



DISCERNING MINDS

Premiere Metaphysical Quarterly For The Abstract Enthusiast

SACRED SCIENCES * ESOTERICISM * ARCANA * CREATIVE THOUGHT * PHILOSOPHIC TRENDS

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What's Your Perspective?



Cover Design Kim Tsiang

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What's Your Perspective?

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MIND TEAM

→ TAKING AIM ←

Our Editorial and Managerial Teams are comprised of open minded people from different walks of life, professional backgrounds and divergent spiritual paths. Each team member brings to the table their own brand of expertise based upon educational accomplishment and practical life experience. They share their gifts and abilities as a team in order to present this E-Zine with the mindset of sharing information and uncovering truths.

Content contributors of Discerning Minds hail from all parts of the world with a desire to showcase and share their original thoughts, creativity, ideas, theories and speculations. If you would like to submit an article for possible publication please contact editor.discerningminds@gmail.com with your proposal. Include a brief one paragraph summary of your work and why you would like it published. Up to two articles may be submitted for publication in a single issue. **Only original** articles/art/photography that fall into section category subject matter are considered for publication. The age requirement is 21 years and older. Accepted submissions are published gratis. Discerning Minds does not offer remuneration for published content.

Content sections are:

The Human Condition – Serious or humorous narratives, or prose about life, emotions and empathy based in life experiences, psychology of being, dream analysis, synchronicity.

A Matter of Spirit – Esotericism, Higher Mind, Karma/Dharma, miracles, reincarnation, meditation, symbolic or religious/spiritual metaphoric accounts.

Body Temple – Alternative health, holistics, ancient and new healing, mind methods, auras.

Phenomena Files – Paranormal, extranormal, ultra-normal and unexplained experiences, Parapsychology, cryptids, UFOs, curses.

Arcanus Obscurum – Ancient theories, magical arts, sagery and magery, shamanism, hermetics, alchemy, visions, Kamea, divination and methodology, angels and daemons.

Sacred Sciences – Metaphysical, Mastership, Astrology, Cosmobiology, Astrotheology, Numerology, Palmistry, Runes, prophecy, pendulum, Enneagram, crystals, OBE, Qabalah, Tarot, quantum, psychism, codes and cyphers, conspiracy theories, meta-history, secret societies.

Creative Musings – Original artwork, poetry, prose, fantasy tales, stories with morals or messages.

Odd-vant Garde – Atypical, curious, paradox, eccentric or uncanny chronicles and yarns. Quirkology.



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The Human Condition

What's dancing in your head ?



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How often do you lie?

The Great Imposter

Waden Jensen

“Everybody lies.” They lie in all sorts of ways with varying means. The more important question might be – why do others believe those lies? Worse - those lies are often accepted without outrage or care. What used to be ‘trusted sources’ no longer exist and the truth is just plain too inconvenient. Maybe it’s just too much trouble to protest or maybe just have a need to believe especially if they are benefitting in some way ... or maybe it’s just as simple as it’s what we want to hear.

One of the greatest imposters who ever lived was Ferdinand Waldo Demara. He stands tall in the imposter hall of fame right up there next to forger Frank Abagnale Jr. who drove the FBI crazy for years. He was believed to possess a photographic memory and unusually high IQ.

Demara (December 21, 1921 – June 7, 1982) was born into an affluent family (until the Great Depression) headed by Ferdinand Sr. a motion picture operator. He remains one of history’s most amusing and colorful conmen. Demara was so adept at what he did he earned the title of the "Great Imposter" and his antics eventually spawned a movie by the same name in the 1960’s starring actor Tony Curtis which was based on a book written by Robert Crichton.

Who is this guy you ask?

Demara grew up in Lawrence, Massachusetts leaving home at age fifteen. Many feel that he was probably a genius because his scams were carried through with impeccably devised truths. By using stolen letterheads he was able to acquire a multitude of college records. He was a skillful forger who could assume the names and credentials or whoever he wanted to be at any given time.

The amazing thing about “Fred” however was his capability to perform any of the work associated with his alleged degrees. Demara also had a knack for disappearing when the heat was turned on and a situation became too risky.

He described his recipe for success as follows:

Continued ...

Continued ...

One – “in any organization there is always a lot of loose, unused power lying about which can be picked up without alienating anyone.”

Two – “if you want power and want to expand, never encroach on anyone else's domain; open up new ones.”

As Dr. Joseph C. Cyr, he successfully performed duties as a full functioning surgeon while aboard a Canadian Navy Destroyer where he was fondly known as a “miracle doctor.” Parading under the guise of Dr. Robert Linton French, he easily gained a position as a college dean and later as Dr. Cecil B. Hamann, he was admitted to a Boston law school. His longest stints were held in monasteries and Catholic orders as part of the brotherhood. It is believed that under the guise of different personas, Demara was most likely accepted into more religious orders than anyone else in America. As one Ben Jones, Demara also had a successful career as an assistant warden/psychologist at Huntsville State Prison. The law finally caught up with Demara after a stint as a high school teacher in New England after friends recognized him in a photo that appeared in the January 1952 issue of Life magazine that ran a story on the Great Imposter. When brought before the judge, Demara swore to live a clean life and he did. He spent the rest of his days as an ordained minister under his rightful name. Demara died in 1982 at age 60.

What a twist or maybe it was his greatest con.





Has a tragedy ever changed your life and had a collective effect?

The Path

Dr. Neeta Gupta

When I was ten years old my family moved to America from India. My father bought a nice home on a lovely quaint street in a small city. As the years passed, the city grew and so did the need for expansion and very soon there were more stores, and schools and hospitals.

At the end of our street lived a very nice couple who loved to garden. They were very kindly people who got along very well with all of the neighbors. Their home and property was the showplace of the neighborhood and the neighbors always commented about the beautiful flowers of all colors and shapes and the well-groomed lawn. Often the husband would give me a large bunch of flowers to take home to my mother as he did for many of the other neighbors. By the time I became a young adult the couple had grown elderly but still loved to care for their yard and flowers.

There was never any trouble on our street until the population of the city grew so large it became necessary to build a high school behind our street on what once was a large piece of wooded property. Walking distance to the school required walking down to the end of the street, turning the corner and then walking another block. It seems this became a problem for the teenage students attending the school so they decided to take a short through the edge of the old couple's yard over to the high school.

Soon a path was worn on the lovely green lawn which just as quickly became littered with papers and cigarettes and thrown away bits of food. There was a gang of young teens that walked the path who did the most damage and encouraged others to do the same. The old lady became very upset with this as did her husband but they never said a word. Every day in the early evening the old man would pick up the strewn garbage and stand silently in dismay at the damage to the edge of his yard.

That summer, one of the boys in the gang died in an automobile accident which was very sad. This happened about two weeks before school was to resume. On the first day of school, students hurried along down the street getting ready to take the usual short cut through the old couple's yard. When they got to the path they were greeted by quite a surprise.

Continued ...

Continued ...

The worn space had been replaced by a stone walkway bordered on each side by thick green hedges. Planted along the hedges were flowers and plants. A receptacle for trash stood among the flowers on one side. At the end of the walkway there was a small stone memorial honoring the dead boy. There was great silence among all the students who walked the path to school that day.

On the third day of school, the old man became very ill and was rushed to the hospital. For one month there was no one to care for the flowers and the hedges along the stone walkway. The old woman had become too frail to do much yard work and grew dismayed about her beautiful yard and gardens. When the old man was well enough to come home, one of the neighbors offered to drive him home. As they pulled up to the driveway, the old man expected to see the worst – a yard in shambles but what he saw both shocked and gave him much joy. A large group of students was finishing up all of the yard work. The lawn had been mowed, the gardens weeded, the hedges clipped and the stone walkway had been swept clean.

When they saw the old man arrive, they gathered around on the front lawn in a semi-circle and as he got out of the neighbor's car they all applauded and cheered him. He was very surprised to learn that the person who organized the cleanup was the leader of the gang that had done the most damage to his yard. The young man shook the old man's hand and thanked him for his kindness and generosity.

There was never a problem after that time.





Are you willing to take off your mask and trust?

Face Peel

Aly 'Zephyr' Nizen

Hello. I never met you. I see your face or maybe it's just your mask.

What mask is your face wearing today? Must be the 'idea' behind your identity. I hope it is a good idea because you know the environment will mirror it back and then the whole thing becomes part of the Collective Consciousness.

Are you trying to save face as the saying goes? Why? You don't need to do that. I think you should just let your spirit shine through and light it up. No reason for pretense.

The Ego is a bully but it is also a Divine tool. It requires that you wear a mask – many in fact. It's not always a bad thing as sometimes it may be necessary for survival. At the end of day however, what really matters, is the actual you and not the idea of you. There is always the danger of wearing the idea so much causes you to believe that's who you are. That's called label attachment and it's easy to get lost in all that illusion.

I've read that according to Buddhist tradition the Ego uses 21 masks. They are neatly broken down into categories of three. I'll mention them briefly because it's easy to grasp the essence of it.

DENIAL

Fear

Pride

Shame

EMOTIONS

Abandonment

Rejection

Guilt

Continued ...

Continued ...

ROLES

The Persecutor

The Savior

The Victim

TOOLS

Power

Control

Manipulation

EXPECTATIONS

False Hope

Over Certainty

Egocentrism

NEEDS

Obtaining

Accumulating

Attaining

ATTACHMENTS

Physical

Emotional

Mental

Recognize those? Can't deny them can you? They need no elaboration.

Continued ...

Continued ...

I had to peel my face to write all this in case you didn't know.

How about showing me your real face now?

I would really like to see you ...

“We understand how dangerous a mask can be. We all become what we pretend to be.”

Patrick Rothfuss





Do you believe you are accountable? Think twice.

Earth School and the Accountability Report Card

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas

How good is your awareness meter and willingness to be accountable?

A recent "coined phrase" that has seemed to infiltrate the metaphysical community at large in recent years is, "There is no right or wrong ... there just IS." If an individual is ready to accept this statement, does that mean it is perfectly fine for that person to just go about doing whatever he/she wants at any given time because everything "just IS"?

Since the precepts of right and wrong constitute what we understand as concepts pertaining to human morality, let's approach this from a different angle. The basic common denominator of all universal understanding be it human derived philosophy, theosophy, physical science, or even religion is that all in the Universe is perpetuated by BALANCE. Balance indicates that everything functions along the lines of equal yet opposite. This is known as POLARITY. Everything that we know works in polarity ... light/dark, up/down, black/white, me/you, yin/yang and so on and so forth.

UNIVERSAL BALANCE is based on three Laws – the Law of Correspondences, the Law of Alchemy, and the Law of Beginnings.

The Law of Correspondences states:

"As above, so below
As within, so without
As the Universe, so the soul."

This Law explains itself rather well and along with the concept of polarity speaks of high harmony between man and his place in the Universe. Balance via polarity is inherent in everything large and small and you can't have one without the other.

The Law of Alchemy states:

"All of the energies that are inside of us must manifest on the outside of us."
With this Law comes the expression of "responsibility."

Continued ...

The topic of responsibility is remiss in the "no right or wrong" concept. So, from this vantage point what does responsibility entail? Since all humans have freewill we ultimately "choose" how we learn the lessons of life. If we "choose" to be responsible for our actions and exhibit enough spiritual effort to overcome our fears we should be able to find balance both inside and outside of ourselves. This is known as positive manifestation.

When we fail to do this, events will manifest on an external and disruptive scale. This is known as negative manifestation. According to our own conjecture, we have literally acted right or wrong. Some will argue that for certain individuals, negative manifestation is necessary because there is a tougher lesson that needs to be learned. Even when this is true and the lesson is harsh or even devastating there is no room for doubt that the individual will walk away at the very least thinking they could have "done it better."

Another troublesome take on the "there is no right or wrong" dictum is another coined phrase, "You cannot do it wrong" which seems to be associated with Karma and Soul evolution. Soul growth is associated with and measured via Karma or how well an individual has been able to handle his/her own capacity for give and take in a given lifetime. If we are in full understanding of positive and negative manifestation, then we also understand that The Law of Alchemy says you most certainly can do it wrong and that you will suffer the consequences from your earthbound life in your spiritual evolution.

Can anyone who has acted negatively say that they didn't suffer from the consequences of choosing to act negatively in one way or another? Further, as far as Karma goes - why would anyone with a degree of consciousness want to deny their own Soul advancement? We are all human and no one is capable of manifesting positively all the time but, we do have a responsibility to learn from our experiences and change our perceptions so we can find the balance. How is that possible if there is no right or wrong and there just IS?

The Law of Beginnings states:

"The beginning point of human life contains potential that will be fulfilled throughout the cycles of life and beyond life."

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Continued ...

Astrologers and past life regressionists often talk about past life or Karmic residual behaviors that have bled through or been subconsciously stored and are influencing an individual's current psychological and emotional status. These are negative behaviors that the astrologer or therapist helps the individual identify so they can understand them and seek out a more positive outlook. The source might have been a negative act perpetrated by the individual or negative act perpetrated upon the individual.

No right or wrong huh? If everything in every lifetime "just IS" there would be no trauma or drama to address. What we have done in the past or what we do in the present would not matter. There would be no need to do better. There would be no need to grow.



Portraits from the movie A Picture of Dorian Gray based on the supernatural novel of the same name by Oscar Wilde which addresses the propensity for good and evil in all human beings.

Continued ...

Continued ...

There is balance in the Universe and it is the foundation upon which it was created. There is a balance in all of humanity and each of us has the capacity for good or evil inherent within us and the ability to discern right and wrong. This is the balance of the human essence. Every day, we all make decisions based upon what is personally correct or incorrect for us. Without polarity and balance we would be no more than impassionate pawns void of responsibility strewn about a gray landscape lost with no direction.

Do you choose to live your life in accordance with the Universal foundation of BALANCE? Do you choose to deal with the "black" and "white" of life and choose not to live in those "gray" areas full of empty concepts ... What is right or wrong? That depends on your perception of accountability while you attend Earth School.





Are your actions motivated by EGO?

Charitable Interference

Marcus Jolley

Let me say up front that I have no issues with charitable causes. I have done my share of contributing by donating goods and money and even putting in time in the local soup kitchen where I live. Like most folks, at times I wonder if I am being duped or taken and have some doubt as to whether what I am donating actually goes to those in need. Further pondering caused me to question if what I was doing actually really helped those I intended to help on both the physical and spiritual levels.

Let me share a story about my friend Jack's experience with charity:

About ten years ago Jack went through a very rough divorce. He rented a decent apartment with two bedrooms, kitchenette, small dining area, living room, and a bathroom and a half. He was working on healing himself and revamping himself financially. Eventually he stopped having trouble making ends meet and was regaining his social confidence.

One day he came home from work and noticed a family living in their car in the complex parking lot- literally. The father and mother had lost their jobs and were struggling to keep their two children fed. Feeling exceptionally charitable, Jack offered the family food and shelter until they were able to get back on their feet. The family was very grateful and did their share around the apartment pitching in as best they could. After a few months the parents found jobs, re-settled, and moved out.

All seemed well in Jack's world. He felt very satisfied that he had done the right thing.

About six months later, Jack came home from work and noticed the family was back in the parking lot living out of their car once again. Jack was disturbed by this and told me directly that he believes his "experience" with the destitute family constituted his lack of discernment and misplaced charity which led to him to interfere with their Karma and life path. He, to this day remains absolutely adamant about this thought and cannot be convinced otherwise. He still feels he acted out of ego and not charity.

