKES THE FORM OF CALLING UP ENERGY WHICH IS THEN USED TO CHARGE THE ACT WITH THE RITUAL INTENT. THE ACT IS THEN CONSUMMATED.

OTHER EXAMPLES OF SUCH SPONTANEOUS, RITUAL-RECEPTIVE EVENTS ARE: THE DRINKING OF TOASTS; THE SHARING OF A MEAL; THE MAKING OF INTRODUCTIONS; GREETINGS AND LEAVE-TAKINGS; AND ALL ACTS OF SERVICE OR ASSISTANCE.

THE APPLICATION OF THIS TECHNIQUE OF "RITUALIZED AWARENESS" OR "RITUALY-CONSCIOUS ATTENTION" YIELDS OTHER BENEFITS WITH REGULAR PRACTICE:

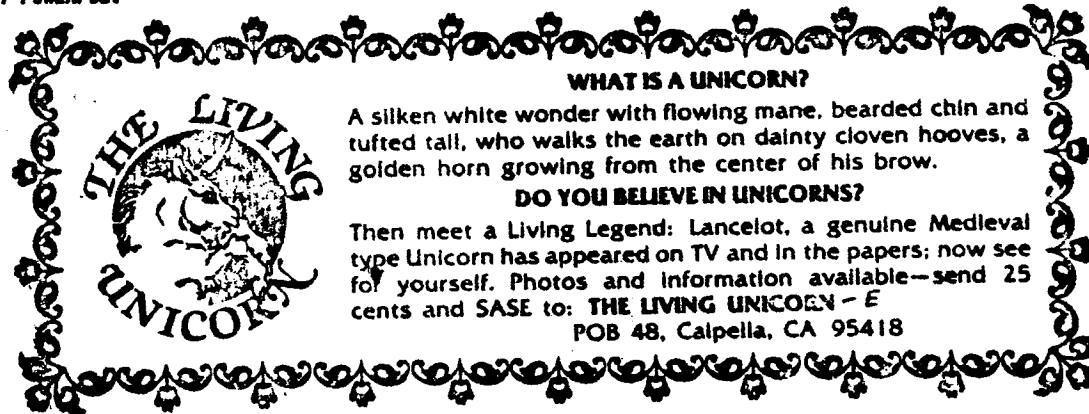
--THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONFIDENCE AND EXPERTISE IN RITUAL WORKINGS, WHICH AIDS IN THE EFFICACY OF ONE'S FORMAL AND INFORMAL ACTIONS.

--THE STRENGTHENING OF THE WILL, BY AIDING THE MIND IN FOCUSING ON PURPOSE AND INTENTION, WHICH CLARIFIES ONE'S MOTIVATIONS AND MAKES SELF-DELUSION AND DISHONESTY DIFFICULT.

--THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FIVE PERSONAE (I.E. SOCIAL, FAMILIAL, CREATIVE, ECONOMIC, AND MAGICKAL) BY AIDING IN THE PERCEPTION OF "PATTERNS OF ENABLEMENT" TYPICAL OF THE VARIOUS PERSONALITIES; AS WELL AS THEIR ANALOGOUS NETWORKS IN THE PERSONALITY AT LARGE. THIS GREATLY ASSISTS THE CREATION AND INTEGRATION OF THE ADEPT.

ALL OF THESE BENEFICIAL EFFECTS SHOW THEMSELVES BOTH IN THE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND IN THE GROWTH OF CALM, HUMOUR, AND UNDERSTANDING IN ONE'S PERSPECTIVE. AS A RESULT ONE'S CONDITION IMPROVES IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO ONE'S AWARENESS.

A WORD OF CAUTION: THESE TECHNIQUES, AND THE SUGGESTIONS FOR THEIR USE, ARE POTENT MAGICKAL AND SPIRITUAL VEHICLES, AND SO THEY ARE CORRESPONDINGLY INTOLERANT OF MISUSE OR ABUSE. PLEASE USE A LITTLE FORTHUGHT AND INNER WISDOM IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE GUIDELINES.



WHAT IS A UNICORN?

A silken white wonder with flowing mane, bearded chin and tufted tail, who walks the earth on dainty cloven hooves, a golden horn growing from the center of his brow.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN UNICORNS?

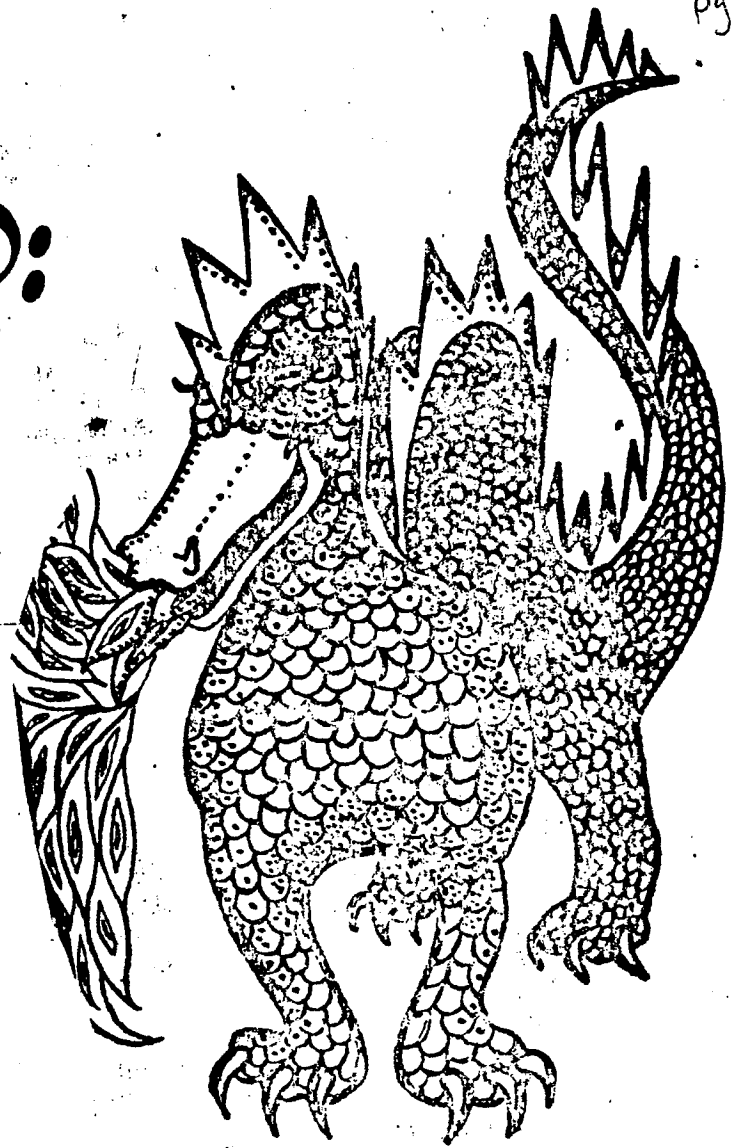
Then meet a Living Legend: Lancelot, a genuine Medieval type Unicorn has appeared on TV and in the papers; now see for yourself. Photos and information available—send 25 cents and SASE to: **THE LIVING UNICORN - E**
POB 48, Calpella, CA 95418

The Dragon:

Mythical,

Mystical,

& Magical



BY LADY GALADRIEL

THE DRAGON IS A SYMBOLIC FIGURE FOUND IN THE MAJORITY OF THE CULTURES OF THE WORLD. IT SEEMS TO BE AN AMALGAM OF VARIOUS ANIMALS THAT ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE AGGRESSIVE AND DANGEROUS--SUCH AS SERPENTS, CROCODILES, LIONS AND DINOSAURS. THE DRAGON NOT ONLY SYMBOLIZES ANIMAL NATURE, AS IN THE SUMERIAN CONCEPT OF THE DRAGON AS "ADVERSARY", BUT IT HAS ALSO BEEN REVERED AND ALMOST DEIFIED BY SUCH PEOPLES AS THE CHINESE, THE PHENICIANS AND THE SAXONS.

IN A GREAT MANY LEGENDS THE DRAGON APPEARS AS THE PRINORDIAL ENEMY WITH WHOM COMBAT IS THE SUPREME TEST. APOLLO, CADMUS, PERSEUS AND SIGFRIED ALL FIGHT AND CONQUER THE DRAGON. IN CHRISTIAN LEGENDS, ST. GEORGE AND MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL ALSO FIGHT AND

SLAY THE DRAGON, WHO, IN THESE STORIES SIGNIFIES A DISEASE WHICH AFFLICTS A COUNTRY OR INDIVIDUAL (USUALLY OF A PSYCHOLOGICAL OR MORAL NATURE).

THE CLASSICS AND THE BIBLE FREQUENTLY ALLUDE TO THE DRAGON, PROVIDING US WITH DETAILED INFORMATION REGARDING ITS APPEARANCE, ITS HABITS AND ITS NATURE. HOWEVER, THEIR DESCRIPTIONS POINT TO SEVERAL DIFFERENT KINDS OF DRAGONS, RATHER THAN JUST ONE KIND. ACCORDING TO PINDAR "SOME GIVE IT THE FORM OF A WINGED SERPENT; IT LIVES IN THE AIR OR THE WATER, ITS JAWS ARE IRON, IT SWALLOWS MEN AND ANIMALS AFTER FIRST KILLING THEM WITH ITS ENORMOUS TAIL. CONVERSELY, OTHERS MAKE IT INTO A TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL, ITS JAWS QUITE SMALL, ITS TONGUE AND POWERFUL TAIL

IS USED AS AN INSTRUMENT OF DESTRUCTION, AND IT ALSO FLIES AND FEEDS ON THE BLOOD OF THE ANIMALS IT KILLS. THERE ARE ALSO WRITERS WHO CONSIDER IT TO BE AMPHIBIOUS, IN WHICH CASE ITS HEAD BECOMES THAT OF A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WITH LONG FLOWING HAIR, AND IT IS EVEN MORE TERRIBLE THAN THE PREVIOUS VERSIONS.

AMONG THE CLASSICAL WRITERS THE DRAGON IS USUALLY PORTRAYED AS BEING STRONG AND VIGILANT, AND HAVING EXCEPTIONALLY KEEN EYESIGHT. ITS NAME SEEMS TO COME FROM THE GREEK WORD "DRAKON" WHICH MEANS SEEING. THUS THE DRAGON IS USUALLY GIVEN THE FUNCTION OF GUARDING TEMPLES AND TREASURES, AS WELL AS BEING A SYMBOL OF PROPHECY AND WISDOM, DESPITE ITS OTHER, MORE FEARSOME VISAGES.

ON MANY OCCASIONS THE DRAGON HAS BEEN USED ON ENIGMAS AND HERALDIC DEVICES, AND IN THESE CASES IT IS THE SYMBOL OF THE FORM AND SHAPE WHICH TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER THAT OF THE DRAGON. THE DISCOURSUS, OR DRAGON BITING ITS OWN TAIL, AS AN EXAMPLE, REPRESENTS CYCLIC PROCESSES OF ALL KINDS, AND INFINITY.

THE DRAGON ALSO FIGURES QUITE PROMINENTLY IN ALCHEMY. A NUMBER OF DRAGONS FIGHTING TOGETHER ILLUSTRATES THE STATE OF PUTREFACTION (SEPARATING OUT THE ELEMENTS, OR PSYCHIC DISINTEGRATION). THE WINGED DRAGON REPRESENTS THE VOLATILE ELEMENTS, WHILE THE WINGLESS DRAGON REPRESENTS THE FIXED ELEMENTS. THE COLOR WITH WHICH IT IS PORTRAYED, SUCH AS BLACK OR RED, ALSO PLAYS A PART IN THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DRAGON SYMBOL IN ALCHEMY.

THE EASTERN OR CHINESE DRAGON PROBABLY REACHED THE HIGHEST STATE OF REVERENCE AND TRANSFORMATION. HERE IT BECOMES A SYMBOL OF ROYAL STATUS AND POWER--ONLY THE EMPEROR WAS ALLOWED TO WEAR OR DISPLAY A FIVE-CLAWED DRAGON ON HIS BANNERS AND ORNAMENTS. THE LESSEER NOBLES HAD TO BE CONTENT WITH A THREE OR FOUR-CLAW VERSION.

BIEL SAYS THE DRAGON OF CHINA SYMBOLIZES THE MASTERY OF EVIL AND THE EMBODIMENT OF WICKEDNESS. FRAZER TELLS US THAT WHEN THE CHINESE WISHED FOR RAIN THEY WOULD MAKE A HUGE DRAGON OUT OF WOOD OR PAPER AND CARRY IT IN A CEREMONIAL PROCESSION. IF THE RAIN DIDN'T COME THEY WOULD THEN DESTROY THE DRAGON, ALMOST AS IF IN REVENGE.