Continued ...

Continued ...

Many of us are familiar with the phrase, "you are what you eat." Taking that a step further, "you are also what you experience" be it physical, mental or spiritual in nature. This is what defines each of us as unique from one another and can also make it difficult to relate with each other at times because we are not always on the "same page." What we experience shapes our belief systems, mental attitudes and often our actions and reactions. After all life is consciousness and all we perceive as to who we are is a product of our interpretive capacity. We are just who we think we are. We give direction to our life experiences by the way we think, interpret, feel believe and choose to act while being aware that we are all subject to laws of causation and consequences.

I feel Jack was too hard on himself yet in hindsight his point is well taken. Lessons all round for everyone including me who stopped trying to convince him that his temporary gig as Santa Claus was not a bad thing.

I came away thinking Truth is everywhere and not just a byproduct of ego so make it part of your experience. Remember, no matter what your personal experience, it should be honored and respected. You are who you are. What you discover about yourself may not seem to others that you are being charitable with yourself but perhaps it is!





AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES



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Waden Jensen (*The Great Imposter, pg. 2*)

Waden considers himself a very private person who dislikes bios. By day he is a business consultant who does extensive traveling in the US and abroad. He likes to spend his spare time as a carpenter mainly creating fine furniture. He currently resides in Washington State.

Dr. Neeta Gupta (*The Path, pg. 4*)

Neeta Gupta came to the United States from India when she was ten years old. Some of the stories she tells belong to oral tradition as handed down to her by her beloved grandmother who was nicknamed "Anni" while others come from her fertile imagination and actual life experiences. Neeta has had an extensive education both in the US and abroad holding degrees in physics, astronomy, atmospheric sciences, mathematics and theological studies. She is a retired educator and Vedic astrologer who loves to travel back to India especially when accompanied by her grandnephew Pandit.

Aly 'Zephyr' Nizen (*Face Peel, pg.6*)

Aly is a registered nurse who hails from the northeast USA. On the weekends she teaches Yoga classes for adults and children. She is known for her patience and skill which combines several different disciplines that she filters into an understandable western view based upon the mental and spiritual level of her students. In her free time, she allows her muse to guide her as she pens what she refers to as 'human observation shorts.'

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas (*Earth School and the Accountability Report Card, Pg. 9*)

Loni Haas is a behavioral therapist, veteran exoteric and esoteric astrologer, research member of the American Federation of Astrologers (AFA), member of the National Council of Geocosmic Research (NCGR), as well as a lifetime member of the American Association of Behavioral Therapists. She is an ordained minister and Doctor of Divinity of the Universal Light Church of Cincinnati, Ohio where she is certified in several healing modalities.

Marcus Jolley (*Charitable Interference, Pg. 13*)

Marcus is a retired chemical engineer who has always had a fancy for metaphysics. An observer of life and a deep thinker he relates human foibles to their spiritual aspects and then tells the tale. Marcus also enjoys intricate clockwork repairs and has a vast mineral and rock collection many of which he finds while rock climbing and hiking.

A Matter Of Spirit

From Whence All Is Answered



Section Managing Editor – John “Salaam” Solis

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And Thus Spirit

Rev. Micah Allard

Spirituality. Morality. Ethics. These are the values that stand as human code for life conduct or at least they should.

How is all that is spiritual envelope the premise of both morality and ethics?

"Moral" is defined as dealing with principles of right and wrong behavior. It is particularly used to indicate a behavior that is right, such as when we say that we have a moral duty to uphold justice.

The word "ethical" refers to ethics, a theory or system for dealing with morality. It also is often used in the positive sense, such as when we speak of ethical practices in medicine.

"Spiritual" is defined as that which relates to the spirit, to sacred matters, or to religious values. Most people would probably agree that our outward behavior has a lot to do with our spiritual condition, both through reflecting that condition and through reacting with it to yield either spiritual progress or regression. Thus, the moral principles by which we live and the ethical processes that help us decide in any given situation what actions are right or wrong are intimately bound up with the spiritual.

Thus, the spiritual principles given to us by the Manifestations of God constitute a moral and ethical framework for dealing with whatever life sends our way. This framework becomes even more powerful when we draw upon consultation to bring differing viewpoints, backgrounds, and experiences to bear upon a problem.

On the subject of spiritual ethics, spiritual practices are observed to reinforce a commitment to a set of attitudes and thereby insure the manifestation of these attitudes in society, or to open the mind to spiritual insight to allow change in attitudes and thus improved spiritual and even physical well-being.

Resources: Dale E. Lehman <http://www.planetbahai.org> , Travis Saunders <http://dragonintuitive.com>

Robert M. Sherfield, Ph.D.

Black Soul

Telma Adowa

In metaphysics, a Black Soul is defined as an individual who is heartless and lacks empathy and compassion. They often want to control others and put them down.

If someone calls you a Black Soul here are some things to remember:

There is no such thing as white or black souls which carries a connotation of good and evil.

In Hinduism the soul is “paak” or pure. To digress and avoid confusion, there has been thought given to kinetic colors ranges for soul development levels for example as put forth by Dr. Michael Newton who did vast research on lives between lives which ranges as follows:

Level 1: white, Level 2: off-white with yellow traces, Level 3: yellow. Level 4: dark yellow with traces of blue, Level 5: light blue with traces of purple, Level 6: dark bluish purple

If someone has called your soul black it is most important to remember that this is tantamount to nothing but human drama and there are personalities who engage this type of drama on a daily basis. Their motive is to trap another human being in the game.

The terminology of a black soul is sometimes confused with a black aura. This has several meanings depending upon interpretation. To healers it means poor health. It can also mean this person has a lot of negative influences in their life. They may also view it as tears in aura causing leaks or as improperly dispersed forms of energy healing such as improperly performed Reiki or other energy healings. This of course has remedies. Some believe it is due to an entity attachment that has latched on or is stalking. Still others believe the individual may have been cursed.



Older and Wiser?

Rev. Dr. Don Hauck

The older and wiser we become, the more we realize we know nothing. All we have, (and we all have), is our opinion, point of view and/or our own perception. The younger more immature, less wise we are, the more we tend to believe that our own opinion/point of view/perception is a fact or truth. This sharing is for those who have guilt or a strong Virgo tendency to want to be perfect. Here is the A, B & C of it!

A: We need to understand what 'perfect' really is. If you 'goof or mess up'; should you make mistakes or errors or make or wrong choices from time to time - then you are a 'perfect' human being, for we all do this. And if you were able to be what you think is 'perfect' (not doing anything 'wrong') you would not be able to relate to any other human being and certainly would not belong on this planet.

B: The only way a human learns anything, it is through errors/mistakes. If you do not make a mistake, then you knew the 'right thing', but if you did not, in order to learn you made the error. Subsequently the phrase, "To err is human!" So remember, if you or someone else makes an error, you are learning something and learning is good. So when an error happens, ask your SELF what you have learned. If you make the same mistake again, take a good look at it and have a talk with your SELF so that you may learn. And should you make the same mistake the third time, that it is time to have a talk with someone else, possibly a therapist, so that they may help you understand what you are having difficulty learning.

C: There are four human aspects that are engaged in making a decision.

- 1) Spirituality
- 2) Mentality
- 3) Emotionality
- 4) Physicality

Continued ...

Continued ...

And these four are always in a state of flux, change and growth. If A, B, & C above are not clearly understood by you, please go back over them again and again until you can understand them clearly to see the truth within.

Now that you have learned your ABCs let's apply them. You need to be by yourself and need about 15 minutes of peace and quiet. Go back in your mind and find the thing which you believe is the very worst thing you have ever done or said. You do not have to say it or write it or anything like that. Just go back in time and place in your mind right before you decided to do it! This means not after or during but right before. Remember what you were thinking, feeling, and the status of your spirituality, level of mentality, emotional calmness (keep in mind any well-educated individual will tell you, emotional upset will cloud your reasoning and judgment) and what your physical condition was at that moment. Were you in any physical pain, or were you in good health? Now remember why you decided to go ahead and do what you did. You may have been told that to do such a thing was 'wrong', 'bad', or a 'sin' ... but at that particular time in your life, in the state you were in, did you really believe it or did you push such thinking aside because at that moment you did not yet believe that it was, for you a 'wrong' thing? Be honest with yourself. Look at it. "GET REAL!" Over the centuries many different philosophers have said, one way or another, "As you believe, so it shall be." Isn't it true that at the moment you decided to do what you did (or said), it seemed to be the best thing you could think of doing? Read over this paragraph until you recognize it to be true. Certainly as soon as a moment after you did it, you may have wished you had not done it. But that does not count. Let's look again at your SELF at that moment of decision. What did you really believe about spiritually? What was your intelligence level at that time? What was your emotional mood at the time? How were you feeling physically? Now being honest with yourself, did you not make the best decision you were able to at that time? The answer to that question, which I have asked thousands of times over the last 30 years has always been, YES! (If you cannot answer that question yes, then I suggest you go over this paragraph again and again until you truly understand.)

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If you had a child and were able to watch his/her thought process and knew what was going on inside of the child at the time, whether they were serious or having fun, and you watched them make that decision - would you no longer love that child? Would you want the child to feel guilty for the rest of his/her life? Would you want the child to be punished after death? Or would you tell the child, "I love you and I will help you now so you'll know better so you won't make that same mistake again." Sure you would.

How can you deem someone guilty, who has done their best? I don't know about your Creator (God/Allah) but I know that if I have figured this out, the Creator already knows it. For it was the Creator who spoke so loudly to me at the moment I was ready to commit suicide many, many years ago and said, "you could have done differently but you could not have done better!" That is right, I was so depressed looking at all the mistakes I had made and felt so guilty, I was going to end it. Right after that happened I began to meditate on what was said and I learned what is written above. You see, I do not even feel bad, ashamed or guilty that I was going to kill myself, for I too was to learn. A lesson on this is in Genesis in the story of Cain and Abel. Have you ever wondered why, when Cain murdered Abel, God did not send Cain to his death? As a matter of fact, Cain lived a very fruitful life.

So let's begin to really appreciate our ability to learn to be thankful that we can make mistakes and that our loving Creator understands and that we are free and can love ourselves and each other for we all are PERFECT!



How does your heart shine?



Where the Heart Is – A Song of Life

Song Lyrics by Kelly Mathison Voltz

She turned 60 this year -
Cut off all her hair -
Headed out to India -
To clear the air, clear her mind and realign her soul.

His divorce was final today,
For 20 years he's done what he's been told,
Bought himself a big Harley,
Now he's the king of the open road.

Home is where the heart is,
Now he's got his own
Home is where the heart is,
There you're never alone.

She turned 17 today,
Gave birth to a baby girl,
She's been told her life is over,
But she's ready for her brand new world,

They came to take their house today,
Pictures of the kids packed away,
Moving in to a small apartment,
Hoping to be able to pay the rent,
They stayed together anyway.

Home is where the heart is,
Here you are never alone,
Home is where the heart is,
Here you can have your own.



Individual Negativity and the Soul

Matt Sharpe

"When an individual persists in negative choices and behaviors, the Soul will turn away and leave its lower incarnations to go through the necessary experiences that will teach them to choose differently, eventually bringing about a conscious choice to pursue ever greater spiritual realization and experience." - Matt Sharpe 2018

Often in the course of life we see many people that we consider to be very negative, whether in our work life or personal life, and especially within our families. We can also see on the news many that we ourselves would put into this category. We might even consider some of these an outright form of evil. Setting aside the many reasons that this conclusion could be considered purely subjective and wrong, and assuming instead that it be correct, one might wonder how this can work in the spiritual sense. Do these people still have a Soul? Have they been possessed by a negative entity? How can our minds reconcile this apparent contradiction?

Perhaps one of the premises were wrong, Or perhaps there is other pertinent information involved that one was unaware of. Reality constantly changes as does the information about it that one is aware of at any given time. It is foolish to ever assume that we have the knowledge of everything about anything, because inevitably life itself will prove that wholly untrue. At such times the lessons can be difficult to endure and see through until their final resolution which requires a change in point of view as to what are good motivations and choices and what is required to bring this change into our everyday reality.

The thing that makes this topic relevant to us is that we often see negative and even criminal behavior practiced by politicians, religious figures, celebrities and others who seem to be immune to facing any legal consequences for the things that they say and do. Then of course the rumor mill never stops churning out new theories (some conspiracies) and ideas about why these people do the things that we question.

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Do they even have a Soul? Has it been taken away or replaced? How can they do the things that they do? Are they possessed by a negative entity? Are they not subjected to the same spiritual hierarchy and laws that the rest of us have to work within, with karma and all of the rest?

There are a variety of things potentially going on with such people. These factors are ones that we all could be subjected to should we make the same types of choices, because literally no one is immune from them. Everyone is Soul in the first place, without exception. No one has or can lose one because It, by Its very nature, is unable to be owned, lost, misplaced, or injured. In the same regard the Soul cannot be taken away or driven out because these are literally impossible, again owing to the Divine and eternal nature of the Soul.

There are many situations where a person has negative entities attached to them and while possession is the end stage of this process, all the earlier stages are more an attempt to influence the decision-making process than anything else. With each negative decision, an entity gains more control and is heard and heeded to a greater extent than had been before. The influence and eventual possession perpetrated by negative entities often has much to do with the Soul "turning away" as it were. It allows space for the learning that experience alone can provide.

One might ask, "Why would a Soul turn away? Does it become offended or displeased?"

The Soul can potentially have any of a variety of opinions, but one of its primary concerns is beauty, and negative experiences are hardly beautiful to the one who must go through them. Do not let this imply that viewing what occurs is in any way detrimental to the Soul, because it is not. Soul's natural state has much to do with love, but mixed with knowledge and understanding which allow the fullness of anything it witnesses to be apparent to it. So while it may find the experiences chosen by its earthly self to be less than ideal, it is also in no way unable to view what transpires.

At the same time, what happens simply may not require Soul's attention to remain fixated upon those events, and having the desire for beauty.

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It can easily go find something beautiful to observe which can often hold its attention. Simply because it wants to observe that thing or situation or interaction, whatever it might be. This detachment that It has concerning the events in Its earthly existence must also be viewed and understood in balance with the various levels of being and the fact that overall, the lower human state must literally become interested enough to make the willing choice to seek the higher states of being and thereby set about attaining those for themselves, from the ground floor up to the top of Eternity Itself.

Often when one speaks about enlightenment or the search for it, this detail is completely missed. The secret is that this specific detail is absolutely required before any degree of progress can be attained in the spiritual sense. From the human standpoint there is a considerable way to go before ever reaching the goal, but from the viewpoint of Soul, love and contentment balanced with detachment, patience and understanding make its job an easy one because it experiences no urgency or impatience. Time does not exist for Soul, so how could it possibly be in any hurry to accomplish anything? It cannot, and even if it were able, it simply would not bother with such a desire.

By the time we gain an understanding of what it means for the Soul to turn away from its lower forms, it soon becomes very obvious that what we may have assumed at the start about this is not necessarily true, nor is that anywhere near all of what is truly involved within the idea. What is going on according to Soul's point of view is very different from the way we view things from the various lower states as we make our way up the ladder of consciousness. As the human form goes through its experiences in life, it can sometimes choose things that are not the best for himself, or can at times gain an attachment for a desire that can lead nowhere good. When these patterns begin to happen, the time becomes ripe for the Soul to step back and allow the lower aspects of itself to go through the lessons necessary to teach.

Most often the course of such experiences can be rough and regrettable, anything but pleasant to learn, not to mention the unpleasant nature of recognition of mistakes made and the admission of guilt and taking the steps to rectify what has been created.

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This is almost never pleasant to experience and the pride can take quite a beating as it is made to see its bad choices and the cost of having made them. The wading out of the cesspool of our choices is not fun, and once it has made its bite felt, the individual tends to not want to repeat it another time. These are the things that the Soul turns away from because its attention is not required as is the attention of the human and its astral counterpart who are directly in the thick of things and having to deal with them.

The Soul does not refuse to look because things are unpleasant, nor because It has some problem with watching it happen, it turns away because It can find better uses of Its attention than becoming mired in the day to day profligacy that has been exemplified by the choices made. Repeating such choices can only be a wasteful use of resources that are not necessarily so readily available from the start. A greater degree of prudence is advised at such times, and after a certain degree of mistake making and resolving the responsibilities that they bring, the hard experience tends to bring a greater degree and ability for sagacity not only in identifying the circumstances faced, but in discerning the not always readily visible situations with their varied interpretations.

This is where the value of dedication and fortitude on the part of the human become essential, for without those qualities, many will simply launch into a distraction that allows them to escape facing the truth about themselves that has been revealed to them. The desire for a distraction can be strong at a time such as this, and where a negative entity's involvement is a factor it will not miss the chance to try to tempt the individual with something that they desire. This also shows clearly the way in which these negative entities actually serve an overall purpose by educating us, despite the fact that their personal desire is anything other than to help a human in any way. Nothing escapes the Divine Will, known to us as many names, such as the Holy Spirit, Ism-i Asm, the Shabda or the ECK.

I must say that when the Soul decides to place its attention elsewhere, this is in a complete and total harmony with the Godhead, what ECKists call the Sugmad. IT knows all things and as the ECK is ITS expressive and creative Force, ITS knowingness must also be obviously included as each are really the same THING.

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And as God is in contact with Soul and communicates to It, each decision the Soul makes is known and openly communicated. Soul is not an Entity that is capable of deception, therefore truth and a complete honesty are basic characteristics of its behavior in every endeavor, eternally.

Generally speaking, the human is never aware of these actions of Soul because they haven't the state of consciousness to be aware of Soul. That comes through the constant effort and learning on a spiritual path. At some point Self Realization happens, but even after that no human is ever 100% constantly aware of themselves as Soul. Each of the factors that are and are not relevant to Soul are learned along the way so that information is available to the individual as they pay attention to the various things taking place throughout life. The goal is to be ever more aware of Soul and thereby to become aware of the choices it makes. Doing all of this is no small nor quick thing, but it can be accomplished within a single lifetime. As for the Soul and its choosing to remove its attention, that is never the end of the story.

Things always continue moving forward, even though it can be very challenging to be aware of all of the various factors as they develop in real time. The best that can be done is to always be learning more and experiencing more of life and paying very close attention to the processes our choices bring us through, both the good and the bad. Then using contemplation and actively seeking further experience on the inner planes, we can move ourselves forward by resolving our karmic debts and remembering the things we learned along the way. There is always another step to take to move forward. Even while we rest, life never pauses, so that tends to force us to focus the attention on what is relevant and necessary at every given moment. So start paying attention.

What useful skills have you learned recently? Which experiences have you lived through that have taught something about skills or awareness? Perhaps the awareness of Soul is not as distant as we tend to think of it as being.



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Rev. Micah Allard (*And Thus Spirit, pg. 16*)

Rev. Micah Allard is psychologist and minister and part time Justice of the Peace. He has a passion for passing on the word of God via metaphysical avenues. Rev. Allard is also a skilled musician who can play 22 instruments but prefers organ and piano. He lives in the northeast US with his wife Yvonne and two children.

Telma Adowa (*Black Soul, pg. 18*)

Telma Adowa, known in her community as Sister Telma is a wife, mother of two strapping boys and a Yoruba Shaman. She holds a BS degree in psychology and African American Studies. Her favorite author is Zora Neale Hurston, author of African-American literature and anthropologist, who portrayed racial struggles in the early 20th century American South, and published research on Haitian voodoo. Telma enjoys the art and craft of basket weaving and teaches local classes on occasion.

Rev. Dr. Don Hauck (*Older and Wiser? pg.19*)

Don holds a Ph.D. in metaphysics and parapsychology. He is the head pastor and a Doctor of Divinity of the *Universal Light Church* of Cincinnati, Ohio. He is a highly respected and sought after speaker who has appeared on TV, radio, and educational lecture circuits for universities and high schools. Don is an advocate of individual rights and independent growth. He utilizes many modalities in his work including Intuition, Graphology, Numerology, Astrology, and Color Testing among others as he assists individuals in defining and achieving their goals. <http://www.theuniversallight.com/>

Kelly Mathison Voltz (*Where the Heart is – Song of Life, Pg. 22*)

Kelly is an effervescent Gemini who says she is the “Mother of little dragon. Wife of beautiful Taurus. AND Lover of all glitter.” She has worked in retail management and with children with emotional and behavioral differences for the past twenty years. Kelly believes laughter IS the best medicine! She resides in Atlanta, GA.

Matt Sharpe (*Self-Imposed Karma, pg.22*)

Matt Sharpe lives in the Southwest US and enjoys writing about spiritual topics of all kinds, using his personal experiences as a reference. While never referring to himself as a shaman, he does work inwardly with many from various traditions. He also is a guitarist and singer/songwriter.

BODY TEMPLE

I AM MADE OF MANY COLORS



Section Managing Editor – Lynda Lidel Harley

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Breath of the Dragoi

Stephan Sergoveski

We all have an inner Dragon. It is primal and coiled resting deep within ready to help us blaze the trail of our evolutionary journey.

The Dragon is completely fearless masculine energy. It seeks out fear – your fear. It wants you to push away all self-limitations, expand boundaries, break down barriers --- eat and drink in the fullness of life with a voracious appetite.

Why have you suppressed him? How can you heal him so he will manifest and help you towards maximum evolutionary transformation?

The first lesson of the Healing Dragon is that we can never heal ourselves until we remove the toxic garbage we store in our unconscious mind.

The second lesson of the Healing Dragon is that we **can** heal ourselves by removing the toxic garbage we have stored in our unconscious mind.

The third lesson of the Healing Dragon is that if we can heal ourselves, we can help any other person heal him or herself as well. Unconditional love heals everything.

To perform the Dragon Breath you must become very comfortable. Release constricting clothing and jewelry. Sit, recline or lay down in a comfortable position on a comfortable support. You will be breathing through two nostrils and your mouth during this process - in other words - inhale (breath in air) deeply through your nostrils and exhale (breath out) explosively and completely through your mouth.

Breathe in slowly and deeply. Relax completely and pause in your breathing as the Healing Dragon Energy burns up your unnecessary garbage stored deep within you. During this pause, you open your mouth in a relaxed manner. Then you exhale explosively and completely through your mouth as you blow out negative energy and released toxins. Do this as silently and as peacefully as possible but explosively and completely.

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Practice this technique for one minute for three days. For the next three days, practice for two minutes. Add one additional minute for the third three days. Practice three minutes every day until you can peacefully and calmly use the Healing Dragon Breath for the full three minutes. You may find you can accomplish this in less than three times three days and there is no glory or shame in doing this. In our experience anybody can learn to do the Healing Dragon Breath for three minutes in three times three (nine) practice sessions.

This is because three and three times three is the power number as and three times three is the power number associated with the Path of the Healing Dragon. Anything done three times or in three different ways is very powerful Healing Dragon energy.

Three is the esoteric number of the Healing Dragon Path.

Three is the esoteric number of the Healing Dragon Breath.

We breathe in Divine love, forgiveness and acceptance; pause to burn garbage, toxins and negative energy; and exhale any remaining negative energy, garbage residue and negative energy.

As you gain proficiency with the Healing Dragon Breath, let your mind wander down into your deepest levels. This will automatically happen when you take three Healing Dragon Breaths. The first part of the Healing Dragon Technique is to take three deep Healing Dragon Breaths. If you want, you can think thoughts like: What don't I accept about myself? As you do these three Healing Black Dragon Breaths. Then breathe normally but deeply and relaxed. Do the three Healing Black Dragon Breaths then close your mouth and breathe normally through your nose but deeply while remaining completely relaxed.

While remaining completely relaxed and breathing deeply, think about yourself and the things you've done in your life. Almost immediately you'll remember something you don't want to remember. Relax and let this memory of how you don't accept yourself play itself out. This may be temporarily emotionally painful. Let it play out.

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When you reach the point where you've remembered everything you want to remember, return to doing the Healing Dragon Breath. As you breathe in, tell yourself you're a Child of the Divine and you made a mistake. As you pause briefly in your breathing, tell yourself you forgive yourself for this mistake. As you explosively exhale, release all these feelings of not accepting yourself and all the toxins that accumulated around this bad decision and forgive yourself. Let it go. It's done. Let it all go during three Healing Dragon Breaths.

Then relax and breathe normally but deeply. Allow the healing energy created by the Healing Dragon Breath heal you as you accept, forgive and love yourself. Feel the Divine Healing Energy (Dragon Healing) permeate your body as the Healing Dragon Breath transmutes the negative feelings you had toward yourself into acceptance, forgiveness and love. Feel the rest of the negative and toxic energy associated with this garbage leave your body through the Healing Dragon Breath.

Feel the load being lifted from your back as the Healing Dragon Breath destroys the negative feelings you had about you stored in your lower energy levels. Feel the release. Feel the new energy coursing through your body. Feel the healing take place and the negative and toxic energy leaves you. Feel the healing as you become filled with love, forgiveness and acceptance of yourself.

Use this technique for one or two major issues or one to three or four minor issues each *Healing Dragon Breath* session. Heal yourself slowly and completely day by day one day at a time.

Zhùfú hé zhìliáo,

Dragoi Shoi

*Chin Tzu (approx. 917 to 988 B.C., a Chinese Tao master with great healing abilities taught his students a form of healing called The Path of the Healing Dragon. It is these teachings which are the basis of the current incarnation of the teachings known as the Path of the Healing Dragon.

Partial resource: Path of the Healing Dragon

Precious Stones and Healing

Li Huan

Precious gems along with crystals and stones have their own healing qualities and characteristics. It is usually costly and in some cases difficult to add these beauties to your healing collection but if possible they make a powerful addition to your meta-medicinal chest.

The DIAMOND is a Master Healer. It purifies both the physical and etheric bodies by reflecting the Will and Power aspects of God in alignment with the Higher Self. Diamond breaks up blockages in the Crown Chakra thus enhancing the full spectrum energies in the body, mind and spirit. As the gemstone representing the sign of Aries which rules the head and all of its anatomical parts, diamond aids the alignment of the cranial bones and also boosts brain functions. It also strengthens the nerves, sensory organs, glands and blood vessels. Many crystal healers with access to diamond have found that it is a good aid in recovery from a stroke.

If you cannot afford to add a diamond to your collection you might consider the zircon preferably white or hyacinth blue in color. The zircon is considered an All-Around Healer. It has traits similar to the diamond but it mainly aligns the subtle body while promoting emotional balance. It also strengthens the mind, stimulates the liver, aids insomnia, balances the pituitary and pineal glands, relieves bowel problems and cramps and helps delayed menstruation.

RUBY, the gemstone representing the strong sign of Leo, is connected to physical regeneration. It vitalizes the blood, enhances circulation, strengthens immunity and fortifies the spleen and sexual organs. If possible, choose a star ruby which has a high vibration. Raw ruby also works very well and is probably the most accessible and affordable. Remember the size of the stone does not matter – even the tiniest specimens hold great healing capabilities.

The EMERALD is the great detoxifier. It enhances the immune and nervous systems while strengthening the heart, liver and kidneys.

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Emerald as the gemstone representing the powerfully physical sign of Taurus is a wonderful stone that aids in the recuperation from illness. It also helps headaches, sinusitis, eye disease, epilepsy, intestinal problems and heart ailments. If you cannot afford emerald try peridot which is considered an Overall Balancer and Tonic.

SAPPHIRE, the gemstone representing the analytical and health conscious sign of Virgo is known as the Great Dispeller. Sapphire activates the pituitary gland thus aiding the entire glandular system. Sapphire is a good pain reliever as it lowers fevers and even lowers one's blood pressure.

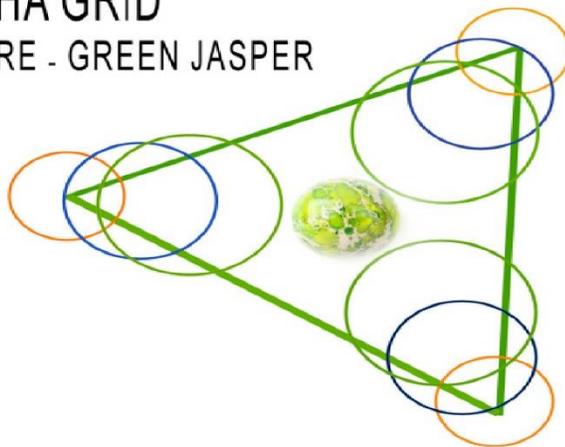
The Star Sapphire is also linked to healing intestinal issues which fall under the rulership of Virgo. When attempting to heal digestive issues, the metaphysician can also use the less expensive blue topaz which improves digestion and the assimilation of nutrients.





Those who believe in alien cultures and races know that the Arcturians have been attempting to work with humankind for a very long time. Their goal is to instill humankind with higher vibrations of Universal love through brotherhood which is at the foundation of the greater forms of power healing. As one of the most advanced of alien cultures, the Arcturians have a 7th dimension vibration and have been trying to advance the human race in a shift from the 4th dimension to the 5th dimension of consciousness. The stone attributed to the Arcturians is jasper. It is a most ancient stone that has always been used to deter negativity away from Earth in order to stabilize her energies. It also represents the healing and protecting of "elemental man" which is the reference to humankind. The Arcturians know that the creative mind of man must be opened to a higher level in order to accept the concepts they teach. The Power Healing Awareness Formula is: Monad Impulse + Creative Principle + Conscious Synthesis = Ultimate Healing.

PHA GRID GRID CORE - GREEN JASPER



A replica of this grid can be used for your personal and creative healing meditation. A piece of jasper should be placed at the core. Any variety will work. Remember to request the healing power of Universal love and goodness to remove negativity then proceed with the usual healing meditation of your choice.

Astro Signs and Wand Healing

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas

Crystal or mineral wands are a great asset to healing ourselves and others. Wands may be used for purposes of massage (smooth, polished, and non-faceted) or for use on accupressure points of the body. Here is a list of highly suggested crystal or mineral wands for each zodiac sign. Enjoy and stay well!

ARIES

Aries rules the head and the face and the nerve endings of any of these areas tend to be sensitive. A gentle scalp massage using small circular motions with the body of the wand (never the point) from the base of the hairline at the back of the neck up to the top of the skull is soothing and helpful. Try wands made of Amethyst, Green Calcite or Smoky Quartz.

TAURUS

Taurus rules the neck, throat, and collarbone areas. Gentle wand massage of tiny circular motions starting at the area under the earlobes down to the back nape of the neck serves Taurus well. (In some cases it is almost erotic!). Wands made of Blue Lace Agate for the neck area and Lapis Lazuli for the throat area work well.