CHANG-TSU SAYS THE DRAGON AND THE SERPENT ARE INVESTED WITH THE MOST PROFOUND COSMIC SYMBOLISM, AND ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF RHYTHMIC LIFE. THE ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN THE DRAGON, LIGHTNING, RAIN, AND FERTILITY IS A COMMON ONE AMONG ANCIENT CHINESE TEXTS. FOR THIS REASON THE DRAGON BECOMES THE CONNECTING

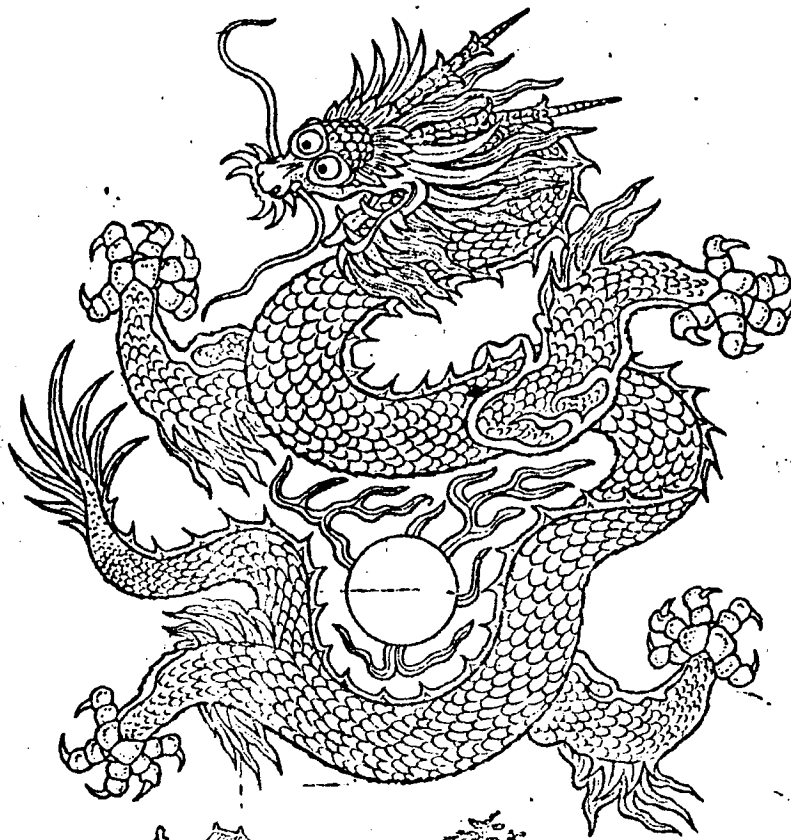
LINK BETWEEN THE WATERS OF HEAVEN AND EARTH. HOWEVER, THE DRAGON OF CHINESE MYTHOLOGY APPEARS IN SUBTERRANEAN, AERIAL, AND AQUATIC FORMS. THERE IS AN OLD CHINESE SAYING "THE EARTH JOINS UP WITH THE DRAGON" WHICH IS A POETIC WAY OF SAYING THAT IT IS RAINING. THE DRAGON PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE AS THE INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN THE TWO EXTREMES OF COSMIC FORCES MANIFESTING ON THREE DIFFERENT LEVELS--THE LEVEL OF SPIRITUALITY (THE AERIAL FORM), THE LEVEL OF LIFE AND FERTILITY, (THE AQUATIC FORM) AND THE LEVEL OF BASE OR ANIMAL EXISTENCE (THE SUBTERRANEAN FORM). COLOR ALSO PLAYS A PART IN THE ESOTERIC INTERPRETATIONS OF THE CHINESE DRAGON AS A SYMBOL -- A RED ONE IS THE GUARDIAN OF THE HIGHER SCIENCES, WHILE A WHITE ONE IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MOON AND THINGS OF A LUNAR NATURE. THEY ARE ALSO RESPECTIVELY MALE AND FEMALE.

IN THE MIDDLE AGES IN THE WESTERN PARTS OF EUROPE, DRAGONS MAKE THEIR APPEARANCE WITH THE THROAT AND LEGS OF THE EAGLE, THE BODY OF A SERPENT, THE WINGS OF A BAT, AND A TAIL CULMINATING IN AN ARROW. THIS SUPPOSEDLY SIGNIFIES THE FUSION OF THE POTENTIALS OF EACH OF ITS COMPONENT PARTS. THE EAGLE STANDS FOR THE CELESTIAL POTENTIAL, THE SERPENT FOR WISDOM AND SECRECY, THE WINGS FOR INTELLECTUAL ELEVATION, AND THE TAIL FOR SUBMISSION TO FORCE OR REASON.

IN PRESENT DAY PSYCHOLOGY THE DRAGON SYMBOL IS DEFINED AS "SOMETHING TERRIBLE TO OVERCOME", FOR ONLY THE PERSON WHO CONQUERS THE DRAGON BECOMES A VICTOR, A HERO. JUNG GOES ON TO SAY THAT THE DRAGON IS THE MOTHER IMAGE (AS A MIRROR OF THE MATERNAL PRINCIPLE OR THE UNCONSCIOUS) AND THAT IT EXPRESSES THE INDIVIDUALS FEAR AND REPUGNANCE TOWARDS INERT, AND COMMITTED IT. HE ALSO SUGGESTS THAT IT QUITE SIMPLY REPRESENTS EVIL.

ACCORDING TO RABBI SIMON BEN YEHONAI, IN THE ESOTERIC HEBREW TEACHINGS THE DEEPEST MEANING OF THE DRAGON MUST FOREVER REMAIN INVIOLENT. THE UNIVERSAL DRAGON OF THE GNOSTICS, THE KATHOLIKOS OPHIS, IS "THE WAY THROUGH ALL THINGS". IT IS RELATED TO THE CONCEPT OF CHAOS AS STATED BY PHILAETHA --"OUR CHAOS OR SPIRIT IS A FIERY DRAGON WHICH CONSUMES ALL THINGS.", AND THIS CAN BE SEEN AS BEING SYMBOLIC OF DISSOLUTION AS WELL.

ACCORDING TO EVOLA AND HIS INTERPRETATION OF ALCHEMICAL DOCTRINES, THE DRAGON WHICH HAS TO BE CONQUERED AND SLAIN IS THAT WHICH CONTINUOUSLY DEVOURS ITSELF. "IT IS MERCURY AS AN IMAGE OF BURNING THIRST OR



The CHINESE DRAGON is not as terrible as he looks. Early in the year he comes out of a cave in the mountains, or out of water, and races through the sky, bringing the spring weather. The early Chinese worshipped the dragon and once had his picture on national flags. He is the symbol of wisdom and hidden secrets.

HUNGER, OR THE BLIND IMPULSE TOWARDS GRATIFICATION. IN OTHER WORDS, HE LATER GOES ON TO EXPLAIN THAT IT IS NATURE ENTROLLED AND CONQUERED BY NATURE, OR THE MYSTERY OF THE LUNAR WORLD OF CHANGE AND BECOMING, AS OPPOSED TO THE WORLD OF FIXED AND IMMUTABLE BEING. BOHME DEFINES THE DRAGON AS A HILL WHICH DESIRES AND YET HAS NOTHING CAPABLE OF SATISFYING IT EXCEPT ITS OWN SELF.

AS CAN BE SEEN FROM THE ABOVE QUOTES AND INTERPRETATIONS, THE DRAGON OFTEN CARRIES CONTROVERSIAL AND CONTRADICTORY MEANINGS. IN ESOTERIC TEACHINGS THE DRAGON TAKES ON AN ALMOST SACRED SIGNIFICANCE. BUT IN OTHER FORMS THIS CREATURE IS DOWNGRADED AS THE REPRESENTATION OF THE BASEST FORMS OF LIFE. YET DESPITE THIS PARADOX IT SEEMS OBVIOUS THAT THE DRAGON REPRESENTS THE BASE OR ANIMAL NATURE OF HUMANS WHICH CO-EXISTS WITH THE HIGHER NATURE OF SPIRITUALITY WITHIN US ALL.

THE DRAGON ALSO BELONGS TO NO ONE ELEMENT, RATHER ITS SYMBOLISES ALL FOUR OF THEM, ALTHOUGH USUALLY ONLY ONE AT A TIME. THE FIRE BREATHING DRAGON, THE RAIN BRINGING DRAGON, THE FLYING DRAGON, AND THE SUBTERRANEAN DRAGON WHO DWELLS IN CAVES CAN ALL BE ASSIGNED TO THE FOUR QUADRANTS AND INTERPRETED ACCORDINGLY. THE DRAGON CAN ALSO REPRESENT THE MALE AND FEMALE PRINCIPLE AS WELL.

THUS THE DRAGON IS A COMPOSITE SYMBOL OF NOT ONLY THE FOUR ELEMENTS, THE MALE AND FEMALE, BUT ALSO THE VARIOUS PLANETS AT VARIOUS TIMES, THE HIGHER AND LOWER NATURES OF HUMAN KIND; WISDOM, SECRECY, PROPHECY, INFINITY, DISSOLUTION AND FERTILITY AS WELL. AS SUCH THE DRAGON IS ONE OF THE MOST ADAPTABLE SYMBOLS EVER, AS IT CAN BE TAILORED TO SUIT ALMOST ANY SYMBOLIC NEED AT ANY TIME.

BY CASPIAN

A BAS-BELIEF ON THE WALL OF AN ASSYRIAN TEMPLE SHOWS TWO MEN FIGHTING, THEIR PUNCHING FORM CURIOUSLY SIMILAR TO THE FORM OF MODERN DAY KARATE. A MEDIAEVAL CATHEDRAL DEPICTS NOSES REPULSING AN EGYPTIAN'S ATTACK WITH A TECHNIQUE KNOWN TO THE KNOWN DO STUDENTS AS A FRONT SNAP KICK. THE WARRIORS OF THE DRYTHONIC CELTS DID NOT SIT ON THE GROUND, BUT RATHER SQUATTED ON THE BALLS OF THEIR FEET WITH THEIR TOES BENT BACK, A TECHNIQUE MODERN MARTIAL ARTISTS USE TO STRETCH THE TOE MUSCLES FOR CERTAIN KICKS. A TRIAL RECORD FROM 17TH CENTURY ENGLAND MENTIONS THE CONDEMNATION OF A "WITCH" FOR THE MURDER OF A LOCAL MERCHANT, CITING AS EVIDENCE FOR THE WITCHCRAFT CHARGES THE FACT THAT THE MAN KILLED THE MERCHANT WITH A SINGLE HAND STRIKE.

THESE AND MANY OTHER INSTANCES SHOW THAT THE MARTIAL ARTS ARE NOT NEW TO WESTERN CULTURE, AND THEY ALSO SUGGEST A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ARTS AND THE CELTIC TRIBES. INDEED, THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE, BOTH ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL, THAT THE CELTS KNEW A GREAT DEAL ABOUT "EMPTY-HAND" FIGHTING; AND A NUMBER OF DRUIDIC TEACHINGS, AS RECORDED BY THE ROMAN WRITERS FOR EXAMPLE, ARE SIMILAR TO THE MARTIAL ARTS' CONCEPTS OF "KI". IN THESE DAYS OF MOVIES LIKE "A FORCE OF ONE" AND NATIONALLY TELEVISED FULL-CONTACT FIGHTS, IT IS PERHAPS HARD TO IMAGINE ANY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE MARTIAL ARTS AND PAGAN TRADITIONS, ESPECIALLY WICCA. BUT THE MODERN REVIVAL OF THE ARTS HAS EMPHASIZED THEIR AGGRESSIVE, RATHER THAN THEIR SPIRITUAL ASPECTS. THE CELTIC TRIBES THAT FIRST SETTLED THE BRITISH ISLES, THE SPIRITUAL ANCESTORS OF MANY MODERN WICCA, HAD LONG LIVED IN A STATE OF WAR - FIRST WITH THE TEUTONS AND THEN WITH THE ROMANS IN GAUL, AND, THEN, AS EACH OF THE TRIBES CROSSED THE ENGLISH CHANNEL TO ESCAPE THE ADVANCE OF ROME'S FORCES, THEY FOUGHT WITH EACH OTHER. THE CELTS WERE FIERCE WARRIORS OUT OF NECESSITY (THEY WERE ORIGINALLY AN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY), BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY WERE OBLIVIOUS TO THE MORE SPIRITUAL ASPECTS OF THE ARTS.

INDEED, MUCH OF MARTIAL ARTISTRY DEPENDS UPON BEING ABLE TO CONTROL AND CHANNEL ONE'S

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SPIRIT. JULIUS CAESAR, IN "DE BELLO GALLICO", TELLS OF HOW A TRIBE OF GAELS, SURROUNDED BY THE ROMAN FORCES, FOUGHT TO THE LAST MAN DURING A DAY'S FIGHTING. THE GAELS RAN OUT OF SPEARS AND ARROWS MID-WAY THROUGH THE BATTLE, AND TOOK TO CATCHING OR BLOCKING THE ROMAN ARROWS AND JAVELINS, AND TURNING THESE WEAPONS ON THEIR OWNERS. THIS IS NO EASY TASK; CERTAINLY TO CATCH OR BLOCK A ROMAN JAVELIN, WHICH WAS VERY HEAVY AND COULD IMPALE SIX MEN IF THROWN PROPERLY, REQUIRED A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF STRENGTH, MORE THAN ONE COULD MUSTER OVER A HALF A DAYS FIGHTING. THAT STRENGTH, HOWEVER, WAS NOT MERELY PHYSICAL, BUT CAME FROM THE SPIRITUAL POWER DISCOVERED IN THE MARTIAL ARTS.

MODERN WICCA AND THE PAGAN MOVEMENT IN GENERAL IS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO LIVE IN A SOCIETY THAT DOES NOT INSTITUTE INQUISITIONS; WE DO NOT HAVE TO FEAR INVASIONS OR PREPARE OURSELVES TO DEFEND OUR LAND AND TRIBE. BUT WE SHOULD NOT IGNORE THE MARTIAL ARTS, SIMPLY BECAUSE PRESENT DAY SCHOOLS EMPHASIZE AGRESSION, AND ARE OFTEN CHAUVINISTIC. THERE IS MUCH WE CAN LEARN FROM THE ARTS, AND THEIR TECHNIQUES ARE EASILY ADAPTED TO CRAFT USE; WHETHER WE ARE WORKING MAGICK OR TRYING TO UNDERSTAND AND DEVELOP OUR MAGICKAL POTENTIALS. I WANT TO PRESENT A FEW EXAMPLES, DRAWING ON MY OWN EXPERIENCE IN THE KNOWN DO. OTHERS WILL NO DOUBT FIND THEIR OWN PATHS THROUGH THE ARTS, AND THAT IS PERHAPS THE POINT: THE ARTS WILL SUPPLEMENT ONE'S CRAFT, WHATEVER IT MAY BE. IF IN WHAT FOLLOWS I OCCASIONALLY ADOPT THE PHRASINGS AND PERSPECTIVES OF WICCA, IT IS BECAUSE THAT IS MY TRADITION. BUT THE ARTS ARE AGNOSTIC, AND WILL OFFER BENEFITS TO ANYONE REGARDLESS OF SPIRITUAL PATH.

FIRST, THE ARTS OFFER PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CONDITIONING. THE ARTS SHARE WITH SUCH ACTIVITIES AS RUNNING AND SWIMMING THE ABILITY TO PURGE BOTH BODY AND MIND OF THE TENSIONS, CONSCIOUS AND UNCONSCIOUS, THAT BLOCK THE FREE FLOW OF ENERGY FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT. THEY INCREASE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL STAMINA, AND WHILE THIS MAY NOT BE IMPORTANT FOR SOME MAGICK, THE SUCCESS OF A PROLONGED RITUAL DEPENDS ON THE OPERATOR'S ABILITY TO MAINTAIN HER OR HIS CONCENTRATION OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME. THAT CONCENTRATION IS NOT MERELY A MENTAL ACT, IT REQUIRES THE USE OF ALL OF THE BODY'S BIO-ENERGY. IT IS EXHAUSTING, AND THE GREATER ONE'S STAMINA, THE GREATER THE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS.