GEMINI

Gemini rules the shoulders, arms, hands, fingers, and lungs. As Gemini is a dual sign, two wands may be used to massage the hands and arms simultaneously with long gentle strokes. Start from the wrist and move up towards the shoulder. Use Hiddenite, Bloodstone, or Moss Agate wands on Gemini.

CANCER

Cancer rules the breasts and the stomach and Cancerians are prone to stomach upsets and digestive problems such as ulcers, gall bladder and gastritis. Working on the stomach area from under the breastbone to the naval is helpful. Gentle circular motions on this area will help to reduce “dis-ease.” Try wands made from Pink Carnelian and Red Jasper.

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LEO

Leo rules the heart, spine and back. Careful massage work along the spinal column influences the vitality of the entire body for Leo. Use a gentle long stroking motion along each side of the spine with wands made from Carnelian, Quartz, or Bloodstone.

VIRGO

Virgo rules the intestinal tract and the nervous system. Short stroking and small circular motions as the massage technique on the lower abdomen will increase circulation. A fountain or mister nearby will enhance the healing stimulus. Use wands of Sugilite, Magnesite, or Amber.

LIBRA

Libra rules the kidneys and the lumbar region (lower spine and back). Extremely light massage using circular motions on the lower back up around the kidney area is very beneficial. Playing some nice peaceful music during the massage will enhance healing for Libra. Favored wands for this sign are those made of Green Jade, Natural Opal, and Amethyst.

SCORPIO

Scorpio rules the sexual organs and some of the nasal areas. Scorpios are often subject to problems with the urinary tract and cystitis and a good place to employ massage is from the area below the belly button to the top of the pubic area. A combination of gentle strokes and circular motions will bring healing to the external and internal areas. Wands made from Chrysoprase, Topaz, and Beryl work well. All Scorpios should drink plenty of water after any healing session.

SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius rules the hips, thighs, and the liver. Use circular motions on the hips and strokes on the thighs. As a strong mental sign, Sagittarius might enjoy some good conversation during the massage session so his/her mind can be expanded and healed at the same time! Use wands of Quartz, Red Calcite, or Charoite.

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CAPRICORN

Capricorn rules the skeletal system, knees, teeth and joints. Vertical strokes on the backs of the knees and some light stroking motions along the lower part of the back to the end of the spine (remember that Capricorn's ruler Saturn holds jurisdiction over the base chakra) help keep Capricorn in balance. Try wands made from Fluorite, Quartz, and Jadeite.

AQUARIUS

Aquarius rules the entire circulatory system as well as the calves, shins, and ankles. It is very important for the lower legs to receive stimulation in order to promote good circulation in the body. Long circular strokes along the lower legs and small circular motions around the ankles works well. The wands of choice are Moonstone, Amethyst, and Bloodstone.

PISCES

Pisces rules the feet and toes. Circular motions on the soles of the feet followed by a long stroke to each one of the toes is wonderful for Pisces. Also lay the wand horizontal just under the back of the toes in the space between the toes and the rest of the foot then gently pressing the toes to "hug" the wand is beneficial. A nice follow up foot soak and lotion application with a lavender based product would be top rate! Use wands of Pietersite, Smoky quartz or Lithium Quartz.



Isn't it time to relax?



RELAX - Meditative Mantra

Joshua Bedetto

Sit relax,
Set your problems aside.
Sit relax,
Put the caffeinated drink down.
Sit relax,
Turn off the TV.
Sit relax,
Listen to the air conditioning blow.
Sit relax,
Listen to the refrigerator hum.
Sit relax,
Listen to the machinations of your own thought.
Sit relax,
Listen to the pulse going through the tiny highways in your body.
Sit relax,
Is this hard?
Sit relax ,
Why is that so?
Sit relax,
Maybe you are out of practice.
Sit relax,
Take a vacation.
Sit relax,
No phone calls.
Sit relax,
Be alone with yourself.
Sit relax,
Introduce yourself to yourself; this may be the first time you have met.
Sit relax,
This is what people work their whole lives for.
Sit relax,
You need no one's permission but your own.
Sit relax,
Retire for a few minutes.
Sit relax,
Enjoy this, because afterwards you may not do it again until you do retire.
Sit relax



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Stephen Sergoveski (*Breath of the Dragoi, pg.30*)

Stephan was born in Poland and moved to the US at the age of ten. He became interested in Holistics and spiritual healing modalities while he was in college and pursued various Eastern philosophies and healing methods over the following years. He also engaged martial arts and holds a black belt in Karate and still holds a goal to reach a higher echelon in that art. As a healing practitioner, Stephan specializes in Dragon Breath which helps to build confidence in the self. He is married and has two sons.

Li Huan (*Precious Stones and Healing, pg. 33*)

Li is a registered nurse, surgical assistant, medical intuit and spiritual healer living in the Southeast US. Inspired by the late Dr. Michael Newton and his unique regression work, she is currently furthering her education in psychology with her eye on a Ph.D. While caring for patients, Li has heard many near death and after death return stories which she has recorded and filed as research data for a future book.

Section Manager's Choice (*Arcturian Healing, pg. 35*)

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Rev. Dr. Loni Haas (*Astro Signs and Wand Healing, pg.36*)

Loni Haas is a behavioral therapist, veteran exoteric and esoteric astrologer, research member of the American Federation of Astrologers (AFA), member of the National Council of Geocosmic Research (NCGR), as well as a lifetime member of the American Association of Behavioral Therapists. She is an ordained minister and Doctor of Divinity of the Universal Light Church of Cincinnati, Ohio where she is certified in several healing modalities.

Joshua Bedetto (*Quantum Healing, pg.38*)

Joshua is a professional astrologer, Tarot reader and Reiki practitioner who specializes in the Yuen Method. He is a Georgia Highlands College graduate and currently works as a production technician for corporate and musical events. Josh was born in Panama City, Florida and currently resides in the state of Georgia, USA. He was raised in a colorful environment that enhanced his view of the world as a tolerant and magical place and was introduced into metaphysics at a very young age. He has been a Reiki Practitioner since the age of thirteen and has been practicing Tarot Reader since the age of eleven.

PHENOMENA FILES

The Devil is most dangerous when he is being pleasant.

Section Managing Editor – John Holbrook PSI

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Silent Night of the Dead

Holbrook PSI

Happy Holidays! I have digressed some from my usual seriousness to present this article and hope that all who read this will understand that some of the information is fictional and that the article has been written for entertainment purposes. Sometimes you just have to have a little fun ...

The 21st or 22nd of December is the longest night of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and it is called the Winter Solstice. The longest night follows the day that has the smallest amount of sunlight so it stays darker longer. Many ancient cultures and religions celebrate this time in recognition of the rebirth of their deity or the Sun. I have often thought that this night would have more paranormal activity than Halloween night because for the simple fact that there is more night.

In the study of the paranormal you find that most things that are paranormal reside in the darkness. Many think that this a big holiday for Vampires - that they may even have a party. They may not even have to feed on the living this night as their urge or hunger is not there for one night. They can eat regular food and drink regular liquids with no side effects. Most of them have some type of food with garlic and use real silverware. They can even go to church and they can see their reflection in a mirror because it is like they are not a Vampire for just one night. However, this can cause them problems also because they do not have any of their supernatural powers. Therefore, if they run into someone who knows what they are, they will be as vulnerable as a regular human to injury and death. If a Vampire dies on this night, because it is one of the undead, it will change into something else that is undead ... a Zombie!

From an old Vampire hunters journal I found a story that I would like to share with you. There was a small town in Mississippi that was a host to one of these Vampire parties on the Winter Solstice sometime in the 1950s. They rented out a ballroom in a hotel and had a local restaurant to cater the food for the party.

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The same person said that most of the people at the party seemed like they were from another country because of the way they talked and that there were several people there that were not “white.” This comment is what caused a problem with several locals who were racist, because in the 1950's in the small town Meridian, Mississippi this type of situation was “unheard of.” Only whites stayed at this hotel and the only people at a party that were not white were the people who work the party. According to the journal, in the early evening, two of the locals tried to crash the party and had an altercation with several of the Vampires. Sometime after the people working the party left (because they were just hired for the meal), the locals returned with more of their friends. According to the journal three of the Vampires were killed by the locals and the rest were run out of town. This was a big mistake by the locals because the Vampires would have taken care of their dead. The locals wanting to hide the bodies buried them not far from town in an old building's basement. Just like when they first changed into vampires it took a day for them to change into zombies. The journal did not know who the zombies' first victim was but within three days there were 15 dead and another 20 or so that were sick. So there was a fully-fledged zombie outbreak by Christmas Eve - the history books do not tell that the National Guard was called out to quarantine the town. There is no record of anything that happened there except in the journal, which told that they had to go house to house with flamethrowers burning the zombies, the dead and all that were infected. The journal said that more than half the population of the town was gone by the end of the outbreak.

This was one of the stories that appeared in the Vampire hunters' journal relating how a vampire could turn into a zombie. It also relayed how to make a zombie that you could control. It told how a Hougan (a Voodoo Priest) used some zombified vampire's blood, herbs and the Hougan's own blood to make a potion that he would use to make a Zombie. He would pick his victim and tell them that he was going to curse them and for three days he would somehow get the victim to consume small amounts of his potion.

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The victim would become sick with a fever and hallucinations that would end in their death. The victim would be buried and after three nights the Hougan would dig up their new zombie servant. It seems that the Hougan's blood and the herbs would allow them to have control over the zombie, but not for more than a week or two. If the Hougan became unaware that he was losing control over his zombie he would become the zombie's victim. However, as long as he had control over the zombie he would use it to kill his enemies, *without* feeding on them. This was how he would know if he was losing control over his zombie. Also that he needed to dig up the victim he had killed to destroy the corpse before it turned into a zombie. The Hougan would want to keep control, only ordering his servant zombie to kill people, so that he would appear to have absolute control over the dead. All the stories in the journal had a common thread in how to deal with a zombie and how they are made.

The journal relayed some of the strangest ways to put zombies to rest that I have ever read starting with the French and the guillotine. According to the journal, it was invented to behead a zombie placing its head in a basket so it would be easily disposed. The guillotine became an instrument of execution after a time because the French believed that evil people would become zombies if they were not killed by beheading. There were also hanging cages that they would put the zombie in and let the birds feed on them. It seems that birds and most animals are immune to being affected by the zombies so animals were used to help dispose of the zombies. They would put the zombies in a pit letting the rats feed on them. Some believe that this was what caused the plague so burning bodies was started. Zombies had always feared fire so it was used to round them up and destroy them. The flamethrower was originally invented to destroy zombies it was only used in war later on when the special zombie disposal units were sent into the regular war. It was said that every country had their own zombie disposal units that were used any time there was an outbreak. Many of the men that were in these special units became independent contractors and even Vampire hunters. The journal that I read was from a man that was in one of these units and became a Vampire hunter when he retired.

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In his journal he said that the many fires that claimed a large number of lives were actually zombie disposal units doing their job. Our history could be written differently if we knew how many zombie outbreaks have actually happened. The journal said that he had not heard of a large outbreak in years, but there have been small ones that were taken care of quickly. He also talked of how some countries have tried to use zombies or their blood as a biological weapon. There were labs that studied zombies and tried to discover how to make use of the ability to reanimate the dead. The scientists have made the process quicker so that it did not take but an hour or two for a victim to change into a zombie. Luckily no one has used any zombie biological weapons but it has not kept the accidental infections from happening.

The bio zombies are not like regular zombies; you have to destroy all of them not just the head. You can chop off a hand or any part of its body and it stays animated until it is burned or destroyed by acid. In addition, the bio zombies did not decompose as fast as a regular zombie, he said that they actually were faster and stronger than a regular zombie. The scientists never found any use for their research except for the bio zombies they never found anything beneficial to man. The journal's last entry was about the folly of man trying to control something that should be destroyed.

If you go look for old journals you may find one like I have and if you read it the way you view the world may change. Like this article many journals have been written with many creative liberties which could cloud the facts. So if you find yourself at a vampire winter solstice party make sure that none of the vampires die unless you are ready to take their head sometime before Christmas!



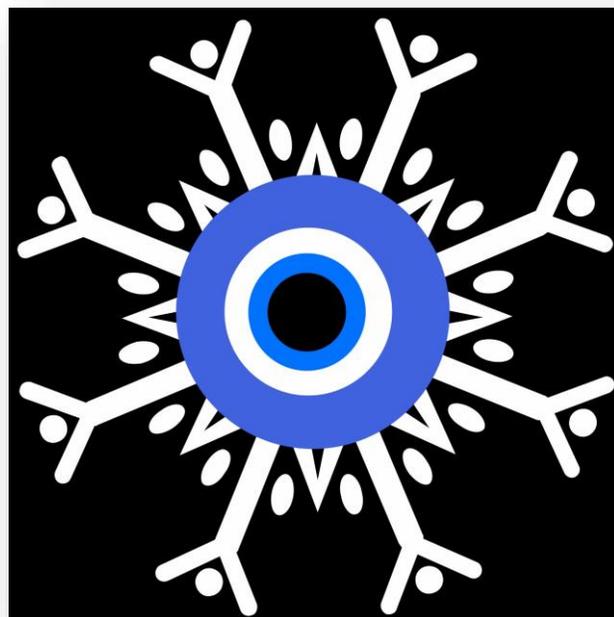
Shraap

Abhay Kapoor

In Hinduism a curse is known as Shraap. Unfortunately placing curses on others is very common in India. Hindu mythology has many stories of shraaps and their outcomes. Shraaps can be of any nature often placed out of jealousy or unrequited love. Karma is certainly involved. There are prayers and mantras that can be used against the shraap. This mantra is a powerful call to Goddess Chandi, Durga the Slayer of Demons, to remove curses that have been placed by anyone at any time from the realities we inhabit physically, dream in, and practice spiritual devotions within.

OM Atma Tattva, Vidya Tattva, Shiva Tattva and the qualities of manifest and psychic reality; She, Chandi, Goddess of Surrendered Mind -By your power the curses are removed – it is so!

PROTECTIVE MANDALA



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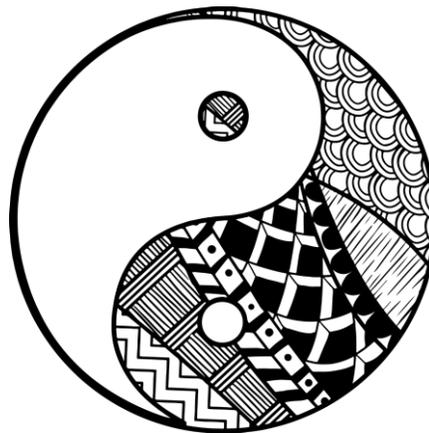
Here is a physical remedy ...

You will need:

- At least 5 grams of black sesame seeds (one teaspoonful) which can be purchased from any good Indian grocery store or online.
- A good sized clean bucket.
- A plastic cup.

The procedure must be done on a Full Moon (day or night). Bring the bucket, cup and seeds into the bathroom. Draw a regular bath and wash yourself and your hair the regular way. Rinse thoroughly and empty the tub. After the last rinse, fill the bucket with clean water and add the sesame seeds. Stir the mixture. Now bathe yourself with the mixture, scrubbing your skin and pouring some on your hair with the cup. Do not let any of the mixture get back into the bucket. The seeds may stick to your skin and hair but just let them be. Rinse yourself but do not deliberately wash off any seeds that are adhered to your skin or hair. They will take care of themselves. Pat yourself dry and let all the water and seeds wash down the drain of the tub.

Proceed to have your normal day but remember the remedy has an allowance for karma just as the shraap. Do something charitable during the next few days as a payment.



Kallikantzaroi

Olivia Constantino

Growing up with two sets of Greek grandparents meant there were plenty of tales from the Old Country to go around especially on the holidays. This led me down the path of much research on various holiday topics. One of my favorite research projects was on the Kallikantzaroi a notorious goblin of ill repute. Here are my findings:

“It used to be a serious matter for a Greek couple to have a child born at Christmas. Although Christmas was a happy time it meant that the baby had been conceived on March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, when the angel told Mary she would bear Jesus. Great care was needed to stop such a baby from turning into a Kallikantzaros, or goblin.” – Strange Stories and Amazing Facts

The Kallikantzaroi appear during the twelve days of Christmas (aka winter solstice, Yuletide) from the end of December until January 6 (Epiphany). Depending upon one’s point of view, the tale of these little horrors can be considered humorous or quite scary. A traditional Greek couple of my acquaintance swears they were subject to the actions of some Kallikantzaroi during the Christmas holidays some years ago. A thorough paranormal investigation did not turn up poltergeist activity as was expected and the cause remains unknown. Fortunately they were only harassed once.

I find the best source for information about the Kallikantzaroi comes from *Christmas in Ritual and Tradition, Christian and Pagan*, by Clement A. Miles.

“Traditions about the Kallikantzaroi vary from region to region, but in general they are half-animal, half-human monsters, black, hairy, with huge heads, glaring red eyes, goats' or asses' ears, blood-red tongues hanging out, ferocious tusks, monkeys' arms, and long curved nails, and commonly they have the foot of some beast.”

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"From dawn till sunset they hide themselves in dark and dank places ..., but at night they issue forth and run wildly to and fro, rending and crushing those who cross their path. Destruction and waste, greed and lust mark their course."

When a house is not prepared against their coming, "by chimney and door alike they swarm in, and make havoc of the home; in sheer wanton mischief they overturn and break all the furniture, devour the Christmas pork, befoul all the water and wine and food which remains, and leave the occupants half dead with fright or violence." Many like or far worse pranks do they play, until at the crowing of the third cock they get them away to their dens. The signal for their final departure does not come until the Epiphany, when the "Blessing of the Waters" takes place. Some of the hallowed water is put into vessels, and with these and with incense the priests sometimes make a round of the village, sprinkling the people and their houses.

Besides this ecclesiastical purification there are various Christian precautions against the Kallikantzaroi - e.g., to mark the house-door with a black cross on Christmas Eve, the burning of incense and the invocation of the Trinity - and a number of other means of aversion: the lighting of the Yule (= Christmas time) log, a large log of wood called a *skakantzalos*, the burning of something that smells strong (sometime the Greeks will also burn old shoes, the smell of which keeps the wicked elves away), and - perhaps as a peace-offering - the hanging of pork-bones, sweetmeats, or sausages in the chimney.

Just as men are sometimes believed to become vampires temporarily during their lifetime, so, according to one stream of tradition, living men become Kallikantzaroi. In Greece children born at Christmas are thought likely to have this objectionable characteristic as a punishment for their mothers' sin in bearing them at a time sacred to the Mother of God.

In Macedonia people who have a "light" guardian angel undergo the hideous transformation.

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Many attempts have been made to account for the Kallikantzaroi. Perhaps the most plausible explanation of the outward form, at least, of the uncanny creatures, is the theory connecting them with the masquerades that formed part of the winter festival of Dionysus and are still to be found in Greece at Christmastide. The hideous bestial shapes, the noise and riot, may well have seemed demoniacal to simple people slightly "elevated," perhaps, by Christmas feasting, while the human nature of the maskers was not altogether forgotten. Another theory of an even more prosaic character has been propounded that the Kallikantzaroi are nothing more than established nightmares, limited like indigestion to the twelve days of feasting. This view is taken by Allatius, who says that a Kallikantzaros has all the characteristics of nightmare, rampaging abroad and jumping on men's shoulders, then leaving them half senseless on the ground."

Such theories are ingenious and suggestive, and may be true to a certain degree, but they hardly cover all the facts. It is possible that the Kallikantzaroi may have some connection with the departed; they certainly appear akin to the Modern Greek and Slavonic vampire, "a corpse imbued with a kind of half-life," and with eyes gleaming like live coals. They are, however, even more closely related to the werewolf, a man who is supposed to change into a wolf and go about ravening. It is to be noted that "man-wolves" is the very name given to the Kallikantzaroi in southern Greece, and that the word Kallikantzaros itself has been conjecturally derived by Bernhard Schmidt from two Turkish words meaning "black" and "werewolf." The connection between Christmas and werewolves is not confined to Greece. According to a belief not yet extinct in the north and east of Germany, even where the real animals have long ago been extirpated, children born during the Twelve Nights become werewolves, while in Livonia and Poland that period is the special season for the werewolf's ravening.

Those who wish to pursue further the study of the Kallikantzaroi should read the elaborate and fascinating, if not altogether convincing, theories of Mr. J. C. Lawson in his "Modern Greek Folklore and Ancient Greek Religion."

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He distinguishes two classes of Kallikantzaroi, one of which he identifies with ordinary werewolves, while the other is the type of hairy, clawed demons above described. He sets forth a most ingenious hypothesis connecting them with the Centaurs.”

Hmmm, did you notice that strange set of eyes peering out from your Christmas tree?

Excerpted from Christmas in Ritual and Tradition, Christian and Pagan, by Clement A. Miles, London: T. Fisher Unwin, 2nd Ed. 1913, pp. 229-247.

Opening excerpted from: Strange Stories and Amazing Facts, Readers Digest Association, Inc., 1976, pp. 431



The Haunted Ornament

Lydia Morrisey

My Aunt Cynthia always loved antiques especially anything that constituted Christmas paraphernalia. In particular she loved anything from what she *called old Europe*. One year she found a rather odd looking hand crafted tree ornament from Rumania and for an even odder reason kept moving its location on her Christmas tree.

The ornament was not really all that festive or even pretty. It was plain and consisted of a figure of a man dressed in native costume with a red feather in a green cap. It was hand carved of wood and painted according to whatever the craftsman had been looking at for a model. We found out later that the shop owner had told her the ornament had been purchased and returned several time but he never offered a reason.

As was customary, our family visited Aunt Cynthia every year three days before Christmas Eve since she was a widow and getting older. We all loved her good humor and exuberance on the holiday. The year she bought the ornament however was different. Her smile and demeanor seemed strange and she appeared stressed. Her health was fine but there was clearly something making her anxious. During our three day visit I noticed her moving the ornament 22 times and was making a note that the old gal might finally be getting a bit dotty.

On the last day, after a wonderful lunch, she and I sat alone chatting while the others went off for some last minute shopping. As we sat having our traditional tree I asked her why she kept moving the ornament. She looked at me above her glasses and said, "To avoid trouble."

"Would you care to explain that in a little more detail?" I asked.

"If I don't keep moving it, things happen. First the tree will shake and then other ornaments will get tossed off the tree and a few times some Knick Knacks fell off the shelves as if some invisible hand was pushing them."

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Now my aunt always had an angel tree topper grace the pinnacle of her tree – it was a tradition. Of course this year there was nothing at the top of the tree so I inquired further.

“Auntie where is your tree angel?”

“Oh,” she mused, “He doesn’t like it much so it’s in its box.”

Being fully aware of the implications of a haunted object tied to poltergeist activity I strongly suggested she allow me to take the ornament back to the shop where she purchased it. I packed it up in its box and loaded it into the car making a stop to the shop after I left my aunt’s house. On the way to the shop I was nearly in a car accident – a very close call where no one was hurt. I also slipped on ice on my way into the shop and because my companions caught me never hit the concrete sidewalk.

What exactly haunts an object is still the subject of much speculation in paranormal circle – is the energy ghostly, demonic or the result of a curse? In most cases however, the best remedy seems to be to get rid of whatever it is by letting a professional handle its disposal. Destruction often does not work.

I never learned much about the ornament at all – the shop keeper merely took it back without blinking ... that leaves me with even more questions.



Protective Colors

Holbrook PSI

The use of color for protection dates back to beyond recorded history - this is a speculation based on cave drawings. Some of the drawings show different people with different colors to indicate their status or an event in which they are involved. We know from the Native Americans that they would use color on their bodies and horses before going in to battle. Sometimes the color would be used in their rituals to help make an event like rain happen. With color being used to show power and purity, it would be safe to say that early man would also associate a color with protection.

Looking at the evolution of color the technology to produce a certain color was not available to the early man. So the color that was used by them was limited by the color they could produce. I would like to mention that each person will usually have a favorite color. This may be the color that best suits their personality type or it may be just the color that they feel they look the best wearing. Further research can be done by reading some of the many books that have been written about color and how each color associates with different personality types.

In many different writings they say that purple has been used in rituals both secular and religious for many years. They do indicate that it is a color that helps repel nasty spirits, so I would have to say that yes it can be a color of protection. In my opinion, an individual's personal color can be worn for protection no matter what color it is because of the *belief* in the fact that it will help to protect you. In wearing a particular color a person will also work that color into their aura or tone down a color in the aura. An aura in many ways is a protective layer that surrounds all things and it is also our own personal electromagnetic field. The colors of our aura can tell a person who can see auras our mood and health conditions by the colors that are present or absent. Attacks to the aura by negative entities can also be detected.

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In my own opinion if you feel a particular hue is a protective color for you then it is. Does this really work? In my opinion and experience, yes, it does work and not only for protection but for so much more. Think about how people have associated color with different things like a power tie - the color is what indicates the power. If your doctor came in the room wearing black you would not feel at ease but white, blue or pink (I have a female doctor) has a calming effect on the patients. So color works not only on the person that is wearing it but on other people also.

I would like to point out that you may want to look into other colors also for protection to allow you to keep your personal color more sociable and only put on your protective color when you feel you need it.





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John Holbrook, Holbrook PSI (*Silent Night of the Dead, pg. 42 AND Protective Colors, pg. 53*)

John has been a paranormal investigator for over 25 years. He holds a MS in parapsychic science. He is a highly gifted intuit and experienced spiritual counselor who specializes in crisis intervention including current life paranormal dramas and past life residual traumas. He is always willing to help others overcome their fear of the darkness by showing them how to discern the truth of the matter.

Abhay Kapoor (*Shraap, pg. 45*)

Abhay Kapoor came to the United States from India when he was a child in 1969. His many experiences involving both spiritual and supernatural events led him to a lifelong interest in the paranormal research of events tied to different ethnic groups. His hobbies include playing the sitar and pencil sketching. He also enjoys playing tennis.

Olivia Constantino (*Kallikantzaroi, pg.47*)

Olivia considers herself a paranormal investigator in “training.” She is a research assistant to her older brother Philip and joins him in his onsite investigations. Olivia has an MS degree in literature and hopes to one day write a book based on her experiences. She works part time in a law firm and as a hostess and says people would be surprised how many personal supernatural tales clients reveal. She makes notes of course.

Lydia Morrisey (*The Haunted Ornament, pg. 51*)

Lydia considers herself a paranormal “observer” who generally does the “grunt” (background) work for her husband Jones who has been a paranormal investigator for the past fifteen years. They enjoy both helping people with real supernatural problems and debunking fraud. Lydia in particular is a big fan of the late Harry Houdini and the stories surrounding his debunks of famous psychics and manipulators who were prevalent in the time when Houdini was alive. Once the initial client consultation for a haunt is finished Lydia never enters or investigates a haunt site which is left to Jones and his team. She does however consider herself a cracker jack at recognizing problems, reviewing collected evidence and putting together possible recommendations for clients.

ARCANUS OBSCURUM

HOW DO YOU WORK YOUR MAGIC?



Section Managing Editors:

Marco X. Mascolo

Eliana Rosini

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Imagery: Pixabay.com, Design Kim Tsiang

Dream Sending

Kellie Nothe

Dream Sending is defined as a magical ability to enter the dreams of another person in order to deliver a message, alter the content of the dream or influence the dreamer's actions and behaviors. It is a very old magical art dating back to the ancient Egyptians and its most common use is for love spells.

It is best accomplished during a waxing Moon and by invoking the Moon goddess Selene or the archangel Gabriel who rules the Moon and Monday considered the day of the Moon.

The ancient Egyptians used Dream Sending combined with sympathetic magic in special rituals to cause an individual to have a specific dream that suited what they were trying to accomplish which was often political in nature. In legend Nectanebo, the last native of Egypt used Dream Sending to cause the Greek queen Olympias to dream that she would bear a "god" fathered by Amun.

He next used this magical skill to influence Phillip of Macedonia by casting a spell over a hawk which flew over Phillip while he was asleep and whispered in his ear that queen Olympias would bear a child who was the son of a god. The result was Alexander the Great who always attributed his divine origin to Dream Sending.

The ancient Greeks and Romans were thought to be skilled in this art. They performed rituals for sending dreams by petitioning the aid of intermediary beings to serve as messengers. These messengers included 12 spirits who were known to govern the hours of the night and who were under the control of the goddess Selene. The entities were summoned in the middle of the night at the 'appropriate hour' during a special ritual.

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In contemporary times those who work with dreams or dream therapy have discovered that they can successfully send a dream message to others however, the recipients are very unlikely to experience coercion and take action against their will.

Psychical researcher Harold Sherman found that he experienced the best results when he would “send” and “receive” impressions during the relaxed state bordering on sleep. When “sending” he would make sure the other person was sound asleep thus ensuring their “receptivity” to his sent messages.

Sweet Dreams!



Starlore and Magick

Thomas Selinas-Cross

Star Magick is one of the most ancient forms of magickal practice. Anyone who is aware of occult history knows of the ancient belief that the stars influenced the life of man. Old Religion even touted a structure whereby star forces were said to totally influence man's plane of existence. All star power was believed to come from the gods of Aster or the Realm of Asteris which is properly known as the Divine Plane.

The Ancients were very cosmically attuned to the universe. The connection of the stars to man's destiny was derived from the belief that this Stellar Realm Asteris, was the final place of the soul. In short, it was believed that departed souls moved through a cycle of other worlds and would eventually reach the Realm of the Stars. Departed souls were always drawn to the Sun as the Sun rose and were carried off to the Underworld at sunset where they stayed until they shed physical life. In ancient times the constellation of Cancer was believed to be the portal through which the soul returned to Earth.

The Moon itself (planetary ruler of the sign of Cancer) was a believed to be a portal. When the moon "waxed" it received souls and when it "waned" it released them. Departed souls were always drawn to the Sun as the Sun rose and were carried off to the Underworld at sunset where they stayed until they shed physical life. Then they rose back to the Realm of Luna.

It was a total cycle of birth, life, death and reincarnation. The stars assisted as guides in both life and the afterlife so it is easy to see why such importance was placed on them magically.

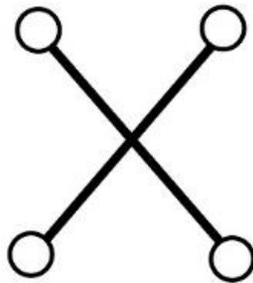
Three stars Aldebaran, Capot Algol and Hircus took on major importance in the lives of the Ancients ...