FURTHER, THE ARTS DEMAND FOCUSED CONCENTRATION: ON A ONE INCH AREA OF A TARGET, ON AN OPPONENT'S MOVES IN FREE SPARRING, ON A MUSCLE GROUP AS YOU TRY TO EXECUTE A DIFFICULT TECHNIQUE. THE ABILITY TO FOCUS ONE'S CONCENTRATION AND TO MAINTAIN THAT FOCUS IS ESSENTIAL TO MAGIC, AND TRAINING IN THE ARTS WILL IMPROVE ONE'S FOCUS. MUCH OF MODERN MARTIAL ART TRAINING APPEARS IRRELEVANT TO CRAFT PURPOSES, AND MUCH OF WHAT ONE GETS FROM THE TRAINING WILL DEPEND ON HOW MUCH ATTENTION ONE PAYS TO THE TECHNIQUES.

FOR EXAMPLE, LET'S LOOK AT BOARD BREAKING AND FREE SPARRING. BREAKING BOARDS SEEMS LIKE AN UNNECESSARILY VIOLENT THING TO DO, AND I PERSONALLY THOUGHT IT QUITE SILLY FOR A LONG TIME. IT DOES IMPROVE ONE'S FOCUS, BUT AS FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED KICKING AT A TARGET WOULD DO THE SAME. ONE NIGHT IN THE TRAINING HALL, A FEMALE BLACK BELT SUGGESTED THAT I TRY BREAKING A BOARD WITH A PUNCH, A TECHNIQUE THAT I WAS NOT, IN THEORY, READY TO DO FOR SEVERAL MONTHS YET. I AM A WRITER BY TRADE, AND THIN-BONED, AND THE PROSPECT OF HAVING MY HAND IN A CAST WAS NOT PARTICULARLY PLEASING. SHE WAS SURE I COULD DO IT, AND PLACING MY TRUST OVER MY FEAR, I PREPARED TO STRIKE. THE BOARD SHATTERED BEFORE MY HAND ACTUALLY HIT IT, AND I FOUND MYSELF STARING AT PROOF FOR THE EXISTENCE OF THE AURA. AND I HAD ALSO BEGUN TO LEARN HOW TO CONTROL IT...

IN FREE SPARRING, YOU AND YOUR OPPONENT ENGAGE IN A FRIENDLY FORM OF COMBAT. THE IDEA IS TO SCORE A POINT BY LIGHTLY CONTACTING THE OTHER PERSON WITH A KICK OR HAND TECHNIQUE IN ANY OF SEVERAL AREAS. ONE OF THE KEYS TO SUCCESS IS RHYTHM. THE GOOD FIGHTER IS NOT THE ONE WHO THROWS A NUMBER OF TECHNIQUES IN HAPHAZARD FASHION, BUT THE ONE WHO PICKS UP ON THE OPPONENT'S RHYTHM. IT IS A VISCERAL TEMPO, THE PULSE OF THE ORGANISM AND OF IT'S THOUGHTS: JOIN YOUR OPPONENT'S "DANCE" AND YOU CAN ANTICIPATE THE KICKS THAT YOU CANNOT ACTUALLY SEE COMING, YOU CAN DISRUPT THAT RHYTHM BY ASSERTING YOUR OWN, AND YOU CAN INFLUENCE AN OPPONENT TO USE A PARTICULAR TECHNIQUE ONCE YOU HAVE MASTERED HIS OR HER RHYTHM. WHETHER ONE UNDERSTANDS MAGIC AS THE USE OF WILL, OR THE INTEGRATION OF AURAL VIBRATIONS OR PSYCHIC FREQUENCIES, OR AS THE INVOCATION OF THE LIFE FORCE OF THE GOD OR GODDESS, THE ARTS CAN HELP TAP INTO THAT ENERGY, OR CAST FORTH YOUR WILL. THEY CAN

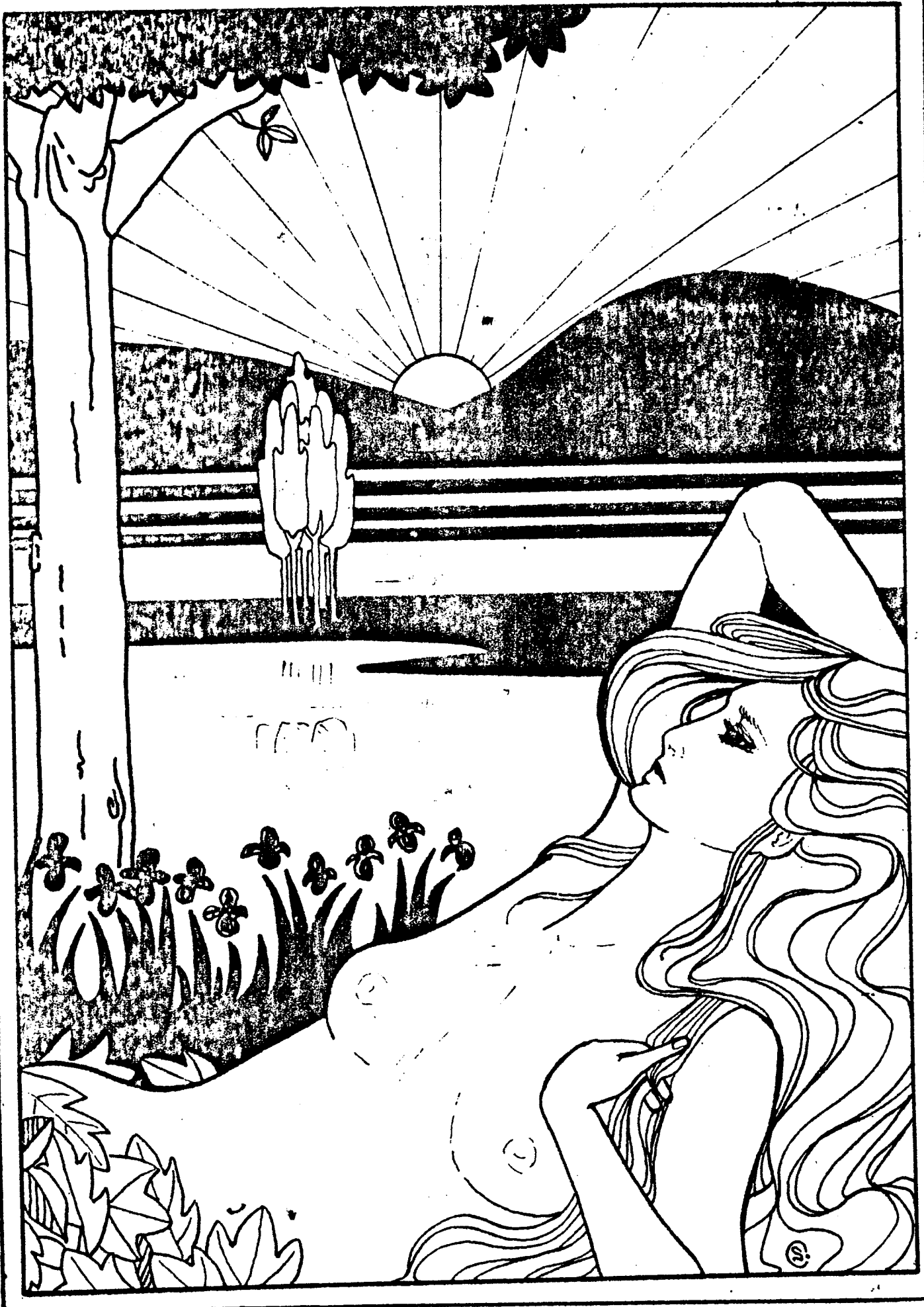
HELP YOU DISCOVER THE STATE OF MIND NECESSARY TO PASS BEYOND THE LIMITS OF YOUR OWN FLESH AND TO PASS INTO ANOTHER ORGANISM.

WHEN TWO OPPONENTS ARE COMPLETELY ATTUNED TO EACH OTHER, SPARRING CEASES TO BE COMBAT AND BECOMES ALMOST AN IMPROVISATIONAL DANCE, A GIVE AND TAKE OF ENERGY AND RHYTHM THAT MAKES THE TWO FUNCTION AS ONE. SUCH EXPERIENCES HAVE ALWAYS HEIGHTENED MY EMPATHETIC AND TELEPATHIC AWARENESS, AND WHETHER I AM COACHING MY SWEET CORN THROUGH A SEVERE MIDWEST THUNDERSTORM, OR SENDING ENERGY TO HEAL A SICK FRIEND, I AM INVESTING MY INHERITANCE FROM THE TRAINING HALL. SPARRING IS AN EXERCISE IN SELF-LESSNESS THAT CONQUERS FEAR AND AGRESSION BY EXCITING THOSE EMOTIONS AND THEN PURGING THEM. IT IS, IN THIS RESPECT, MUCH LIKE RITUAL DRAMA, OR HOMEOPATHIC MEDICINE.

BY FAR THE MOST IMPORTANT FACET OF MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF "KI", WHICH MEANS BREATH, OR LIFE, OR FOR SOME, THE FORCE THAT INCLUDES THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE. THE MARTIAL ARTIST TRIES TO DEVELOP HIS OR HER ABILITY TO UTILIZE THIS KI, FOR THEREIN LIES ONE'S TRUE POWER AND STRENGTH. IF ONE CAN LEARN TO CONCENTRATE KI IN ONE'S ARM, IT IS QUITE EASY TO DEFLECT BLOWS THAT WOULD NORMALLY BREAK BONES. IF ONE CAN FOCUS KI ON AN INJURED AREA, THAT AREA WILL HEAL MORE QUICKLY. MODERN MARTIAL ARTS SCHOOLS TEND TO DEMONSTRATE KI THROUGH PHYSICAL FORCE. THOSE OF US WHO ARE NOT COMPETING FOR A SPOT ON "THAT'S INCREDIBLE" WILL BE QUITE SATISFIED WITH THE FREEDOM FROM ILLNESS, THE SENSE OF INNER PEACE, AND THE HUMILITY THAT MASTERING KI CAN BRING. IT WAS KI THAT RADIATED FROM MY HAND WHEN I BROKE THAT BOARD, BUT IT IS ALSO KI THAT RADIATES FROM THE EYES OF THE WISE ONES, FROM THE ATHLETE'S BLADE, FROM THE HEALER'S HANDS, AND FROM THE HIGH PRIESTESS WHEN SHE INVESTS HERSELF WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE GODDESS IN THE LIGHT OF THE FULL MOON.

ONE LAST WORD OF CAUTION FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO EXPLORE THESE ARTS IN ORDER TO REFINE THEIR CRAFT. DO NOT ENTER THE TRAINING HALL EXPECTING TO PUT IN A MONTH'S TIME AND EMERGE WITH ALL THERE IS TO LEARN.





THE AWAKENING OF SPRING

Restless stirrings deep inside our breasts; an inner quickening, new awareness, and spurts of activity. There is tension in the air, as each of us begins to wind up, poised for activity. Half-held breath, slow intoxication; there's something in the air.....

Mother Earth begins to stir, to quicken the pulse in her veins, the rivers and streams. Her breath becomes faster, the sleep and dreams are ending. She turns and stretches. Spring has awakened!

New life - New vigor - New growth - New green - More light! It has come! Spring is here! The birds sing for joy, the squirrels scold and titter from the trees, amidst the new buds and growth. The bees begin buzzing, and animals begin to stir from their winter's sleep. The pulse of life within us all races forward into activity and festivity, for winter is over and spring has come!

So dance and rejoice! Dance the dance of life and of creation - leave behind the sluggishness and torpor of the winter, and come and dance the fairy ring with the rest of life. Rejoice with all of life, for the Lady has awakened and the Sun God grows stronger every day. Sing and dance for love, and light, and life!

WOODSY WAYS

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GOLDENSEAL

(*Hydrastis canadensis*)

Other names : Yellow root, Ground Raspberry,
Indian Dye, Eye root.

Golden Seal is a native of the Eastern United States and of Canada. It is one of the few plants that is used in the making of pharmaceutical medicines. The generic name of golden seal, *Hydrastis*, is derived from two Greek words meaning 'water' and 'to accomplish', which is due to its effect on the mucous membranes. Golden seal belongs to the Buttercup family, although its leaves and fruit tend to resemble those of the raspberry, hence its name of 'Ground Raspberry'.

Golden seal is a small, perennial herb with a horizontal, knotted, bright yellow root stock approximately 1/2 inch thick. The flowering stem is from 6 to 12 inches high and is cylindrical with downward pointing hairs. The flower is small and solitary, with greenish-white sepals and no petals. Golden Seal bears small crimson berries which are oblong and fleshy, and contain one or two hard black seeds.

The American settlers learned of the virtues of Golden Seal from the Indians, who used the root as a medicine and the juice of the plant as a dye. In the 1850's the root became a big commercial product and about 250,000 lbs. a year were exported to Europe, where it sold for about 8¢ a pound.

Golden seal is hard to cultivate in a garden and is best medicinally when it is gathered from the wild. Unfortunately, due to the extensive harvesting that went on in the late 1800's and early 1900's it has become hard to find in some areas.

The root stock is the portion that is used medicinally. When fresh it has a well-marked narcotic odor which is lost when it is dried, after which it tends to have a peculiar sweet smell, somewhat resembling licorice. It has a very bitter taste, which does have a tendency to abate somewhat after the root has been dried.

The chief ingredients in golden seal are the alkaloids Berberine, (which gives it its yellow color), Hydrastine, and Canadine. There is also a volatile oil present which is what gives golden seal its odor. It is the Hydrastine which is extracted and used in modern medicine.



Golden seal is used in cases of digestive upset due to the action it has on the mucous membranes. In chronic cases of inflammation of the colon and rectum doctors may give injections of Hydrastine. Application of golden seal externally is also said to be good for hemorrhoids, as it causes the painful swelling to abate.

As an infusion it has been used to prevent and cure night time sweats or as a wash for an ulcerated mouth. Externally it is used as a lotion in the treatment of eye afflictions.

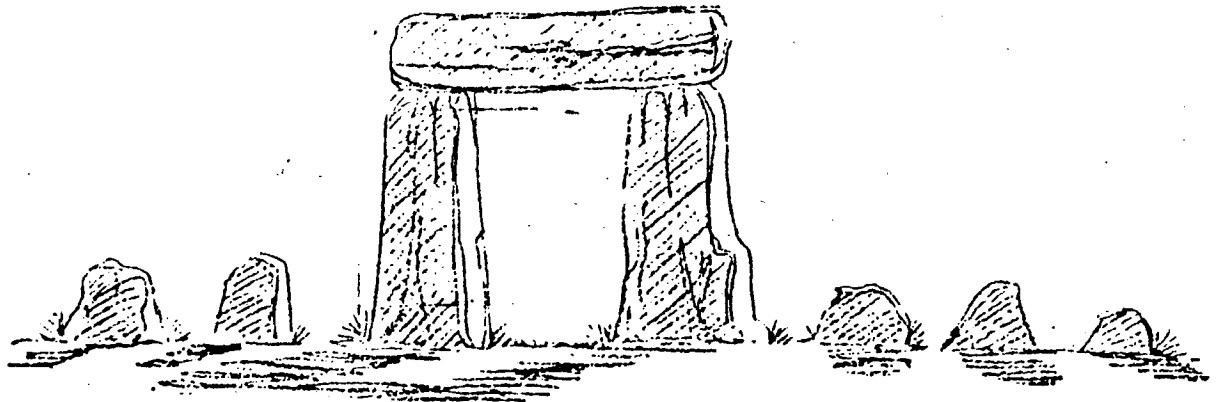
As a dye golden seal produces a rich yellow color in cottons and linens, and with the use of proper mordants gives all the shades from pale yellow to bright orange. Combined with indigo, golden seal will produce a bright green.

Folk remedies say that golden seal is good for a cold, helping to keep the nasal congestion down. This is probably due to Hydrastine's action on the mucous membranes. This is why today it is found in many decongestants and nasal preparations.

Please be careful when using golden seal in large amounts the drug has proven to be very poisonous!!! Very minute amounts of golden seal, taken over long periods of time also have a tendency to accumulate in certain people's systems, thus having the same poisoning effect of larger doses. If you suspect someone of possibly having taken an overdose of golden seal take them to see a physician immediately!

Tinuviel

The 7 Sacred Herbs of the Druids



BY MYRRDIN HUDOL

RED CLOVER (TRIFOLIUM PRATENSE)

AN HERB OF MERCURY, CALLED CLAEFRA, OR CLAEFERWYRT BY THE ANGLO-SAXONS AND KNOWN TO THE WELSH AS NEILLIONEN GOCH. ALSO KNOWN AS TREFDIL.

RED CLOVER IS A LEGUME, THE ROOTS BEING RICH IN NITROGEN, ENRICHING THE SOIL WHEREVER IT GROWS. IT IS A VALUABLE ADDITION TO THE COMPOST HEAP.

ORIGINALLY NATIVE TO EUROPE, BUT SINCE THEN INTRODUCED INTO THE U.S., WHERE IT IS NOW QUITE COMMON, BEING FOUND MOSTLY IN FIELDS AND ALONG ROADSIDES.

THE PLANT IS BIENNIAL OR PERENNIAL, WITH THE LEAVES ON LONG STALKS IN GROUPS OF THREE; THE FLOWERS ARE SMALL AND TUBULAR, GROWING TOGETHER DENSELY ON ROUNDED FLOWER HEADS OF A LAVENDER OR PINKISH COLOR. THE PLANT FLOWERS FROM MAY TO SEPTEMBER.

RED CLOVER WAS WIDELY USED AMONG THE ANGLO-SAXONS, AND WAS CONSIDERED SACRED BY THE CELTS. THE LEAVES, GROUPED TOGETHER IN THREES, ARE OF GREAT PROTECTION AGAINST BLACK MAGIC, AND HAVE BEEN USED FOR SUCH SINCE ANCIENT TIMES. IT IS ALSO SAID TO ATTRACT GOOD LUCK TO THOSE WHO WEAR IT OR BRING IT IN THE HOUSE. THE FOUR LEAF CLOVER IS THOUGHT TO BE THE MOST POWERFUL. SYMBOLICALLY, THE FOUR LEAVES REPRESENT THE FOUR DIRECTIONS, EACH DIRECTION BEING RULED BY A SPIRITUAL POWER - THE POWERS OF AIR, FIRE, WATER, AND EARTH. THUS IT IS SYMBOLIC OF OF THE POWERS OF THE FOUR ELEMENTS.

THE FOUR LEAF CLOVER IS ALSO USED IN LOVE DIVINATIONS. PLACE IT UNDER YOUR PILLOW AND IT IS SAID THAT YOU WILL DREAM OF YOUR TRUE LOVE. AN OLD SAYING IS THAT IF YOU FIND A FOUR LEAF CLOVER YOU WILL SEE YOUR TRUE LOVE BEFORE THE DAY IS OVER. THE FOLLOWING IS AN OLD LOVE CHARM, CALLED "A CLOVER OF TWO":

A CLOVER, A CLOVER OF TWO,
PUT IT IN YOUR RIGHT SHOE;
THE FIRST YOUNG MAN YOU MEET,
IN FIELD, STREET OR LANE,
YOU'LL GET HIM, OR ONE OF HIS NAME.

HARVESTING

GATHER THE BLOSSOMS IN SUMMER, WHEN IN FULL BLOOM, DURING THE FULL OF THE MOON; NO SOONER THAN TWO DAYS BEFORE FULL MOON, AND NO LATER THAN TWO DAYS AFTER. IF THEY ARE GATHERED AT ANY OTHER TIME, THEN DO IT ON A WEDNESDAY, IN AN HOUR OF MERCURY. DRY IN THE SHADE, ON PAPER.

VIRTUES

RED CLOVER IS A GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER, AND ONE OF THE BEST REMEDIES THAT EXIST FOR MANY ILLNESSES. IT HAS A QUIETING EFFECT ON THE NERVES, AND IS VERY SOOTHING. IT IS ALSO A REMEDY FOR SPASMODIC BRONCHIAL TROUBLES, AND THE WHOOPING COUGH. A COUGH SYRUP CAN BE MADE BY PUTTING 30 GRAMS (APPROX. 2 TABLESPOONS AND 3/8 OF A TEASPOON) OF FRESH OR DRIED FLOWERS TO ONE PINT OF HONEY. BOIL AND STRAIN; TAKE SEVERAL TIMES A DAY.

RED CLOVER ALSO HELPS HEAL FRESH WOUNDS AND OLD ULCERS, AND MAKES AN EXCELLENT HEALING SALVE. A FLOWER POUltICE FOR ULCERS IS MADE BY BRUISING SOME FLOWERS AND STEEPING THEM FOR THREE HOURS IN A LITTLE WATER. APPLY THE WARM FLOWERS TO THE ULCER.

THE ANCIENT MYDDFAIR PHYSICIANS OF WALES USED RED CLOVER IN THE FOLLOWING MIXTURE:

- 1 PART RED CLOVER HEADS
- 1 PART HOPS
- 1 PART LETTUCE

PREPARE AN INFUSION, 1 TEASPOON TO 1 PINT OF WATER AND DRINK ONE CUPFUL SHORTLY BEFORE GOING TO BED. THIS IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN A GREAT HELP TO THOSE WHO HAVE TROUBLE SLEEPING. TO PREPARE IT, ADD ONE HANDFUL OF THE DRIED BLOSSOMS TO ONE PINT OF WATER, BRING TO A FAST BOIL, AND THEN LET SIMMER FOR ABOUT 15 MINUTES. LET STAND UNTIL COOL AND STRAIN.

DECOCTION

PREPARE BY PUTTING 3 TABLESPOONS AND ONE AND 3/4 TEASPOONS OF DRIED FLOWER TOPS INTO ONE QUART OF COLD WATER. LET STAND FOR 10 TO 15 MINUTES. BRING TO A BOIL AND BOIL ONLY FOR 5 TO 10 SECONDS. LET IT INFUSE FOR TEN MINUTES. DRINK 3 TO 4 CUPFULS A DAY.

THIS IS SAID TO STRENGTHEN THE LIVER, HEART, AND SPLEEN. A DIGESTIVE TONIC, STIMULATES THE PRODUCTION OF BILE; FOR POOR DIGESTION, DIARRHEA, AND FLATULANCE. ALSO IS SAID TO DESTROY WORMS IN THE INTESTINES. WHEN USED IN FEVERS IT HELPS TO CURE INFECTUOUS DISEASES. CAN ALSO BE TAKEN AS A NERVE TONIC, OR FOR PAINFUL OR IRREGULAR MENSTRUATION. RELIEVES MENTAL STRAIN, SOOTHES ASTHMATIC COUGHS.

TEAS

HELPS TO RELIEVE HEADACHES, WILL ALSO HELP YOU TO RELAX AND SLEEP. TAKE ONE TEASPOON OF FRESH OR DRIED HERB TO ONE CUP OF BOILING WATER. INFUSE FOR 3-5 MINUTES. SWEETEN WITH HONEY.

EXTERNAL USE

USE THE DECOCTION GIVEN BEFOREHAND AND APPLY WITH COMPRESSES TO CLEANSE AND TO HELP HEAL WOUNDS AND ULCERS, RELIEVE PAIN FROM SPRAINS, BRUISES AND FACIAL MUEALBIA.

USE AS A GARGLE FOR A SORE THROAT, AND AS A MOUTHWASH FOR BAD BREATH AND INFLAMMATION OF THE GUMS.

FOR LUMBAGO AND PAINFUL STITCHES IN THE SIDE, MAKE A POUltICE USING TWO HANDFULS OF THE CRUSHED FRESH PLANT; OR A COLD SOAK THE DRIED PLANT FOR 10 MINUTES. BOIL FOR FIVE TO TEN SECONDS IN A SMALL AMOUNT OF WINE VINEGAR; APPLY AS HOT AS YOU CAN STAND IT.

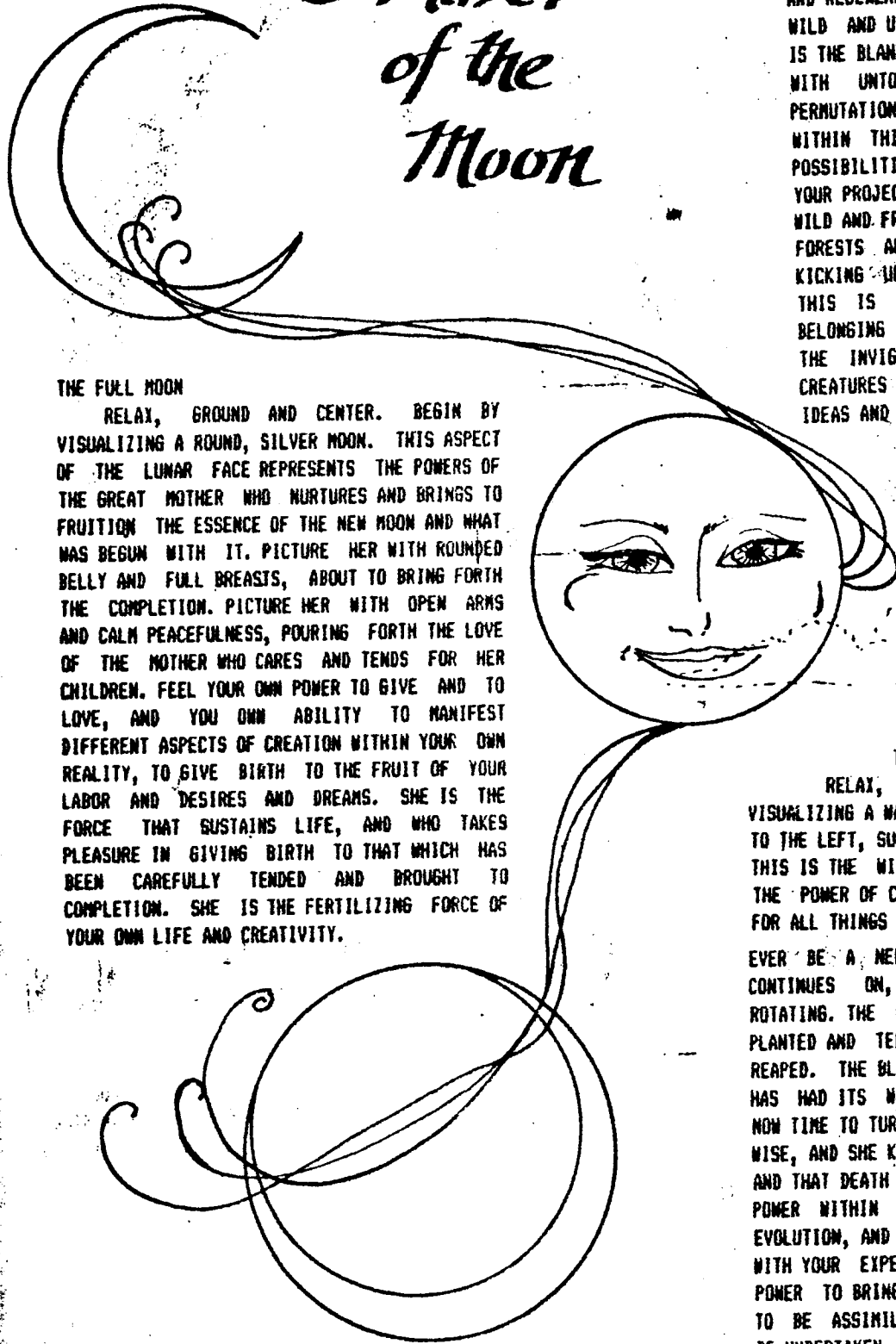
FOR PUFFY EYELIDS POUR 5 OUNCES OF BOILING WATER ON THREE TEASPOONS OF FRESH LEAVES. INFUSE FOR TEN TO FIFTEEN MINUTES. STRAIN. WET COTTON PADS IN THE WARM INFUSION. PLACE ON CLOSED EYES FOR 15 - 20 MINUTES.

YOU CAN ALSO MAKE A REFRESHING AND RESTORATIVE BATH ADDITIVE BY PUTTING 14 TABLESPOONS OF FLOWERS IN TWO QUARTS OF WATER. COLD SOAK FOR 10 -15 MINUTES; BRING TO A BOIL AND LET BOIL FOR 5-10 SECONDS. LET INFUSE FOR 10 MINUTES, AND ADD TO BATH WATER.



In old Germany people believed that wheat waving in the wind meant a vegetable spirit was passing through it.