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Aldebaran

Aldebaran is a pale red star that is thought to form the left eye of the bull in the constellation of Taurus the bull. In the history of astrology it has always been thought to be a most auspicious star emanating a strong fortunate influence. This star is one of the Four Guardians and is called the “Watcher in the East.” It was observed to mark the Vernal Equinox. In medieval times, talismans bearing a ruby, the seal of Aldebaran and duly anointed with milky thistle while blessed in the name of Azariel under the constellation Taurus were used for protection against and black magic and or to bind other magicians. Aldebaran’s influence was also used in spells to affect mines, wells, fountains and the construction of buildings.



Seal of Aldebaran

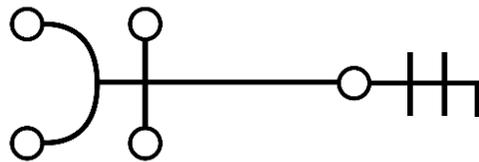
Caput Algol

Known to mark the ‘head of Medusa’ this star has a negative connotation even today. It is in the constellation Perseus. It became known as the demon star after great maligning under Christian influence. The ancient Hebrews associated it with Lilith and called it ‘Satan’s Head’. It is believed to cause violence and misfortune even in today’s astrological circles.

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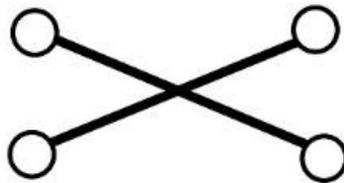
Despite all of this, it is considered to be an ally to magicians who used it with a diamond, the herb mugwort and metal lead to prepare a sharp blade that was to be used as a charm. The blade was used against other witch's spells to cause them to be sent back to the sender. It was also thought to strengthen the body.



Seal of Caput Algol

Hircus

Hircus was known as the goat star and to the Arabs the 'Shepherd's Star'. It abides in the constellation Auriga and lies in the goat huddled in Auriga's arms. In astrology it is associated with civil and military honors. In magick it was used to gain favor of authority and to heal disorders of the bones and teeth. Talismans were made of tin and held a sapphire along with the seal of Hircus. On the flip side an image of a wandering minstrel could be found. Incense made of horehound, mugwort, and mandrake were used to infuse it.



Seal of Hircus

Resource: *Italian Witchcraft*, Raven Grimassi, pgs. 233-237.

Images: Courtesy of Star Logic Astrodynamics © 2108 ad continuum



Twisted obscenities creeping in nocturnal corners -
Cringing from the lamplight.
He is old and wizened -
Burdened by the weight of ancient seasons -
A still lucid mind paying rent to the arthritic landlord -
Relief a mistress called opium.
At the solstice hour -
He pauses a moment to look into the flame -
Smoky sentries bayonet his eyes with cruel intent -
Taking tears as prisoners.
Leaning closer still -
His knowing fingers ardently romance the signs-
Whispers incarnate spent with persistent passion
Like a new lover eager for conquest.
“Spiritus magos, venite ... “
The taunting incantio entices the void-
Until out from the mystic play
The deed is done.

Sorcerer's Desk Reference – Auguries

Alva Lennox

AUGURY: Augury is a type of divination that involves interpretations in the signs of nature. It is generally believed that spirits or the Divine inhabit all that constitutes the natural world and can reveal Divine Will concerning human actions and decisions.

In Ancient Rome, Augury was considered a science. It was borrowed from the Etruscans and first started as an oral tradition. As it grew in importance it eventually became “institutionalized” and during the Roman Republic it was both taught and practiced at formal colleges. Augury was instrumental in politics where it was used to determine routes of action in elections, war declarations and installation ceremonies. Readings were made by *augurs* who were only superseded in importance by *haruspices* who were diviners who *read* the entrails/livers of sacrificed animals. Readings were kept in secret archives.

AEROMANCY: Divination of the future from the air and sky. More than just weather observation, it concentrates on cloud shapes, comets, spectral formations and other phenomena not normally visible in the heavens.

ALECTRYOMANCY: Divination based on the eating habits of birds, black hens, white gamecock or roosters. The bird of choice is allowed to pick grains of corn from a circle of letters allegedly forming or spelling words of prophetic significance. An additional method was to recite letters of the alphabet noting which ones at which the cock or rooster crowed.

ALEUROMANCY: Divination where slips of answers are rolled into balls of dough and baked. After baking, the balls would be mixed up with one chosen at random for the prophetic answer. It is believed that “fortune cookie” came from this ritual.

Continued ...

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ALOMANCY: Divination by salt thought to be the responsible for the many superstitions concerning salt (also known as **HALOMANCY**).

ALPHITOMANCY: Divination using special “cakes” which can only be digestible by those with a clear conscience. To a guilty person, these cakes would be distasteful.

AMNIOMANCY: Divination based upon the condition of a child’s caul at birth.

ANTHROPOMANCY: Divination based upon the behavior of dying sacrificial humans. This is a very Ancient form of augury that was outlawed rather quickly as man advanced in understanding.

APANTOMANCY: Divination based upon forecasts of chance meetings with animals, birds and other creatures. This form of augury is popular today and is commonly known as Animal Totems and Animal Spirit Guides.

ARMOMANCY: Divination based upon the haphazard appearances of objects.

ASTRAGALOMANCY: Divination concerning the casting of marked knucklebones.

ASTRAGYROMANCY: Divination using dice bearing numbers and letters. Over time this augury developed into the modern version of fortune telling with dice.

AUSTROMANCY: Divination of the observation of the winds.

AXINOMANCY: Divination based upon the balancing of a stone on red hot axe.

AXIOMANCY: Divination requiring the use of a hatchet or axe that answers questions by its quivers or points out the direction of miscreants.

Continued ...

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BELOMANCY: Divination requiring the tossing or balancing of arrows or their observation in flight.

BIBLIOMANCY: Divination by books or Bible passages.

BOTANOMANCY: Divination made from burning tree branches and leaves or briar or vervain branches.

CAPNOMANCY: Divination from patterns made by smoke rising from a fire.

CARTOMANCY: Divination from cards.

CATOPTROMANCY: Divination achieved through use of a mirror that has been turned towards the Moon to catch lunar rays.

CAUSIMOMANCY: Divination from objects placed in a fire. If they ignited and burned slowly it was considered a good omen.

CEPHALOMANCY: Divination using the skull or head of a donkey or goat which would be boiled.

CERAUNOSCOPY: Divination that draws omens from the study or thunder and lightning.

CEROMANCY or **CEROSCOPY:** Divination whereby melted wax is poured into cold water forming bubbles which are interpreted.

CHALCOMANCY: Divination of tones made by striking a copper or brass bowl.

CHEIROMANCY or **CHIROMANCY:** Divination of the study of the lines on and the shape of the hands (also known as **CHIROGNOMY**).

CHRESMOMANCY: Divination made from the utterances of a frenzied person.

Continued ...

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CLEIDOMANCY: Divination using pendulum made of a key on a string suspended from the third finger of a virgin. (Also known as **CLIDOMANCY**)

CLEROMANCY: Divination based upon the casting of lots using pebbles or other objects of color.

COSCINOMANCY: Divination using a spinning sieve.

CRITOMANCY: Divination requiring the use of barley cakes with hopes of drawing omens from them.

CROMNIOMANCY: Divination concerning the growth of special onions and the significance of their sprouts.

CRYSTALLOMANCY: Divination of crystal gazing.

CYCLOMANCY: Divination based upon a turning wheel.

CYLICOMANCY: Divination made from the appearance of images on water in a vessel or hole.

CUBOMANCY: Divination that makes use of thimbles.

DACTYLOMANCY: Divination that makes use of rings made according to planetary auspices.

DAPHNOMANCY: Divination that requires listening to burning laurel leaves in an open fire. The louder the crackle the better the omen.

DEMONOMANCY: Divination through the aid of demons.

DENDROMANCY: Divination associated with oak and mistletoe.

EMPYROMANCY: Divination made by observation of objects placed in sacrificial fires.

FELIDOMANCY: Divination based upon the observation of cat behavior.

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FLOROMANCY: Divination based upon the study of flowers and plants.

GASTROMANCY: 1. Divination based upon the reflections of lighted torches on water in a round glass bowl. 2. An Ancient form of ventriloquism whereby the voice is lowered to a sepulchral tone as though issuing from the ground. Prophetic utterances were delivered from a trance-like state.

GELOMANCY or GELPSCOPY: Divination based upon the tone of someone's laughter.

GEOMANCY: 1. Divination based upon patterns of dirt, sand or pebbles cast on the ground. 2. An occult practice which began with tracing figures on the ground which was later extended to include dots made with a pencil which were then interpreted. Some believe this practice was the forerunner of doodles.

GYROMANCY: 1. Divination based upon persons walking in a circle marked with letters until they became dizzy and stumbled at different points "spelling" out a prophecy. 2. Divination drawn from the mutterings of people who were exhausted from wild dancing.

HEPATOSCOPY: Divination of "liver gazing" from sacrificed animals.

HYDROMANCY: Divination by water covering a wide range of lesser auguries such as the color of water, its ebb and flow OR ripples produced by pebbles dropped into it. An odd number was considered good and an even number bad. Some believe modern tea leaf reading and coffee ground readings came from this augury form.

ICHYOMANCY: Divination concerning the examination of both living and dead fish.

LAMPADOMANCY: Divination from the observation of lamp flames.

Continued ...

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LECANOMANCY: Divination concerning the “whistling sounds” made from pebbles dropped into water.

LIBANOMANCY: Divination concerning the observation of incense smoke.

LITHOMANCY: Divination of the reflection of candlelight in precious stones. Stones of various colors are chosen and scattered on a flat surface. Whichever reflects the light the most fulfills the prophecy. Blue=good luck; green=realization of hope; red=happiness in love or marriage; yellow=disaster or betrayal; purple=sadness; black or gray=misfortune.

MACHAROMANCY: Divination concerning the observation of swords, daggers and knives.

MARGARITOMANCY: Divination utilizing pearls which are supposed to bounce upward beneath and inverted pot if a person is guilty.

METAGNOMY: Divination utilizing intuition while viewing scenes from the past or present while viewed during a hypnotic trance.

METEOROMANCY: Divination based upon omens signified by meteors.

METOPOMANCY or METOSPOSCOPY: Divination based upon line in a person’s forehead.

MOLEOSCOPY: Divination based upon examination of moles on the human body.

MOLYBDOMANCY: Divination using noise of drops of molten lead cast into water.

MYOMANCY: Divination concerning rats and mice and the cries they make and the destruction they engage which are seen as prophetic tokens.

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NEPHELOMANCY: Divination of the shape and movement of clouds.

OCULOMANCY: Divination of observance of the eyes.

OENOMANCY or **OLINOMANCY:** Divination concerning the color, taste and appearance of wine.

OENISTICY or **ORNITHOMANCY:** Divination based upon the flight of birds.

OMPHALOMANCY: Divination of the study of one's own navel.

ONEIROMANCY: Divination made from dreams.

ONOMANCY: Divination that answers the question, "what's in a name?"

ONYCHOMANCY: Divination concerning the study of fingernails in the sunlight looking for symbols that can be traced through reflections of light.

OPHIOMANCY: Divination concerning the study of serpents.

OVOMANCY: Divination of egg whites dropped in water.

PEGOMANCY: Divination of the examination of spring water or bubbling springs.

PHYLLORHODOMANCY: Divination consisting of the slapping of rose petals against the hands. The louder the sound the better. This augury dates back to Ancient Greece.

PHYSIOGOMY: Divination concerning the examination of facial features.

PODOMANCY: Divination of the soles of the feet.

PSYCHOGRAPHY: Divination using mysterious writing.

Continued ...

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PYROMANCY or PYROSCOPY: Divination that utilizes the smoke and flames of a fire when powdered substances are thrown into it.

RHABDOMANCY: Divination using a wand or stick. It is of Ancient origin and thought to be the forerunner of the divining rod.

RHAPSODOMANCY: Divination accomplished by opening a book of poetry and reading a passage at random which serves as an omen.

SCIOMANCY: 1. Divination using aid of spirits. 2. Divination concerning the size, shape and changing appearance of the shadows of the dead.

SIDEROMANCY: Divination using the burning of straws on a hot iron and studying the shapes formed as well as any flames or smoke.

SPLANCHOMANCY: Divination of the study of the entrails of human sacrifice victims.

SPODOMANCY: Divination of the study of cinders or soot.

STITCHOMANCY: Divination accomplished by opening a book and finding a random passage that acts as an omen or inspiration.

STOLISOMANCY: Divination that draws omens from the odd ways in which people dress.

SYCOMANCY: 1. Divination performed by writing messages on tree leaves. The slower they dry the better the omen. This can also be accomplished by writing questions on slips of paper (also including a blank slip), rolling them up and placing them in a strainer above a steaming pot. Whichever roll opens first will be the question answered. 2. Divination based on the drying of fig leaves. The slower they dry the better.

TASSEOMANCY or TASSEOGRAPHY: Divination made by reading patterns of tea leaves left behind in a teacup.

Continued ...

Continued ...

TEPHRAMANCY: Divination concerning the reading of ashes. Tree bark is often used for this purpose.

TIROMANCY or **TYROMANCY:** Divination using cheese... generally omens seen in its coagulation.

TRANSATAUMANCY: Divination based in events seen or heard during an accident.

UROMANCY: Divination concerning the inspection of urine.

XYLOMANCY: Divination made from pieces of wood. Some are picked up off the ground at random and discerned while other pieces are placed upon a fire while the “way” they burn is observed.

ZOOMANCY: Divination based upon reports of imaginary monsters and animals.



Rune Messages

Jurgens Pieterse

This rune prose contains a set of four affirmations against each rune in the Elder Futhark. The runes are arranged in the three aettir. An aett contains 8 runes in the sequence given in the poem. These affirmations are easy to remember and represent the nature of each rune in a modern language. Enjoy the journey through the world of the runes.

FIRST AETT



Fehu: Wisdom and prosperity

Live from abundance
Be satisfied with what you have
Multiply your skills
And give generously



Uruz: Physical and mental health

A healthy body is home to a healthy spirit
Water and breath must be valued
Feed yourself with posture, balance and vibration
And respect your body as an attractor of cosmic energy

Continued ...

Continued ...



Thurisaz: Defense and protection

Set your boundaries clearly
Be aware and seek clarity of mind
Affirm yourself in the midst of every battle
Build your foundation on self-discipline



Ansuz: Communication and knowledge

Investigate all, but keep only the good
Bind wisdom to your heart
And speak with good judgement
So that every word is constructive



Raidho: Travel and change

Don't be overcome with fear
Break through your self-defined boundaries
Don't be blinded by illusion but discover the unknown
Reach for the stars

Continued ...

Continued ...



Kenaz: Creativity and productivity

Let your light always shine in the darkness of the world
Live your uniqueness without shame
Be the sign of hope for all around you
The truth will bring healing and wholeness



Gebo: Connection and relationship

You must be able to give before you can receive
Friendship is precious, nurture it constantly
Give without conditions and without expectations
Allow others to be a blessing to you



Wunjo: Happiness and harmony

Happiness and joy is already yours
Greet everyday with gratitude for what you have
Don't waste precious time in the pools of despair
Nobody is free totally from sorrows

Continued ...