Meditation: 3 Phases of the Moon



THE WAXING MOON
RELAX, GROUND AND CENTER. BEGIN BY VISUALIZING A SILVER CRESCENT MOON WITH THE HORNS POINTING TOWARD THE RIGHT. THIS PHASE OF THE MOON SYMBOLIZES THE POWER AND FORCES OF THE BEGINNING OF GROWTH; AND OF GENERATION AND REGENERATION. SHE IS THE UNPLOWED FIELD, WILD AND UNTAMED BEFORE BEING HARNASSED. SHE IS THE BLANK PAGE OF THE BOOK OF LIFE, FILLED WITH UNTOLD POSSIBILITIES! AND INFINITE PERMUTATIONS OF VARIOUS POTENTIALS. SEE WITHIN THIS PHASE OF THE MOON YOUR OWN POSSIBILITIES OF BIRTH AND GROWTH, THROUGH YOUR PROJECTS, STUDY AND WORK. SEE HER AS WILD AND FREE, AS A MAIDEN RUNNING THROUGH FORESTS AND FIELDS, FLEET AS A DEER, AND KICKING UP HER HEELS UNDER THE NIGHT SKIES. THIS IS THE VIRGIN ASPECT OF THE MOON, BELONGING TO NO ONE BUT HERSELF. RECOGNIZE THE INVIGORATING ENERGY THAT SHE LENDS TO HER CREATURES THAT THEY MAY PERSUE LIFE WITH NEW IDEAS AND CREATIONS.

THE FULL MOON
RELAX, GROUND AND CENTER. BEGIN BY VISUALIZING A ROUND, SILVER MOON. THIS ASPECT OF THE LUNAR FACE REPRESENTS THE POWERS OF THE GREAT MOTHER WHO NURTURES AND BRINGS TO FRUITIOM THE ESSENCE OF THE NEW MOON AND WHAT WAS BEGUN WITH IT. PICTURE HER WITH ROUNDED BELLY AND FULL BREASTS, ABOUT TO BRING FORTH THE COMPLETION. PICTURE HER WITH OPEN ARMS AND CALM PEACEFULNESS, POURING FORTH THE LOVE OF THE MOTHER WHO CARES AND TENDS FOR HER CHILDREN. FEEL YOUR OWN POWER TO GIVE AND TO LOVE, AND YOU OWN ABILITY TO MANIFEST DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF CREATION WITHIN YOUR OWN REALITY, TO GIVE BIRTH TO THE FRUIT OF YOUR LABOR AND DESIRES AND DREAMS. SHE IS THE FORCE THAT SUSTAINS LIFE, AND WHO TAKES PLEASURE IN GIVING BIRTH TO THAT WHICH HAS BEEN CAREFULLY TENDED AND BROUGHT TO COMPLETION. SHE IS THE FERTILIZING FORCE OF YOUR OWN LIFE AND CREATIVITY.

THE WANING MOON
RELAX, GROUND AND CENTER. BEGIN BY VISUALIZING A WANING CRESCENT, HORNS POINTING TO THE LEFT, SURROUNDED BY A DEEP INDIGO SKY. THIS IS THE WISE WOMAN, THE CRONE, WHO WEILDS THE POWER OF COMPLETION, DEATH AND ENDING, FOR ALL THINGS MUST END IN ORDER FOR THERE TO EVER BE A NEW BEGINNING, FOR THE CYCLE CONTINUES ON, AND THE WHEEL IS ALWAYS ROTATING. THE GRAIN AND FRUIT THAT HAS BEEN PLANTED AND TENDED INTO MATURITY MUST NOW BE REAPED. THE BLANK PAGE OF THE BOOK OF LIFE HAS HAD ITS WORDS ETCHED UPON IT AND IT-IS NOW TIME TO TURN TO A NEW PAGE. THE CRONE IS WISE, AND SHE KNOWS THAT LIFE FEEDS ON DEATH, AND THAT DEATH GIVES WAY TO LIFE. FEEL THIS POWER WITHIN YOURSELF....YOUR AGE AND YOUR EVOLUTION, AND ALL THE PROGRESS YOU HAVE MADE WITH YOUR EXPERIENCE AND WISDOM. FEEL YOUR POWER TO BRING TO END THOSE THINGS WHICH NEED TO BE ASSIMILATED, SO THAT NEW ENDEAVORS MAY BE UNDERTAKEN, INCORPORATE THE KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU MUST LOSE SOMETHING IN ORDER FOR SOMETHING TO BE GAINED. THE WISE WOMAN DESTROYS THAT WHICH IS STAGNANT AND DECAYED, SO THAT FERTILE NEW GROWTH MAY SPRING FROM WITHIN.



THE PENTACLE

BY MAGDELENA

"PENTACLE (PEN/TA.K'L) NOUN. A CERTAIN FIGURE FORMERLY USED AS A MAGICAL SYMBOL, AS A FIVE POINTED STAR."

-FROM WEBSTER'S NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY-

MR. WEBSTER DOESN'T SEEM TO KNOW IT, BUT THE PENTACLE IS STILL USED AS A MAGICKAL SYMBOL AND HAPPENS TO BE THE SYMBOL FOR WICCA. MR. WEBSTER IS NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW A PENTACLE (OR A WITCH) WHEN HE SEES ONE. IT SEEMS TO BE A COMMON EXPERIENCE FOR PEOPLE TO COMMENT WHEN SEEING ONE OF MY PENDANTS OR RINGS, "OH, YOU MUST BE JEWISH, THAT IS A JEWISH STAR, ISN'T IT?" OR THE OPPOSITE MAY HAPPEN, AS IT DID TO ME, ONE OF

MY JEWISH STUDENTS (I TEACH SCHOOL) SAID, "OH, YOU ARE WEARING A CHRISTIAN STAR." IN ANY CASE, OTHER WITCHES RECOGNIZE THE SYMBOL, CONSEQUENTLY IDENTIFYING THE WEARER AS A PROBABLE MEMBER OF THE CRAFT.

THE STAR HAS BEEN USED IN MANY DIFFERENT RELIGIONS FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS WITH ANYWHERE FROM FIVE TO TEN POINTS. ITS USE BY WITCHES DATES BACK OVER TWO THOUSAND YEARS, MAKING IT AN EXTREMELY POWERFUL SYMBOL. ALTHOUGH MR. WEBSTER DEFINES PENTAGRAM AND PENTACLE AS INTERCHANGEABLE WORDS, MEANING A FIVE POINTED STAR, THE HIGH PRIESTESS OF MY COVEN TEACHES THE FOLLOWING: THE PENTAGRAM IS A FIVE POINTED STAR, WHILE THE PENTACLE IS AN ENCIRCLED STAR. THE CIRCLE AROUND THE STAR

HAS MANY DIFFERENT MEANINGS WHICH I WILL COVER AFTER EXPLORING THE REMAININGS OF THE STAR ITSELF.

THE FIVE POINTED STAR REPRESENTS THE FIVE ELEMENTS OF AIR, FIRE, WATER, EARTH AND SPIRIT. IT ALSO STANDS FOR THE HUMAN BODY WITH ARMS AND LEGS OUTSTRETCHED IN THE STAR SHAPE. LEONARDO DA VINCI MADE A NOW FAMOUS DRAWING OF A MAN IN THIS POSITION WITHIN A CIRCLE. THE ARMS AND LEGS PINPOINT THE ELEMENTS OF AIR, FIRE, WATER, AND EARTH WHILE THE HEAD DEPICTS SPIRIT. MAN-WOMAN:ND IS THE MICROCOSM (THE STAR) CONTAINED WITHIN THE MACROCOSM (THE CIRCLE) OF THE UNIVERSE.

ANOTHER MEANING OF THE PENTACLE IS THE FIVE STAGES OF LIFE, EACH AN ASPECT OF THE GODDESS. THE FIRST IS BIRTH: MANIFESTATION INTO A NEW FORM, BEGINNINGS. SECONDLY IS INITIATION: GROWTH, SELF-IDENTITY, ADOLESCENCE. THIRDLY IS ADULTHOOD: RESPONSIBILITY, WISDOM. WORK, LOVE, SEX. DEATH IS FOURTH: LETTING GO AND BRINGING EARTHLY ACTIVITIES TO AN END. LAST IS RESURRECTION: MOVING TOWARD REBIRTH, TRANSMUTATION. THE CIRCLE REPRESENTS THE ETERNITY OF LIFE, IN WHICH ALL OUR LIVES REVOLVE AND EVOLVE.

THE PENTACLE NOT ONLY CORRESPONDS TO THE HUMAN BODY, BUT ALSO TO THE BODY OF THE EARTH; BROWN AND GREEN VEGETATION, MID-NIGHT, WINTER, AND IS THEREFORE THE SYMBOL OF THE NORTH. SINCE THE SUN NEVER REACHES THE NORTH IT IS CONSIDERED THE DIRECTION OF MYSTERY, THE UNSEEN, THE POWER TO KEEP SILENT, TO KEEP SECRETS. "SOFT OF EYE, LIGHT OF TOUCH, SPEAK LITTLE, LISTEN MUCH." GNOMEs AND TROLLS ARE CREATURES OF THE EARTH WHO ARE ATTRACTED BY SALTS AND POWDERS. SALT IS ALSO A SYMBOL OF THE EARTH AND IN SOME RITUALS IT IS PLACED ON

THE PENTACLE. ALTARS GENERALLY FACE NORTH IN THE CRAFT, BECAUSE IT IS CONSIDERED THE MOST POWERFUL CORNER. OUR NIGHT SKIES REVOLVE AROUND THE NORTH STAR, AS THE CIRCLE REVOLVES AROUND THE STAR IN THE PENTACLE. ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH THE NORTH IS THE GOD AS THE SACRED BULL AND THE MEN, NOT YET VISIBLE MOON OF THE GODDESS AS DARK MAIDEN.

ALTHOUGH YOU CAN FIND MANY VARIETIES OF PENTACLE RINGS, PENDANTS AND PINS IN THE VARIOUS OCCULT STORES, YOU REALLY SHOULD MAKE YOUR OWN ALTAR PENTACLE. TRADITIONALLY, IT IS MADE FROM CLAY, WOOD, WAX, OR A METAL, SOME TYPE OF MATERIAL THAT COMES FROM THE EARTH. IT CAN BE AS BIG AS A PLATTER, AND USED TO HOLD YOUR RITUAL CAKES DURING THE CEREMONY, OR IT CAN BE SMALLER AND MOULDED OUT OF BAKERS CLAY--BREAD DOUGH AND SALT. ITS FUNCTION HOWEVER, IS SYMBOLIC, JUST AS YOUR LORD AND LADY SYMBOLS ARE. BECAUSE I AM A CLAY ARTIST I NATURALLY MADE MINE FROM NOTHER NATURE'S MUD. USING BROWN STONWARE CLAY, I

ROLLED OUT A SLAB 1/2 INCH THICK. THEN I DREW THE PENTACLE ON IT, AND CUT IT OUT. BESIDES THE OUTER CIRCLE THAT IS SYMBOLIC OF MAGICK SEALED BY THE FULL MOON, MINE ALSO HAS AN INNER CIRCLE SYMBOLIC OF MAGICK SEALED FROM WITHIN THE HEART. AROUND THE OUTER CIRCLE I ALSO INCISED MY MAGICKAL NAME AND THE NAME OF THE WATCHTOWER IN A RUNIC ALPHABET.

HOWEVER YOU MAKE OR ACQUIRE YOUR NEW TOOL IT NEEDS TO BE CLEANSED AND CONSECRATED BEFORE YOU USE IT. SEE MY ARTICLES ON TOOLS IN THE YULE 1980 AND IMBOLC 1981 ISSUES OF MOONSTONE FOR THE REASONS AND STEPS FOR THIS PROCEDURE.

ALTHOUGH THE PENTACLE IS OCCASIONALLY USED TO HOLD THE SACRED CAKES AND SALT, ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IN RITUAL IS SYMBOLIC -- IT REMINDS US OF THE POWERS AND SECRETS OF THE STARS. THE FIVE POINTS CAN ALSO REPRESENT FIVE ASPECTS OF THE LORD AND LADY, AS WELL AS THE FIVE ELEMENTS. THE PENTACLE CAN ALSO BE USED FOR GROUNDING EXCESS ENERGY RAISED DURING THE COME OF POWER. SIMPLY LAY YOUR HANDS UPON IT AND SEND THE ENERGY BACK TO THE EARTH TO BE USED POSITIVELY. LIKE THE ATHAME, THE PENTACLE CAN ALSO BE USED FOR PROTECTION. WHEN IN A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION HOLD THE PENTACLE UP IN FRONT OF YOU AS A SHIELD. IT MAKES AN EXCELLENT PSYCHIC SHIELD AS WELL, FOR VISUALIZING A FIVE POINTED STAR OF FLAMING BLUE FIRE YOU WILL BE ENCIRCLED AND PROTECTED.

TO BRING YOUR PENTACLE INTO PERFECT ALIGNMENT WITH YOUR OWN CONSCIOUSNESS YOU MAY WANT TO TRY THE FOLLOWING MEDITATION, OR MAKE UP ONE OF YOUR OWN. CHARGE A BROWN OR GREEN CANDLE WITH SANDLEWOOD OR VETIVER OIL. LIGHT THE CANDLE AND SOME APPROPRIATE INCENSE. SEAT YOURSELF FACING NORTH AND BREATHE SLOWLY AND DEEPLY. HOLD YOUR PENTACLE IN FRONT OF YOU AND BECOME ONE WITH IT. SEE AND FEEL YOUR FIVE SENSES AS THE FIVE POINTS OF THE STAR; BE AWARE OF ALL YOUR FLESH, YOUR TOTAL BODY. LET YOUR BODY BECOME HEAVY, PULLED BY THE GRAVITY INTO THE EARTH THAT IS THE BODY OF THE GODDESS. BECOME THE EARTH AND ALL IT NOURISHES; THE ANIMALS, STONES, TREES, METALS, FRUITS, FLOWERS, GRAINS, INSECTS AND GRASS. FEEL YOURSELF EXPANDING, CONTRACTING, TURNING IN YOUR ORBIT. SEE YOURSELF CHANGE THROUGH THE SEASONS OF THE EARTH AND THE CYCLE OF LIFE. MEDITATE ON THE FIVE STAGES OUTLINED EARLIER OF BIRTH, INITIATION, ADULTHOOD, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION. RETURN TO YOUR HUMAN BODY AND FEEL YOURSELF SURROUNDED BY THE WARM CIRCLE OF THE GODDESS'S LOVE.

THE PENTACLE REPRESENTS THE MATERIAL, THE PHYSICAL, OUR LIFE HERE AND NOW ON THE EARTH. ENJOY IT TO THE FULLEST AS THE GODDESS WANTS YOU TO.

BLESSED BE.

TECHNOLOGY & NEO-PAGANISM

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Look at your hands. Touch the soft fleshy pads of your thumb and forefinger together, and feel how sensitive they are. Flex your thumb and fingers, spread them and make a fist, and notice how they come to life, as though they had a mind all their own. In a sense, the fingers and thumbs of your hands do have a mind all their own. More brain capacity is devoted to hand-eye coordination than to the muscles of the entire upper body.

Hands are incredibly fascinating, being the subject of palmists, such as Cheiro, who wrote volumes devoted to the hands of statesmen, artists, murderers, and people from all walks of life. Hands tell us a lot about the individual character of a person, and they also tell us about the evolution of the human race. No other creature in known creation has the capacity to hold and manipulate objects as do humans. The hands of the blacksmith grips the hammer which forges iron, and the hands of the artist deftly molds the raw clay which expresses a vision. What the two hands have in common is an opposable thumb, just like yours; a biological construct which is the end product of millions of years of selective genetic development, and more: a central nervous system of such an immense capacity that it can subconsciously make hundreds of decisions every minute in order to control and position the hands.

Watch a child playing, even an infant, and see for yourself how this ability is manifest in humans from birth. I have an uncle who bought a Rubicks Cube, but couldn't seem to solve it. In frustration, he took it down to his workshop in the basement to break it into little pieces. After he had figured it out the hard way and satisfied his curiosity, he reassembled the toy and set it down in a totally scrambled combination. You can imagine his shock to find his 6 year old grandson playing with it twisting and turning the multi-colored faces of the cube, and within minutes, solving it.

Toys and tools. Wherein lies the difference? To a person who shoots skeet, a shotgun is like a toy, but to a soldier the very same device is a weapon. In either case, the object remains the same. What has changed is something very subjective in its nature... a perspective. A gun is nothing more than an object made of wood, steel and perhaps plastic, and has no meaning when considered all by itself. A gun may be an antique, a showpiece, a symbol of authority, a toy, or a weapon, but it is nothing until a person picks it up. It is important that you understand that what you buy from the gunsmith is not a weapon, but rather a reflection of your own system of values. If you're into weapons, then that is what you've bought, but on the other hand, if you're into defending your family from the Manson Family and other creepy-crawlers, then you may feel you are buying a tool. The gunsmith sells only objects without fixed values; the weapon exists solely in the mind as a cancer of the spirit.

This spiritual cancer that leads some people to use guns as weapons is also at the center of the conflict between technologists and anti-technologists. Some neo-pagans are anti-technologists who reject all of mechanized society outright, and while they may pursue a noble course, I feel that they are denying an important part of their heritage as humans, i.e. tool users. In a way, it's kind of funny to see a commune of back to earth people standing around and denouncing technology and bad-mouthing mechanization, and then run down to the hardware store for more nails. Sadly, this type of hypocrisy is none too rare. Fortunately I have seen the more typical instance of folks who know and respect their tools, and use them appropriately.

A radical and total rejection of all technology is something that few people could manage to devote their lives to. It would mean living in a cave, as any form of architecture requires tools to build. It would also require eating only wild plants, gathered by hand, as any form of agriculture is a form of technology. It would even require the absence of the spoken word. Language is at the core of humankind's communication technology. Again, this type of radical rejection is almost impossible to devote an entire life to, but I strongly suggest it as a weekend retreat. No tents or artificial structures of any kind. No packaged food. Water is to be taken with cupped hands only, and no speech. Laughter and grunting, and other forms of non-verbal communication is okay, for this kind of retreat, but even magical tools must be abandoned to fully appreciate the great wild in this state. It is an excellent way to communicate and commune with the Earth Mother.

Back to appropriate technology. For those of you who follow the writings of Jeremy Rifkin and Dr. Linus Pauling, this concept is not a new one. Basically, appropriate technology is a new extension of the applied sciences which recognizes the need for tools, yet attempts to integrate these tools into the natural order of things with a minimum of disruption. A well designed passive solar house is an excellent example of appropriate technology. Ironically, a well designed nuclear device may also be considered as such for it is not the tool which determines appropriateness, but how that tool is applied. The person who rejects only 'high' technology is making the same error as the person who only rejects 'high' Magick, for of what good use is any endeavor if this is not taken to higher and more meaningful forms? Please do not confuse high technology with the 'bigger-is-better' syndrome with which it is often connected. One of the major problems with modern engineers is the attitude that a small design is somehow inherently inferior to a larger, more grandiose scheme. But anyone who studies magick can tell you that it is not the length of the ritual

that counts, but the impact. Likewise, appropriate technologists understand elegance in design, of making use of less to achieve more. Any fisherman can tell you that even a slob can catch a fish with a treble hook and three pounds of worms. The art of angling comes in catching that elusive trout with a 21 pound test line and a handmade lure. pg. 28

As I have said earlier, the distinction between good and bad technology lies not in the nature of the tool, but in how its used, or applied. The modern applied sciences desperately need a solid spiritual underpinning to resolve the polluting, poisoning, nuclear nightmare that currently faces us. The mainstream religions appear to be of little help. The eminently middle-American Phyllis Schlafley, proponent of the 'good old fashioned values' has stated that she believes the atom bomb to be a gift of God to the American people. With spiritual leadership such as this, is it any wonder that the world often seems to have gone insane?

If traditional values are no longer entirely useful, where can we turn for our guidance? What extension of reason and scientific method can we tell our engineers to adhere to when building a new power plant? Perhaps the traditional values that Phyllis Schlafley so adamantly advocates are not so traditional as she would have us believe. Remember, our elders were involved in two global wars, and have experienced first hand the fear of being overrun by the enemy. Such fear has caused many of them to view the world as a jungle, a dog eat dog madhouse where only the strong survive. In their fear, they have taken this wise assessment of reality and misunderstood the true meaning of strength. From a world view poisoned by fear comes designs for nuclear warships, rather than nuclear starships. The fear of communism leads them to spend more tax money on arms than on everything else combined. In fear they have totally misused the tools which could make this entire world a unified utopia.

Where is the resolution to this conflict? The answer is simple, but the implementation of that answer will be very difficult. The converse of fear is trust, and only mutual love and trust will be the final answer. Anyone who has ever entered a circle knows that this simple truth is the magick that allows society to work, but by the same token, how very difficult it is to obtain. Love can heal the sick, and feed and clothe the unfortunates in the world. Fear will only motivate people to hate, and to choose weapons over tools.

Meditate on tools. Choose any tool, such as a chisel and a hammer. Weigh it in your hands, feel its grip. Work with it, and feel it channel your energy to the surface upon which it works. I cannot tell you how to make Love rule the world, I'm just a guy trying to point others in the right direction. I can only suggest meditation, and that you would do well to consult your inner self. Trust your heart and always seek the light.

Blessed Be
Daniel



THE VISION OF SCIENCE

BY S. DICKENS

TWENTY BILLION YEARS AGO, THE UNIVERSE WAS BORN. IT BURST FROM IT'S COSMIC WOMB IN AN EXPLOSION OF UNIMAGINABLE MAGNITUDE. BORN AS PURE RADIANT ENERGY, IT CONDENSED INTO THE BASIC PARTICLES OF MATTER IN THE FIRST INSTANTS AFTER ITS BIRTH. ELECTRONS AND PROTONS AND NEUTRONS CONJOINED TO FORM THE PRIMORDIAL ELEMENTS OF HYDROGEN AND HELIUM.

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WITHIN THE VAST, EVER-EXPANDING CLOUD OF THESE EARLIEST OF THE ELEMENTS THE FIRST PROTO-STARS BEGAN TO FORM, AND THE FIRST GALAXIES. A BILLION YEARS AFTER THE COSMIC BIRTH, THE FIRST-BORN STARS WERE SHINING IN THE NEWBORN GALAXIES. IN THE STELLAR CORES THE ALCHEMY OF NUCLEAR FUSION CONVERTED HYDROGEN TO HELIUM, HELIUM TO CARBON AND OXYGEN, CARBON TO NEON AND MAGNESIUM, AND SO ON. ALL THE NATURAL ELEMENTS HEAVIER IN ATOMIC WEIGHT THAN THE PRIMORDIAL ELEMENTS WERE THUS FORMED IN THE HEARTS OF STARS. AND WHEN THE LARGER OF THE STARS DIED IN NOVA OR SUPERNOVA EXPLOSIONS, THESE ELEMENTS WERE SCATTERED INTO SPACE, EFFECTIVELY "SEEDING" THE PRIMORDIAL CLOUDS OF HYDROGEN AND HELIUM WITH THE HEAVIER ELEMENTS. NEW STARS FORMED FROM THESE "SEEDED" CLOUDS, AND DUE TO THE HEAVIER ELEMENTS, PLANETS ALSO FORMED.

AROUND 4 1/2 BILLION YEARS AGO, OUR SUN AND ITS PLANETS WERE BORN FROM SUCH CLOUDS. ON THE NEWBORN EARTH, HYDROGEN WAS COMBINED WITH AMMONIA AND METHANE AND WATER VAPOR BY FLASHES OF LIGHTENING AND SURGES OF COSMIC RADIATION IN THE ATMOSPHERE. THE RESULTS OF THIS ALCHEMY WERE THE FORMATION OF COMPLEX MOLECULES OF AMINO ACIDS AND NUCLEOTIDES, THE BASIC BUILDING BLOCKS OF LIFE. THESE MOLECULES COLLECTED IN THE EARTH'S SEAS FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS UNTIL, PERHAPS A BILLION YEARS AFTER ITS OWN PLANETARY BIRTH, THE EARTH IN TURN GAVE BIRTH TO LIFE.

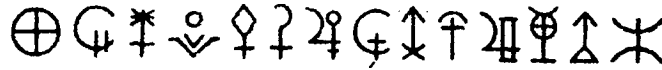
CELLS ARE MADE OF MOLECULES, MOLECULES MADE OF ATOMS, AND ATOMS MADE OF SUB-NUCLEAR PARTICLES. THE PARTICLES THAT COMPRISE THE ATOMS WERE ALL FORMED TWENTY BILLION YEARS AGO AT THE COSMIC BIRTH. THE ATOMS THAT COMPRISE THE MOLECULES WERE ALL FORMED IN THE VERY CORES OF STARS THAT HAVE LIVED AND DIED IN THE AEONS OF TIME BETWEEN THE BIRTH OF THE COSMOS AND THE BIRTH OF OUR OWN WORLD. THE

MOLECULES THAT COMPRISE THE LIVING CELLS WERE FORMED IN THE EARLY YEARS OF PLANETARY EVOLUTION.

THE VISION OF SCIENCE IS THIS, THEN: THAT WE ARE INTRINSIC ELEMENTS OF THE WHOLE COSMOS; THAT THE LIVES AND DEATHS OF COUNTLESS STARS ARE RECORDED IN THE FIBERS OF OUR BEING; THAT THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE ITSELF, SINCE THE VERY BIRTH OF TIME, IS RECORDED IN OUR BASIC SUBSTANCE; AND THAT WE ARE EMBODIMENTS OF THE COSMOS, THE END RESULT OF COUNTLESS AGES OF CREATION AND DESTRUCTION, BIRTH, AGE AND DEATH, ALL DIRECTED TOWARDS THIS MOMENT WHEN WE, WITH OUR EYES THAT SEE AND OUR MINDS THAT UNDERSTAND, MAY LOOK BACK INTO THE PAST AND KNOW OUR HERITAGE.



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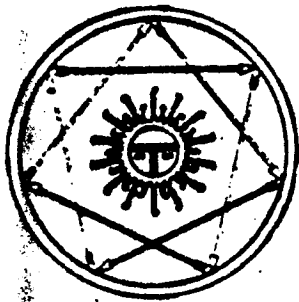
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BLESSED BE



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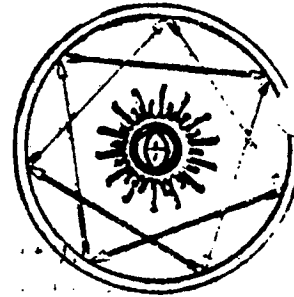
Rev. Linda Hillshafer

(SHAMANIC TRADITIONS)

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A CHURCH FOR SHAMANS?

WE ARE OFTEN ASKED HOW IT IS THAT THE CHURCH OF SEVEN ARROWS CONGREGATION OF THE UNIVERSAL LIFE CHURCH CAN ASSERT SHAMANIC TRADITION AS ITS BASE.

HISTORICALLY, THE TERM "SHAMAN" REFERRED TO MEMBERS OF SIBERIAN AND ASIAN TRIBES WHOSE MAJOR ACTIVITIES WERE THE CONTROLLING OF SPIRITS AND THE CARRYING OUT OF A DIRECT DIALOG WITH DEITIES BY ACTUAL ENTERING OF THE "LEVELS" WHEREIN THE DEITIES EXIST. (THESE TRADITIONS AND PRACTICES ARE TRACEBLE BACK AT LEAST 25,000 YEARS; AND THERE WERE USUALLY MORE WOMEN THEN MEN SHAMANS).

IN MODERN ANTHROPOLOGY, THE TERM "SHAMAN" IS APPLIED TO TRIBAL SYSTEM PRACTITIONERS WHO MAY ON OCCASION ACT AS PRIEST OR MEDICINE MAN (HEALER), BUT WHOSE MAJOR ACTIVITY IS EMPIRICAL (EXPERIENTIAL) RESEARCH FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE TRIBE'S "STATE OF THE ART" IN THE SCIENCES AND PRACTICES OF RELIGION AND MAGIC. (IN THIS CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM, THE "PRIEST" PRESERVES AND MAINTAINS AND ADMINISTERS PAST TRADITIONS AND RITUALS, WHILE THE "MEDICINE MAN" SPECIALIZES IN THE HEALING ARTS.)

THUS, THE MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF THE CHURCH OF SEVEN ARROWS ARE RESEARCH, TEACHING AND COUNSELLING IN THE SCIENCES OF MAGIC, RELIGION, AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT; AND INSOFAR AS A BASIC TENET OF SHAMANIC PRACTICES IS THAT THERE IS NO ONE PATH THAT IS PROPER FOR ALL PEOPLE, NO PARTICULAR RELIGIOUS COMMITMENT IS REQUIRED OF PEOPLE TAKING THE "CORE" STUDIES OF BASIC OR ADVANCED MAGIC, BASICS OF RELIGION, BASICS OF SHAMANISM, OR VALUES - MEN'S, WOMEN'S AND PEOPLE'S (THOUGH THERE ARE KNOWLEDGE AND TRAINING PREREQUITES FOR ADVANCED MAGIC AND BASICS OF SHAMANISH STUDIES).