Continued ...

SECOND AETT



Hagalaz: Risk and opportunity

Uncertainty brings opportunity
Risk is the door towards progression
Destruction is followed by renewal
Loss carries as fruit appreciation



Naudiz: Need and deliverance

Be always aware of the needs of others
Reach out to both the foreigner as well as the enemy
Show compassion for the plight of those who lack
Tomorrow you might be the one in need



Isa: Stillness and waiting

Seek for stillness so that you might hear
The universe has its own song of harmony
A rock does not move in the severest of storms
Await the correct opportunity

Continued ...

Continued ...



Jera: Harvest and reward

What you sow you will reap
No effort is made without reward
The delay between cause and effect allows for adjustment
Everything has its time and place



Eiwaz: Management and foresight

Preparation secure a safe journey
Be faithful in the smallest of tasks
The task at hand is finished in the planning
Be ready for the unexpected



Perdhro: Luck and comradeship

Make the time to relax
Take a chance!
Play the game of living, with all your passion
Laugh at yourself and see the humor in all of life

Continued ...

Continued ...



Algiz: Guidance and aid

Make sure your foundation will not crumble
Know the impact of your actions
Do not disappoint those who look up at you
Remember you are more than flesh and blood



Sowilo: Power and motivation

Strive to be impeccable in all you do
Success comes through perseverance
Focus on the end
Feed your dreams with confidence

THIRD AETT



Tiwaz: Victory and justice

Fight for your freedom and everything that is right
Wear the armor of justice with pride
Be steadfast and confident in your own ability
In the heat of the battle do not show fear

Continued ...

Continued ...



Berkana: Nurturing and rebirth

Nothing grows without care
Patience and commitment brings success
Time may leave scars but it will always heal the wounds
Only change over time will stand the test of time



Ehwaz: Partnership and work

Many hands makes the work easier to complete
Enthusiasm is an inspiration for all
Let your work be your pride
Do not leave any task undone



Mannaz: Humanity and groups

The human being is the crown of the material world
Power lies in unity, two heads are better than one
Let your conscience be your teacher in everything
Always strive to make a contribution to your community

Continued ...

Continued ...



Lagaz: Emotions and unconscious

Change only what you can
Accept your constraints, they represent lessons to be learned
The storms you weather builds your character
Time flows in cycles



Ingwaz: Ventures and achievement

Live with clear intent and utilize all opportunities
Manage your energy with care, breakthrough is sudden
Your potential is a limitless source
You live in a world of abundance where nothing is impossible



Dagaz: Balance and self-renewal

When one door closes the other will open
Every cloud has its silver lining
Hope never gives up
Make sure you always have a backup plan

Continued ...

Continued ...



Othala: Family and home

Where blood cannot walk, there it will crawl
Always remember and respect your heritage
Be a good steward of all your possessions
You have the right to life but accept the responsibility to live

**In all listen to the wisdom of the runes
Let the secrets be whispered in your ear
Let their insight be your guide knowledge
Applied is wisdom**

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Kellie Nothe (*Dream Sending, pg. 57*)

If you ask Kellie, she will tell you quite candidly that “life is a karmic parody and people are stinkers” yet they still provide a good deal of humor because of their quirks. Kellie is busy working on her Master’s Degree in psychology and plans to further her education straight to a Ph.D.

Thomas Selinas-Cross (*Starlore and Magick, Page 59*)

Thomas is an astrologer and an astronomer. He is an animal advocate and spends his spare time volunteering at the local animal shelter in his hometown in the state of Washington. He also travels to different states to put on planetarium shows. An avid outdoorsman, Thomas enjoys camping and hiking and fishing. You can visit Thomas on the www.lightforcenetwork.com where he serves as a proficient.

Nila Shoa (*Magus, pg.62*)

Nila is a veteran of metaphysics for over thirty years. She enjoys lecturing about the historic esoteric profiles of gifted individuals from the past and how they contributed to current philosophy and metaphysics. Occasionally she likes to pen some poetry or prose based in arcane premise which is evident in her work *Magus*.

Alva Lennox (*Sorcerer’s Desk Reference, pg.63*)

Alva is a retired primary care teacher who enjoys researching and using natural herbal remedies. She is president of a book club that meets once a week and enjoys nature walks and teaching crafts. She has a great fondness for water and lives by lake which she feels fulfills her Cancerian needs. She would tell you it’s been a long time coming.

Jurgens Pieterse (*Rune Messages, pg. 72*)

Jurgens Pieterse, of South Africa was initiated on his spiritual path at the age of ten through a thoane (caracal) shamanic ritual. He received his Bachelor degree in Industrial Engineering in 1989 (Master’s degree in Industrial Engineering in 1996) and was actively involved in the Dutch Reformed church until that time. In 1993, an obscure book, *Miraculous Management* by Saul Kuchinsky sparked his lifelong interest in the esoteric arts and sciences. He started to study the fourth way teachings of JG Bennett, PD Ouspensky and GI Gurdjieff. He travelled to the United States to meet Saul Kuchinsky and attend a workshop by Anthony Blake author of "The intelligent enneagram". The meeting inspired him to deepen his study of the enneagram. His continued interest in systems theory led him to study divination systems: Astrology, Tarot, I-Ching, Geomancy and Runes. In 2005 Jurgens became a member of the Rosicrucian Order (AMORC). Currently Jurgens is working as a Management Information Systems Manager at the Parliament of South Africa where he also leads daily practice sessions in Tai Chi and Yoga.

Sacred Sciences



*What is
written in
your Book of
Wisdom?*

Write your Truth



Section Managing Editor – Anna Drake Sydney

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Prophet of Doom

Nicholas V. Blair

Human beings love to be right about things or at least to figure out correct endings. It gives them a positive sense of self-assurance. But what if you are a psychic and rely upon having a record of correctness all the time?

Jacques Cazotte, a French eighteenth century writer was for all accounts a creative genius. His sense of foresight and boundary breaking imagination for creating works that embraced fantasy, the macabre and sci fi precluded other greats in the field such as Edgar Allan Poe. It is not too terribly surprising that his contemporaries believed that his brand of literary talent included dabbling in Ouija board sessions and scrying.

Cazotte was invariably known as a 'prophet' who was correct far more often than not and as a result his popularity scored him invitations into the salons and the rich and famous. One such invitation to a Parisian dinner party in the summer of 1788 led to some rather startling if not thrilling dinner party entertainment.

The guests were engrossed in discussions of the approaching Revolution and what might be in store as a result. Cazotte, of course was invited to speak on the subject to the esteemed guests ... and speak he did with the following ...

- King Louis XVI as well as many of the distinguished female guest sitting at the table would be executed.
- Writer and critic Nicholas Sebastian Chamfort was told he would meet with a long suffering death after trying unsuccessfully to slash his wrists 22 times.

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- Philosopher and mathematician Marquis de Condorcet whose ideas helped shape nineteenth century sociology, was told he would die on a prison floor after taking poison to cheat the executioner.
- Jean de la Harpe, a bitter atheist and critic, was told that the Revolution would change his non-believing ways and he would turn into a God-fearing Christian.

Needless to say, his predictions met with the range of human reactions from fear to hysterical laughter. Such prominent people could never meet with such horrific ends.

In 1789, the French Revolution brought in the historic abolition of the old order by mostly gruesome means. Mass executions on the guillotine changed the minds of many and most men of all social orders either joined the Revolution or left the country.

Nicholas Chamfort decided to join the Revolution in its early stages but became disheartened and disgusted by all the mass executions. In 1793, he was confronted by Jacobin leaders and threatened with arrest. He knew that sooner or later he would be executed so he decided to commit suicide. This turned out to be more difficult than he anticipated ... he had slashed his wrists with 22 death attempts only to die an agonizing death several days later.

Marquis de Condorcet was actively involved in the revolution and was even elected to represent the French capital in the Legislative Assembly eventually becoming its Secretary. He seemed to sail along successfully on the wave of the Revolution until he voted against the execution of Louis XVI and also when he voted to against the arrest of the Girondins.

Continued ...

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He became very paranoid believing the house he was hiding in was being watched. He spent three days on the run moving from place to place in the village of Clamart but as fate would have it, he was recognized and taken to Bourg-la-Reine where he was imprisoned. The next morning he was found dead on the floor. He had poisoned himself.

Jean de la Harpe was an early advocate of the revolution but true to his nature began to find fault with the new order. He was labeled a dissenter and thrown in to prison for five months. As predicted, his experience moved him to renounce atheism and become an ardent supporter of Christianity.

Jacques Cazotte own fate was dire as well. Gifts of prophesy at such a superstitious time in history were looked upon in a positive light. He was labeled an enemy of the people and a “Royalist.” He was sent to the guillotine in 1792.

You can read more particulars about Jacques Cazotte’s works and life here:

http://collections.stanford.edu/supere/page.action?forward=author_jacques_cazotte§ion=authors

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The Complete St. Germain

Georges Gerapolis

"Madame," the Count said smiling, "I am very old."
"But then you must be nearly 100 years old," exclaimed the
Countess.

The Count St. Germain is mainly known in esoteric circles as the Ascended Master of the Uranian 7th Ray of Ceremonial Order and Magic. In some religious apocryphal circles he is believed to be the ever living embodiment of Cartaphilus the man who mocked Christ as he dragged his cross through the streets on the way to Calvary and was sentenced to walk the Earth until the Second Coming. Whatever the background belief, the stories surrounding St. Germain speak of a man with extraordinary abilities and talents.

Pictured above is the only known portrait (engraving circa 1783) of the man who called himself the Count St. Germain. He was or is according to all accounts both a mystery man and a Renaissance man. Housing a plethora of talents he was brilliant alchemist (chemist), a fine artist, knowledgeable historian, a philosopher, a political diplomat, an extraordinary jeweler, and accomplished pianist, violinist and singer, AND an astonishing linguist who was fluent in Spanish, Greek, Italian, Russian, Portuguese, Chinese, Arabic, Sanskrit, English, Dutch, German, Hindu, Persian and French. He had a reputation as a healer, prophet and a magician but his most amazing claim was that he was over 1000 years old.

The tale of Cartaphilus, the Wandering Jew was handed down through European folklore until the thirteenth century when travelers returning to England from the continent spoke of an encounter with a strange man who blasphemously claimed to be around in the time of Christ.

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During the following centuries, more encounters with the strange man occurred and it seemed that they were taking place closer and closer to Western Europe. Then one day in 1740, a mysterious man dressed in black appeared in Paris. The fashion conscious Parisians were shocked at the man in black yet could not help but admire his many diamond rings and diamond shoe buckles. This led the Parisians to believe the handsome and obviously Jewish man to be an aristocrat of great wealth and he was welcomed into Parisian society. They could not identify the man but the superstitious citizens of Paris believed him to none other than the Wandering Jew.

The man identified himself as the Count of St. Germain - an accomplished man who had traveled widely and learned much about the world including many arcane lessons of the occult. He spoke freely about his travels and his great age claiming to have known many historical celebrities. Historical skeptics often tried to trip him up by questioning him about historical details that were trivial and not well known but the Count always replied with astonishing accuracy. If a conversation turned to religious matters, he would become somber and tearful while movingly describing Christ as if he had known him personally. No matter what the subject, the Count left his audience quite perplexed.

The Count's claim to be much older than he looked was actually put to the test when he met the elderly Countess von Georgy who recognized him as the same person she had met 50 years earlier in Venice. The countess was in a state of disbelief that the man she met so long ago did not look a day over 45. When the Count proved to her that he was the same man she said that if it was true he must be "a devil."

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The Count took great offense to this remark raising his voice stating, "For pity's sake! No such names!" With that he turned his back on the astounded Countess and left the room.

Another oddity about the Count was noticed during the time he spent in the court of Louis XV, King of France. At the numerous banquets he attended it was noticed that he would abstain from food and wine occasionally sipping only mineral water. The courtiers noted that if the Count did eat it was always in private. They also assumed that he was a vegetarian.

In 1745, the Count St. Germain turned up in London. It was the time of the Jacobite Rebellion in Britain and the Count somehow managed to get himself arrested for spying. He was described as a mad man going by the name Count St. Germain who played the violin and sang wonderfully. He was also said to have used the power of hypnotic suggestion to persuade his captors that he was innocent. The latter allegation was verified by Anton Mesmer, the creator of Hypnotism who claimed to have taught the Count the art of hypnotism. He claimed that the Count, "possessed a vast understanding of the human mind."

The Count was seen in many places over the years:

1756 - The Count was spotted in India by Sir Robert Clive.

1760 - History records that King Louis XV sent a Monsieur St. Germain to Hague to assist with the treaty between Prussia and Austria.

1762 - The Count took part in the deposition of Peter III of Russia and took an active role in helping to bring Catherine the Great to the throne.

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1769 - The Count opened a mass production factory in Venice where he developed a synthetic form of silk.

1770 - The Count engaged Russian politics and was seen in the uniform of a Russian general.

1774 - After the death of King Louis XV, the Count appeared in Paris to warn the new King Louis XVI and his Queen Marie Antoinette of the approaching danger of the French Revolution.

1784 - Prince Charles of Hesse-Cassel, Germany announces that the Count is dead and will be buried in a local church cemetery.

1785 - After his alleged death and burial the Count shows up at the Congress of Freemasons.

1867 - The Count is briefly seen in Milan at a meeting for the Grand Lodge of Freemasons.

1869 - Theosophist Annie Besant claims she met the Count and Theosophist Helena Blavatsky claims he had been in contact with her.

1914 - During the early days of World War I, two Bavarian soldiers capture a Jewish-looking Frenchman in Alsace. After an all-night interrogation, the man still refuses to give his name and warns them that the war is futile and that it will end in 1918 with defeat for the Germans. He goes on to tell them that in 1939 the "anti-Christ" will lead Germany into another war but will be defeated after committing "inhuman, unspeakable things" in six years. After the prophecy, the man begins to sing and sob and the soldiers thinking him quite mad let him go.

Continued ...

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Historically, the only surviving manuscript penned by the Count St. Germain, *La Tres Sainte Trinosophie*, is kept in the library at Troyes, France. To date it has resisted every attempt to decipher or translate it with the exception of the following passage:

"We moved through space at a speed that can be compared with nothing but itself. Within a fraction of a second the plains below us were out of sight and the earth had become a faint nebula."

Undecipherable works seemed to be his forte - there are some who believe St. Germain had a variety of embodiments including that of Roger Bacon. Bacon is often considered the author of the Voynich Manuscript a strange composition that to date cannot be deciphered

Who was or IS St. Germain - the "Wonderman of Europe" ... a hoaxer or a supernatural time travelling being with alchemical skills?

As a metaphysician he was skilled in the healing arts and herbology. Some believe that his use of herbal elixirs combined with good eating habits prolonged his life and the life of others. The Countess von Georgy is said to have lived an incredibly long life never looking her true age due to the herbal intervention of St. Germain. It was believed that he was also an Eastern adept who employed yoga and meditation and that he could communicate with animals. King Louis XV of France was so taken with his alchemical skills that he provided the Count with a laboratory and residence at the royal castle of Chambord after the Count magically removed the flaw in one of the King's diamonds. In another European court, the Count asked for some deer bones and some boughs from a tree for a demonstration. He retreated to a large empty room and after a short time alone invited the guests into the room.

Continued ...