ON THE OTHER HAND, FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO BECOME "WALKERS OF THE WAY" IN THE CHURCH OF SEVEN ARROWS SYSTEM, THE SEVEN ARROWS RELIGION-STUDY SERIES COVERS A MYTHOS BASED ON A COMBINATION OF THE PUEBLAN AND THE MEDICINE WHEEL SYSTEMS, ACCOMPANIED BY A NINE-LEVEL COSMOGENY RANGING FROM A CREATOR AT THE TOP TO THE SUB-ATOMIC LEVEL BEINGNESSES AT THE BOTTOM (INCLUDING AN EARTH-MOTHER AND QUARTERS JUST ABOVE MAN), ALONG WITH A SET OF DOGMAS AND DOCTRINES DERIVING FROM THAT MYTHOS AND COSMOGONY.

IN ACCORD WITH SHAMANIC TRADITIONS, "WALKER OF THE WAY" INITIATION IS A MATTER OF PERSONAL CHOICE AND PERFORMANCE IN INTERNALIZING AND MAKING A PART OF THE PERSON'S DAILY LIFE THE CHURCH OF SEVEN ARROWS BELIEF SYSTEM AND DAILY LIVING PRACTICES AND DOCTRINES, PLUS BECOMING ACCUSTOMED TO PERFORMING PERSONAL ACTS OF POWER.

AFTER ACHIEVING "WALKER OF THE WAY" STATUS, ONE MAY THEN WORK, THROUGH MORE STUDIES OF A SPECIAL NATURE, UP TO THE CHURCH OF SEVEN ARROWS HEIRARCHY OF CEREMONIAL OPERATOR, TEACHER, ELDER TEACHER, AND SHAMAN. (SOMEONE WISHING TO GO THE WHOLE ROUTE, AND WILLING TO STUDY AND WORK HARD CAN EXPECT TO SPEND AT LEAST 4 TO 6 YEARS IN COMPLETING ALL THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL THE "LEVELS").

A MAJOR STRESS IN ALL THE CHURCH OF SEVEN ARROWS STUDIES IS THE DEVELOPMENT AND ENHANCEMENT OF PERSONAL GROWTH, SELF-DETERMINISM, AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE PRACTICE OF BOTH MAGICK AND RELIGION.

KAHOT'E AND MAWOTA'
CHURCH OF SEVEN ARROWS
4385 HOYT STREET, #103
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THE SHEKHINAH

BY S.J. COOK.

THE SHEKHINAH IS A QABALISTIC TERM, AND WITH ALL ELSE IN THAT SYSTEM, A RIDICULOUSLY COMPLEX AND MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CONCEPT. THE PROBLEM OF DEFINITION IS COMPOUNDED BY THE DIFFERING VIEWS OF A VARIETY OF QABALISTIC TRADITIONS. THE OLDEST TRADITION REGARDING THE SHEKHINAH CANNOT BE COMPREHENDED WITHOUT A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF A BLATANTLY CHAUVINISTIC BIAS. IN THE ANCIENT DAYS OF AB-RAM, THE GREAT GRAND-FATHER OF THE WESTERN TRADITION, WOMEN WERE NOT EVEN REMOTELY CONSIDERED TO BE FULL HUMAN BEINGS. ONLY MEN WERE EXALTED ENOUGH, BY THEIR OWN ASSESSMENT, TO DARE COMMUNICATION WITH THE GOD-FORCE. BUT EVEN MEN WERE NOT SO ARROGANT AS TO EXPECT A FACE-TO-FACE MEETING WITH THE ALMIGHTY CREATOR. THE BEST A MORTAL COULD PRAY FOR WAS AN ENCOUNTER WITH SOME LESSER ASPECT OR MANIFESTATION OF GOD.

TO THIS END, THE ORIGINAL QABALISTS SPECULATED UPON THE NATURE OF GOD AND ARRIVED AT A PRACTICAL SOLUTION. BEFORE THE BEGINNING, THEY STATED, BEFORE GOD'S MANIFESTATION INTO CREATION, HE EXISTED IN A PERFECT UNDIVIDED STATE. GOD WAS ANDROGYMOUS, NEITHER MALE NOR FEMALE. HIS, OR RATHER ITS, FIRST ACTION TOWARD CREATION WAS THE EXPULSION OF ITS FEMININE ESSENCE, THE PASSIVE, NEGATIVE, MALLEABLE PORTION OF ITSELF, AND THIS WAS LABELED THE SHEKHINAH. THE GOD-FORCE THEN BEING MASCULINE WAS FREE TO ACT UPON HIS FEMININE COUNTERPART AND INITIATE CREATION.

AS CREATION PROCEEDED INTO MANIFESTATION, THE SHEKHINAH WAS FORCED FARTHER AND FARTHER DOWN THE PLANES TO REACH HER FINAL EXILE IN MALKUTH, THE MATERIAL WORLD. ON ONE LEVEL, SHE IS MALKUTH, AND BINAH, AND THE UNIFYING MIDDLE PILLAR ON THE TREE OF LIFE, AND JUST ABOUT ANY OTHER FEMININE PRINCIPLE ONE MAY WISH TO TAG HER NAME UPON.

BUT CONTINUING THIS LINE OF SPECULATION, THE EARLY QABALISTS DECIDED THAT THE SHEKHINAH FINALLY BECAME THE COLLECTIVE AND INDIVIDUAL SOUL OF MAN. AND A MAN'S SOUL, BEING A LATENT, PASSIVE, FEMININE THING, COULD BE CONTROLLED AND KNOWN; THEREBY GIVING, BY IMPLICATION, KNOWLEDGE OF GOD HIMSELF.

A MAJORITY OF LATER, MORE ORTHODOX QABALISTS CONSIDERED THIS CONCEPT TO BE HERESY BECAUSE IT SUGGESTED THAT GOD HIMSELF WAS CURRENTLY INCOMPLETE, OR IMPERFECT, SINCE THE SHEKHINAH WAS "FALLEN" OR IN EXILE ON THE

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Legend of Lore

MATERIAL PLANE ALONG WITH MANKIND AND OTHER "EVIL SPIRITS". THEY SUGGESTED THAT THE SHEKHINAH WAS THE INDWELLING PRESENCE OF GOD LATENT IN EVERY MAN, MERELY MAN'S SOUL OR HIGHER SELF. AND ALTHOUGH A MAN MAY INDEED COMMUNICATE WITH GOD THROUGH HIS SOUL THAT SOUL WAS NOT EXALTED TO EQUALITY WITH THE PERFECT GOD. ON THE MACRO LEVEL, THE SHEKHINAH WAS VIEWED SPECIFICALLY AS THE COLLECTIVE SOUL OF ISRAEL. SO THAT NOT ONLY WERE THE MEN THE ONLY ONES WITH SOULS CAPABLE OF KNOWING GOD, BUT ONLY JEWISH MEN COULD RIGHTLY CLAIM THAT HONOR.

BUT THEN, IN 1180, IN THE BOOK BAHIR, A SPLINTER GROUP OF EUROPEAN QABALISTS REASSERTED THE HERETICAL NOTION OF THE SHEKHINAH AS THE FEMININE HALF OF AN ORIGINALLY WHOLE GOD, AND CARRIED IT FURTHER STILL. THEY STATED THAT THE SHEKHINAH WAS REPRESENTED BY EVERY WOMAN ALIVE AND SUGGESTED THAT THE BEST WAY A MAN MIGHT KNOW HIS SOUL AND GOD WAS THROUGH SEXUAL INTERCOURSE WITH HIS WIFE. THEIR IMAGERY WAS PORNOGRAPHIC, TO SAY THE LEAST, AND THE SHEKHINAH WAS TRANSFORMED INTO ISIS BY ANOTHER NAME. THEY BECAME A CULT OF WOMAN WORSHIPPERS OF THE HUGH HEFNER TYPE.

IN SUMMARY, THE SHEKHINAH IS A) THE FEMININE HALF OF THE ORIGINAL GOD, B) THE PERSONIFICATION OF MALKUTH, THE MATERIAL PLANE, C) THE SOUL OF MAN, IN GENERAL OR IN PARTICULAR, AND D) ISIS BY ANOTHER NAME. CHOOSE ONE OF THE ABOVE, NONE OF THE ABOVE, OR ALL OF THE ABOVE.

BY LADY ASTRID

MERLIN, OR MYRRDIN, WAS BORN OF A DRUIDIC MOTHER AND A PRYTANIC FATHER ACCORDING TO SOME LEGENDS. (THE PRYTANI CLAIM TO HAVE THE LAST OF THE WISDOM OF THE GOOD WATCHERS FROM BEFORE THE FALL OF ATLANTIS.) HIS ATLANTEAN AND DRUIDIC DESCENT HAVE BEEN FAIRLY REASONABLY TRACED TO AN AUTHENTIC HISTORICAL ORIGIN. HIS GIVEN NAME, OR BIRTH NAME WAS EMRYS, WHICH MEANS "HAWK". MERLIN WAS REVERED AS AN ARCH-MAGE AND MASTER DRUID AND WIZARD. HIS POPULARITY COMES, IN PART, FROM HIS ASSOCIATION WITH KING ARTHUR. HIS KNOWLEDGE WAS SAID TO COMPRISE THE WAYS AND NATURES OF ANIMALS, PLANTS, STONES, AND THE EARTH, AS WELL AS THE SEAS AND STARS. HE IS OFTEN DEPICTED WITH AN OWL AS HIS USUAL FAMILIAR (ALTHOUGH HE HAD MANY), WHICH IS A SYMBOL OF THE MOON, OR THE GODDESS, AND OF WISDOM. HIS TRAINING AND STUDIES WERE NOT ONLY WITH THE PRYTANI AND THE DRUIDS, BUT HE IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE TRAVELED IN EARLY YOUTH TO GAUL AND WHERE HE STUDIED THE GAELIC/ROMAN CULTS OF MITHRAS AND OF ZOROASTRIANISM.

MYRRDIN WAS REPUTED TO ALSO HAVE A THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF HERMETICS, AND AFTER HERMES, HE IS OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE FIRST ALCHEMIST.

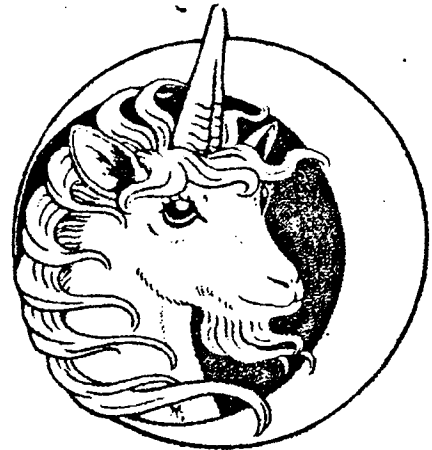
MYRRDIN WAS SAID TO HAVE LIVED THE SPAN OF THREE LIFE TIMES, OR ABOUT TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS. THIS WAS SUPPOSEDLY DUE TO HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE UNIVERSE AND THE WAYS AND MEANS OF REGENERATION. HE IS ALSO REPUTED TO HAVE POSSESSED THE ABILITY OF METEMPSYCHOSIS AND TRANSFORMATION.

HIS HALF SISTER IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN MORGAN LE FEY, THE QUEEN OF THE WITCHES AND FAIRY FOLK IN-ANDRED FOREST, IN ENGLAND, ALTHOUGH OTHER VERSIONS HAVE HER AS BEING ARTHUR'S HALF SISTER INSTEAD. IT IS ALSO SAID THAT AT ONE TIME, BEFORE SHE TURNED AGAINST MERLIN AND ARTHUR THAT SHE WAS HIS PUPIL AND LEARNED HER MAGICK FROM HIM.

NIMUE, OR THE LADY OF THE LAKE, THE ENCHANTRESS WHO FINALLY ENSNARED MERLIN, REPRESENTS THE WATER, OR FEMININE ESSENCE. IN THE END HER CALL IS THE ONE NO MAN CAN RESIST OR REFUSE, FOR IT IS THE CALL TO BIRTH, AND THE CALL TO DEATH. HIS CAPTIVITY IN THE HOLLOW CAVERN UNTIL NIMUE'S ENCHANTMENT IS BROKEN IS SYMBOLIC OF THE FACT THAT THE MASTER OR THE PRIEST WAITS WITHIN THE GODDESS IN ORDER TO MANIFEST AND CREATE AT HER DESIRE, THE CAVERN SYMBOLIZING THE WOMB, OR THE REALMS OF THE SPIRIT. THERE IS A LEGEND THAT HE AND ARTHUR DO BUT SLEEP UNTIL THE

NEED FOR THEM ARISES AGAIN. THIS IS SAID TO BE THE TIME OF THE APOCALYPSE WHEN ARTHUR AND MERLIN WILL BE REBORN AND AGAIN RISE TO ESTABLISH ORDER AND CIVILIZATION WITHIN THE CHAOS. THIS AGAIN SYMBOLIZES THE AWAKENING OF THE MASTER BY THE GODDESS' DESIRE FOR CREATION AND ORDER.

MERLIN IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE CONSTRUCTED THE STONE CIRCLE AT AVEBURY AND STONEHENGE WITH HIS MIGHTY MAGICK AND INCANTATIONS. HE IS ALSO PURPORTED TO HAVE LEVITATED THE BLUE ALTAR STONE BY THE USE OF VIBRATION FROM ACROSS THE SEAS, POSSIBLY FROM IRELAND. WHETHER OR NOT THIS IS TRUE, MERLIN WAS A GREAT ADEPT, WHOSE POWERS WERE NEVER UNDERESTIMATED BY HIS OPPONENTS.



AN OPEN LETTER TO THE AQUARIAN COMMUNITY

"THE LIVING UNICORN"

IT IS WITH JOYOUS PRIDE THAT WE WANT TO INTRODUCE TO YOU AND THE COMMUNITY YOU SERVE OUR MAGICKAL CHILDE, LANCELOT, THE LIVING UNICORN. LANCELOT IS A TRUE MEDIEVAL TYPE UNICORN: A SILKY SNOWY WONDER WITH FLOWING MANE, BEARDED CHIN AND TUFTED TAIL, WHO WALKS THE EARTH ON DAINTY CLOVEN HOOVES, A GOLDEN HORN GROWING FROM THE CENTER OF HIS BROW. AS IN THE LEGENDS HE CAN BE GENTLE OR FIERCE; HE HAS PENETRATING POWERS OF DISCERNMENT, AND A FONDNESS FOR YOUNG MAIDEENHSSSS AND ROSES. OUR BOOKLET EXPLAINS THE ORIGINS OF SUCH LIVING UNICORNS, BUT WE ARE NOT CLAIMING TO HAVE THE "ONE TRUE RIGHT AND ONLY UNICORN", NOR ARE WE SAYING THAT ALL UNICORNS WERE LIKE LANCELOT. TO QUOTE ODELL SHEPARD: "WE SEE NO MORE NECESSITY THAT THE UNICORN LEGEND SHOULD HAVE A SINGLE ORIGIN THAN THAT THE NILE SHOULD ARISE FROM A SINGLE SPRING." (THE LORE OF THE UNICORN) THE UNICORN LEGEND IS COMPOSED OF DREAMS, LUNAR MYTHOLOGY, TRAVELERS' TALES AND HOPE.

WE REALIZE THAT WE DO NOT NEED TO TELL YOU WHAT UNICORNS STAND FOR. YOUR OWN DREAMS WOULD DO A MUCH BETTER JOB, AND IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS UNICORNS HAVE PROLIFERATED ON SUCH A SCALE THAT THERE IS A UNICORN PEERING AT YOU AROUND EVERY CORNER. HOWEVER, SINCE THE UNICORN HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN A SYMBOL OF UNITY AND NOW WE ARE CONVINCED THAT IT

IS NO ACCIDENT THAT NOW OF ALL TIMES SUCH A MARVELOUS REBIRTH HAS TAKEN PLACE. WE FEEL THE TIME HAS COME FOR US TO SHARE WITH YOU OUR FEELINGS AND INTENTIONS. WE THINK THAT LANCELOT HAS A CHANCE OF REACHING MANY HEARTS AND MINDS THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE CLOSED TO VOICES LIKE OURS. BUT WE ARE TREADING A VERY THIN LINE RIGHT NOW, TRYING TO APPEAL TO ALL PEOPLE OF GOODWILL REGARDLESS OF THEIR RELIGIOUS PERSUASION. UNICORNS ARE A UNIVERSAL SYMBOL OF WHAT WE WOULD CALL NATURE CONSCIOUSNESS, APPEARING IN JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY, ISLAM, SHINTO, TAOISM AND VARIOUS HINDU AND BUDDHIST SECTS AS WELL. IF OUR HIGHER TIME IS TO SURVIVE THE 20TH CENTURY, THEN SOME ALLIANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTORING PEACE AND HARMONY WITH NATURE MUST EVOLVE. WE ARE HOPING THAT THE UNICORN CAN BE A SPIRIT SYMBOL IN SUCH A CONSCIOUSNESS COALITION, AND THAT LANCELOT CAN BE THE KEY WE HAVE NEEDED TO UNLOCK MANY DOORS THAT HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN BARRED IN OUR FACES. WE NEED YOUR COOPERATION. IT WILL BE AWAKE TO SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL MEET LANCELOT AND HEAR THE CALL OF THE UNICORN BEFORE THE FORCES OF ENTROPY CLOSE IN AND SILENCE US. THIS IS NOT A BATTLE BETWEEN CHRISTIANS AND PAGANS; IT IS A LOCAL STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE EVOLUTION OF AWARENESS VERSUS STAGNATION, AND THE STAKES, AT THIS TURNING OF THE BI-MILLENNIUM, ARE PLANETARY ILLUMINATION OR PLANETARY ANNIHILATION. SUCH A DIVISION CUTS ACROSS ALL BOUNDARIES INCLUDING OUR OWN SELFHOOD.

MANY OF US HAVE BEEN JUST HANGING ON, TRYING TO REASSURE OURSELVES THAT EVERYTHING WILL TURN OUT OKAY IN THE END. OF COURSE, ON A COSMIC SCALE, THIS IS PROBABLY TRUE. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, THE SANDS OF TIME ARE RUNNING OUT ON THE EARTH PLANET WE SO CHERISH. IT IS NOW 1982, AND ALL THE PSYCHIC SENSITIVES AMONG US SEEM TO KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS--EVERYONE'S PROPHETIES ARE TALKING ABOUT THE HARD TIMES AHEAD. THERE ARE SOME WHO ARE REJOICING THAT THE END IS NEAR--THEY EXPECT CHRIST TO COME IN A NUCLEAR BLAZE OF GLORY, OR HOPE TO BE REINCARNATED INTO A HIGHER FORM...WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT. BUT THE PROBABILITY CURVE ALSO INDICATES THAT THIS DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THE END OF THE WORLD, BUT MAY INSTEAD BE A NEW BEGINNING FOR THE

EARTH. YET IT WILL TAKE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US TO CHANGE OUR FATE FROM DOOM TO DAWN, AND WE MUST START WITHIN OUR OWN HEARTS AND THEN REACH OUTWARD.

IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE MAGIC AND UNIVERSAL TELEPATHY WERE THE NORM: A WORLD WHERE GREED AND CRUELTY, JEALOUSY AND DECEIT WOULD BE LITERALLY IMPOSSIBLE. IMAGINE A WORLD OF FORESTS AND UNICORNS, FAIRIES AND CRYSTAL CITIES; WHERE OUR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE WOULD BE JOYFULLY (OR PAINFULLY, BUT OPENLY) SHARED; WHERE UNITY WOULD BE NOT JUST A WORD OR EVEN A DREAM, BUT A REALITY AS USUOUS AS THE AIR WE SO CARELESSLY TAKE FOR GRANTED. FANTASY IS A MEDIUM FOR SHARING OUR DREAMS. SCIENCE IS A WAY OF SHARING OUR VARIOUS PLANS FOR MAKING THOSE DREAMS COME TRUE. BUT MAGIC...AH! MY PRECIOUS PEOPLE, REAL MAGIC IS THE CONSCIOUS ACT OF MAKING THOSE DREAMS A REALITY...OF CREATING THE FUTURE TODAY...NOW. APOCALYPSE OR APOTHEOSIS--THE CHOICE IS OURS.

SO LET ME ASK YOU ALL TO WORK UNICORN MAGIC WITH US. SAY A PRAYER, LIGHT A WHITE CANDLE, DO WHATEVER FEELS RIGHT. LET THE UNICORN SPIRIT PLANT SEEDS OF LIGHT IN OUR HEARTS THAT WILL SPROUT IN OUR MINDS AND FLOWER IN OUR LIVES, CREATING A CLIMATE OF CHANGE, A MEADOW OF OPENNESS, A FOREST OF WONDER...WHERE UNICORNS AND MAGIC MAIDENS FROLIC FREELY ON OUR BELOVED EARTH...NOW AND FOREVER. LET UNICORNS UNITE THE UNIVERSE!

MORNING GLORY ZELL

(ED. NOTE: YOU CAN CONTACT "THE LIVING UNICORN" P.O. BOX 982, UKIAH, CA. 95842 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION).

Not since the fifteenth century has the unicorn had such an enormous appeal. It is easy to see why. In a world suffering from pollution, the unicorn can purify water with a single dip of its horn. In a world where animals are becoming extinct, the unicorn can never die. In a world where we might literally blow ourselves up at any moment, the unicorn harkens back to another time and a better life. The unicorn symbolizes sensitivity coupled with strength, the lure of sexuality and nature linked with the power of purity and truth. Today, when it is difficult to believe in these things any longer, the unicorn reminds us of a time when good existed--when unicorns existed. In a time when the future is looking bleak, the unicorn is a symbol not just of hope but of strength: it tells us that the unattainable is worth striving for, worth searching for, worth believing in--even if it exists only in our minds.

THE UNICORN

By Nancy Hathaway

POETRY

MAIDEN GODDESS

I see Your face
 In the eyes of a fawn.
 I hear Your voice
 In the freshening breeze.
 I breathe your essence
 In the newly turned earth.
 I know your promise
 In the budding leaves.

-Dana Morgan



REBIRTH

The evenings are gentle,
 The days are growing longer,
 Everywhere Nature is saying:
 "Come join me!
 Grow and bring forth
 The joys of spring.
 Touch the earth
 Feel the sky,
 Everything is ready
 To be born again."

-Zephyr

Apricot afternoons
 Dreaming on the island
 Of persimmons and peaches
 And ancient Egyptians.

The wind rustles the trees
 And I hear chanting melodies
 of adoration and adulation
 Of forgotten pantheons.

A child runs up to me
 Filled with laughter and smiles
 And I realize that even now
 Beauty and joy are still alive.
 Hope

WIZARD

The morning breeze blows out his candle.
 He closes the heavy grimoire
 And ascends the spiral stairs
 To the tower's roof.
 The wind is brisk with a fine salt spray,
 But the sun is warm on the ancient carved stone
 Where his cat sits washing herself.
 The waves crash in glittering thunder
 Far below at the base of the cliff.
 His worn black cloak billows behind him,
 He shades his eyes with one hand
 And leans on his staff
 Looking seaward.

-Jessie Christiansen



TALKING LEAVES

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Book Reviews

COMMUNION WITH THE GODDESS:
IDOLS, IMAGES AND SYMBOLS IN
EGYPT -Book 1
CHALDEA AND SYRIA - Book 2
INDIA - Book 3
by Lawrence Durdin-Robertson.
paperback \$5.00 U.S. each
published by the Fellowship of
Isis and Cesara Publications.

These books are a useful compendium of Goddesses in the various countries, all listed alphabetically. Besides delving into the names of the Goddess in Her many forms, and explaining Her various personifications and images, the listings also include such things as shrines and temples, sacred symbols, special festivals and more. With each of the listings are several quotes from various occult authors, archaeologists, and philosophers regarding the topic at hand. At times these references are somewhat vague and seem to be unrelated to the listing they are ascribed to, but on the whole these books are a wealth of information. A great deal of the material covered here is obscure and little known facts, and for that reason these make excellent source books for referencing material that would otherwise be difficult to track down on your own.

The author has a good grasp on the material, and has obviously spent a great deal of time researching the information and then categorizing it into usable form. For serious occultists this work is an invaluable reference. For those who are interested in finding out more about the guises of the Goddess, there is much that can be learned here.

You may order these books from The Fellowship of Isis, Foundation Centre, Huntington Castle, Clonegal, Ennis-corthy, Eire.

THE BASICS OF MAGIC
Handbook 3 - SONICS
by Kahote and Nahota
published by the Church of
Seven Arrows
\$5.00 paperback

This is the third book in the Basics of Magic series, and as the title implies, it deals with Sonics, or sound, covering both vocal and musical applications. The book is full of excellent exercises for learning to work with this form of magick.

The section on voices of command and words of power is some of the most in-depth discussion I have seen in print on the subject. These things are an important part of ritual workings, and should be studied by those who wish to achieve the best possible effects in their magickal workings. However, as with any tool, these teachings can be used either positively or negatively. In the past such studies were reserved for initiates because the teachers and guides of the different occult paths realized that if these principles were applied by unscrupulous people there could be dangerous consequences. And in that respect I am somewhat hesitant about the release of this information to the general populace. At the same time, I am sure that there are many solitary occultists and various groups who could integrate and use this information well.

The book itself is small, but it is packed with concise, clear explanations and excellent exercises. As I said earlier, it is the best I've seen in print on the subject, and is worth the price if this is an area in which your interests lie.

Lady Astrid

CLASSIFIEDS

Want to place a classified? Do you have a festival, book, publication or service you wish to advertise? Or perhaps you just wish to touch base with fellow metaphysicians? Well, you can do so for just \$5 an ad. limit 50 words. Mail you ad, along with check or money order to MOONSTONE, P.O.Box 9865, Atlanta GA. 30319. If your service is free so is your ad!

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THE QABALA PRIMER by S.J. Cook

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RITES OF SPRING IV
sponsored by the Athanor Fellow-
ship. May 28 - 31 at a private
conference center about 1 hour
from Boston. Cost is \$40 for
adults, before April 15, \$45 af-
ter. Children free with parent.
Attendance is limited to 200.
For further information send a
SASE to: The Athanor Fellowship,
P.O.Box 464, Allston, MA.. 02134.

THE DAILY PLANETS is now offering
these workshops and lectures during
our new semester.

Basic Massage Workshop for Women,
taught by Maya Smith, Sun, May 2,
10.00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. \$30

Bach Flower Remedies, by Daniel
Ellis and Mary Rule. Sat. April 17
10:00 A.M. to 5 pm. \$21

Learning to use Color in your Life
by Fran Medwin. Sat. April 24, 10am
to 4 pm. \$20.00

The Seven Laws of Money by Lewis
Schiffman, M.A. Sat., May 1, 10 AM
to 4 PM \$20

Making Your Own Incenses and Oils
by Lady Galadriel May 22, 1Pm to
5 PM \$15.00 includes samples

Past Life Regressions by Lady Ga-
ladriel June 5, Sat. 1 PM to 5 PM \$10

LECTURES: Astrology in the medical
Field by Marcia Starck Friday, May
14, 8-10 PM \$5

Radiesthesia: The Use of the Pendulum
by Marcia Starck Sun. May 16, 7-8:30
PM. \$5.00

For further information on any of
our classes, workshops, lectures or
services, please call **THE DAILY**
PLANETS at 681-2446

GODDESS LECTURE and women's spiri-
tuality workshops with Starhawk,
June 23 - 25, in Madison, Wisconsin.
Starhawk will also be at the Pagan
Spirit Gathering June 18 - 21. For
more information write Circle, Box
9013, Madison, WI. 53715.

PAN - PAGAN FESTIVAL '82. Sept. 9
thru 12, is co-sponsored by the
Covenant of the Sacred Goddess and
the Council of the Sacred Earth, and
will be held near Kalamazoo, Mich.
at the Circle Pines Center. If you
would like to present a workshop,
ritual, demonstartion, performace
or other event write Epiphanes, P.O.
Box 25129, Chicago, Ill., 60625. To
get on the mailing list for a fes-
tival brochure write The Temple of
the Pagan Way, P.O.Box 60151, Chi-
cago, Ill. 60660

A MAGICKAL PAGAN WEEKEND will be held
April 3 and 4 in Eugene, Oregon. Jim
Alan and Selena Fox will present work-
shops, music, and rituals. For more
information contact Stephanie Fox,
2345 Patterson, #21, Eugene, OR 97405.

MAGICKAL HEALING WEEKEND on April 24
and 25, presented by Jim Alan and
Selena Fox, in Cleveland Ohio. The
weekend will include workshops on
Creative Visualization and Energy
Channeling, a shamanic healing rit-
ual, a Bardic slaring circle, a herb
slide show, etc. Contact The Chameleon
Club, Box 174, Perry OH 44081. Or
phone 216-321-8792 eves.

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