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They were greeted by a room that was transformed into a lush forest with grazing deer. He was a philanthropist who gave away valuable paintings, jewels and money. He secretly helped the poor and aided charitable institutions. He was a patron of science and technology and its progressive role in the spiritual awareness of mankind.

In metaphysical circles, Saint Germain is an Ascended Master - a light being who has earned the right not to reincarnate. The concept of the Ascended Masters was brought into the limelight by the Grand Dame of Theosophy Helena Blavatsky (1831-1891). Blavatsky's Theosophical movement was based upon teachings she claimed to have received from a group of living adepts she called 'Mahatmas' or 'Masters.' Various organizations, past and present, have incorporated the Ascended Masters into their belief systems but to date skepticism still exists as to whether she perpetrated fraud and if the Masters were merely real persons who were 'fictionalized.'

History makes one thing clear about Helena Blavatsky and that was her concern that the concept of the Masters would fall victim to 'pretended agents' who would use the teachings for commercial gain. This certainly has become a fulfilled prophecy. Despite all of the controversy, in an unpublished article written in the last year of her life, Blavatsky stated that she felt that the publicizing of the Masters had done more good than harm even she herself felt entrapped by the myth she had created in an attempt to keep the identities of the men she called Masters hidden and protected.

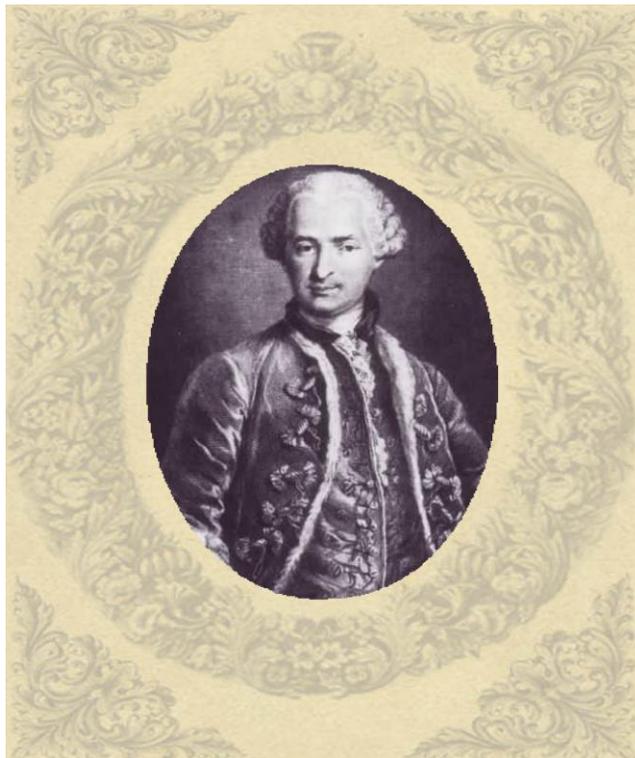
In Metaphysics, Saint Germain is connected to the 7th RAY of Ceremonial Order and Magic. As part of the White Brotherhood he works with the Archangel Zadkiel and he teaches that the highest form of alchemy is the transformation of one's consciousness into the Divinity of the Higher Self.

Continued ...

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He is the sponsor of the United States and the hierarch of the Age of Aquarius, who comes bearing the gift of the violet flame for world change.

Aside from the Wonderman of Europe it is generally believed by metaphysicians that Saint Germain's other Earthly personas and incarnations include Francis Bacon, Samuel the Prophet, Christopher Columbus, Roger Bacon, Alban, Merlin, and a High Priest of Atlantis. Will the Count appear again? Not everyone believes that the Count is dead. In 1972, a Parisian named Richard Chanfray appeared on French television claiming to be St. Germain. On live TV he successfully turned lead into gold using nothing more than a camping stove. What do you believe?



Engraving circa 1783

The "Lie" of the Land



According to its modern discoverer author Katherine Maltwood (1927), and its original discoverer the infamous Dr. John Dee (300 years earlier), the Glastonbury Zodiac covers an area of thirty miles in circumference around Glastonbury Tor in England. The huge terrestrial figures are shaped by natural earth formations, roads, tracks, rivers, pools and a few areas that were filled in by ancient people to finish out the pattern. Each sign of the zodiac is represented in order and the entire work is believed to have been originally fashioned by a mystical society circa 500 BC.

Both Dee and Maltwood attached astronomical significance to the zodiac but Maltwood never drew a conclusion of how it was used other than she believed it to have been used by Celtic Britons in pagan ceremonies. She also believed that with of the advent of Christianity, the many stories that were told about the zodiac turned into secret knowledge for initiates in pagan circles only.

Cosmic Laws

Thomas Carroll

For most of us, the word “law” conjures up an abstract principle of power. We see it as an Absolute principle yet it transcends anything the finite mind can conceive.

The Cosmic Laws:

1. **LAW of ORDERLY TREND:** This law concerns the basic nature of all things. There is order in the Cosmos from the Sun and planets to atoms and the law of cause and effect. There is no “chance” or “accident.” Nature does not make mistakes.
2. **LAW of ANALOGY:** “As above, so below.” This law concerns the correspondences and agreement between and among various forms of manifestations. Basically when we know “the one” we know “the all.”
3. **LAW of OPPOSITES:** This law concerns change. A thing “is” and it “is not.” Everything is subject to change. The inherent warning associated with this law is that if we carry it to extremes things become “alike” and we cannot see. We are left in the dark.
4. **LAW of SEQUENCE:** This law simply states that everything proceeds from something and is succeeded by something.
5. **LAW of BALANCE:** This law concerns observance of opposites or polarities. It is one of our greatest learning tools ... Love, hate, pleasure, pain, happiness, sadness etc.

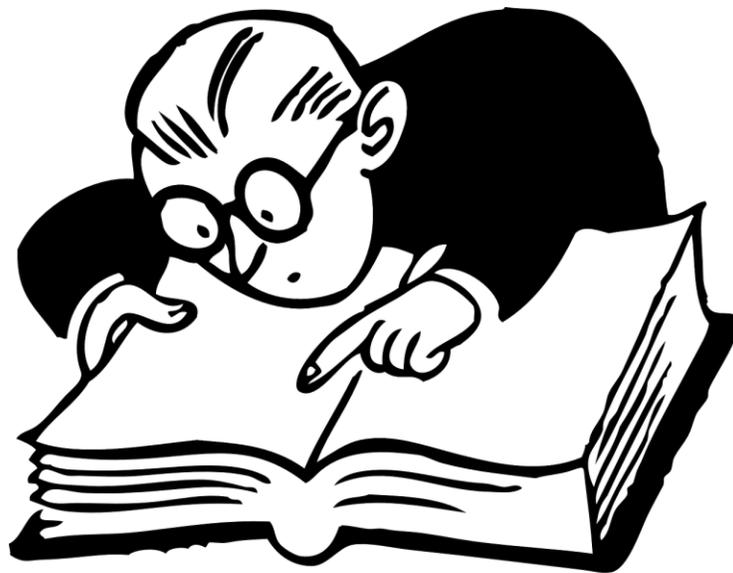
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1. **LAW of CYCLICITY:** Everything moves in circles but with strength of mind and employment of wisdom we are capable of working the circles into spirals for growth and attainment.

These laws should be observed throughout life because when the body and mind are under control we can accomplish much. Humans lose a great deal of energy via emotion and attachment or clinging to “things.” Remember, Intellect, Reason, Perception, Discrimination and above all Discernment are the keys to the mind in its best action.

Resource: The Encyclopedia of Forbidden Knowledge, Zolar, 1970.



The Law of Psychic Phenomena

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas

Psychology is the science of the mind and the word esoteric signifies "inner." Esoteric psychology therefore embraces those inner workings of the mind ... this not being confined in its researches to the physical, or three dimensional plane but including every plane and every type of life form through which mind and soul expresses. ~ C.C. Zain, Brotherhood of Light

This of course includes the Law of Psychic Phenomena which concludes that man possesses in addition to his mundane consciousness, mental abilities and mental processes of which he is unaware.

It is quite simple really by concept until you start venturing into those areas of cloudy vagueness of the unconscious. Yet, if we accept that we are made up of billions of interacting cells that house the total body of knowledge that our spiritual consciousness has gathered and retained during pre-existence and infused into us currently in this space and time, the ensuing phenomena becomes easier to digest and discern. These so-called memory cells can and do react physiologically to all this input.

Yes folks, this is all part of Mind Theory and Carl Jung and the Conscious, Subconscious and Superconscious. But let's venture anyway ...

MORPHIC RESONATION ... Have you ever had and unexplained and irresistible affinity with a thing or a place?

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There are several definitions out there but basically Morphic Resonation occurs when the subconscious is physically confronted with a person or place that is so profoundly familiar from a past life that it triggers the conscious mind and brings about a total recall that is totally recognizable. The resonance occurs whole body – mentally, emotionally and spiritually and is undeniable. If you're thinking déjà vu, think of it as compounded and multiplied by a gazillion.

On June 22, 2010, a young man who we shall call "Jim" visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He had recently been undeniably drawn to the Egyptian exhibit and the cut-away model of an Egyptian Royal Tomb of the New Kingdom that was exhibited there. He had no interest in anything "Egyptian" prior to this sudden impulse to go there and "see." He had never read any Egyptian history and was not attracted to any media concerning Egypt. If anything he had a dislike of the culture.

Oddly enough, Egyptian artifacts are only a small part of the Anthropological collections in the museum. There is a more extensive exhibit in the American Museum of Natural History which is located across Central Park from the Met. It was the cut away that interested Jim. Upon his first view of the exhibit, Jim became cognizant of "mistakes" in the structure and presentation of the model right down to the minutest details. He began to scribble notes all over his brochure so that when he returned home he could verify these "strange" findings. He was quite disgruntled feeling that the exhibit owed more to Hollywood than to Egyptology and he was certainly mind boggled at the notes he had scribbled on the brochure. AND search Jim did, finding enough evidence which provoked even more recognition and also a visit to a past life regressionist.

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Not just one but two past lifetimes associated with Egypt were uncovered. One life was that of a physician and the other as an architect located in the Valley of Kings who worked on the cliff tombs carved there. The architect was apparently of the same age Jim was currently when he first received the impulse to go “see.”

PNEUMATIC TRAVELERS ... Are you on a Universal mission?

This concept often gets confused with Time Travelers (transversing the time/space continuum) and Soul Travel (expansion of consciousness). In essence, Pneumatic Travelers are those souls who have agreed to be sent by a higher power (God/source) wherever they are needed in the universe. They literally volunteer to incarnate ... wherever.

There are several traits common amongst Pneumatic Travelers – a definite acceptance of sacrifice and life discomfort, often an uncommon empathy for others, kindness and generosity and an overwhelming commitment to service. There is a strong unwillingness to just sit idly by and watch someone else suffer if they can help.

On the TV show *Secret Millionaire*, nine year old Jonas Corona, CEO of *Love in the Mirror*, a charity that for the last three years has been providing needy and homeless youth basic necessities such as food, clothing and learning materials spoke out, "I was trying to just do my thing and not think about it." Hilary DeCesare, co-founder of Everloop.com — and yes, a millionaire sought out Jonas and concluded the following about him:

"This little boy opened the door," Hilary recounts, "and I said, 'I'm looking for the person that runs Love in the Mirror."

Continued ...

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And he kind of blushed and said, 'I do.' [...] His mission in life is to help people and to give them a chance to really look inside themselves and see the beauty in what sometimes is an environment that normally wouldn't have anything beautiful coming out of it ... I wish everybody could spend some time with that kid. [...] He's like an old soul.”

An old soul indeed.

Don't take my word for it. If you ever get the chance, sit down and talk to a Pneumatic Traveler. They will make you feel as though you're in 1st grade. Hilary certainly did.

WALK-INS ... WHO the hell are you?

To be quite frank, I am of the opinion that from a very basic spiritual, physiological and physical view this is impossible ... psychologically - it's a whole different ball park. I am still willing to study any well-presented proofs or theories. I have certainly listened to more than my share of those who believe this is their experience.

This controversy seems to been mainly stimulated by Ruth Montgomery's 1984 book *Strangers Among Us* in which she introduced the concept of soul/spirit swapping called “walk-ins.” As we are all well aware the proposal of walk-ins took off getting plenty of media coverage and the implementation of all sorts of support groups and offshoot concept such as star seeds etc., etc.

So in essence we have soul #1 and soul # 2 who have made a deal. Soul # 1 for whatever reason decides it is done living out the usually overwhelming atrocities of life and wants to leave and continue its journey elsewhere leaving the physical body for soul #2 as the willing participant, to step in and take over acclimate to the environment.

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Confusion of course abounds once this happens since soul # 2 has not been afforded the role of entering the body of an infant who is allowed to grow and acclimate to the environment. There-in the suspicions abound and further issues occur. It can get quite messy and is always illogical.

From Michael Newton Ph.D.:

“I am troubled by the walk-in theory as another escape mechanism. I believe the whole idea of walk-ins to be a false concept. According to the proponents of this theory, tens of thousands of souls now on this planet came directly into their physical body without going through the normal process of birth and childhood. We are told that these possessing souls are enlightened beings who are permitted to take over the adult body of a soul who wants to check out early because life has become too difficult. Therefore, the walk-in soul is actually performing a humanitarian act, according to devotees of this theory. I call this possession by permission ... To give another soul permission to come in and take over your karmic life plan defeats the whole purpose of your coming to Earth in the first place! It is deluded reasoning to assume that the walk-in would wish to complete their own karmic cycle in a body originally selected and assigned to someone else. If I am a senior in a high school trigonometry class, would I leave my class and go down the hall to a freshman algebra class where a student is struggling with an exam and tell him I'll finish the exam for him so he can leave early? This is a “lose-lose” situation for both students -- and what teacher would permit it?”

WHY indeed?

[The late MICHAEL NEWTON, Ph.D. held a doctorate in Counseling Psychology, is a certified Master Hypnotherapist and a member of the American Counseling Association]

Continued ...

Continued ...

ASTRAL CATALEPSY ... Get the f*ck off me!

Most of us have experienced this one - that totally unnerving episode of being woken up out of a dead sleep and feeling paralyzed and unable to breathe as if something or someone weighing a ton was sitting on the chest. Paranormal Investigators often have a field day with this ruling out or ruling in menacing entities that are generally up to no good. The most important point to note in these cases is that the person is not insane they simply took a trip out of body.

The term astral catalepsy was coined way back in 1930 by Sylvan Muldoon an American researcher and writer who spent most of his life recording his own personal astral travels at night while he slept...

Muldoon's first recorded astral trip during sleep started with his waking up in the middle of the night to find himself unable to move, see or hear, with a painful sensation of severe pressure on his head. As his senses and ability to move returned, and the pressure on his head subsided, he realized that he was actually outside his body, floating above the bed and able to look down on himself and watch himself sleep. He was conscious of his spirit being pulled from a horizontal position to a vertical one as it left his body, and of embarking on a very detailed tour of the house in which he, in his spirit form, was able to move with great ease through doors and walls ... And then he was above his body again, his spirit was pulled back into a horizontal position, and he experienced the same paralysis, loss of senses and pressure on his head that he had gone through earlier. After a feeling of being jerked abruptly back into his body, he sat bolt upright in bed, in a complete panic, able to remember and immediately write down the whole sequence of events with crystal clarity. ~ Phenomena

Continued ...

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Enter the medical department and sleep research...

Sleep paralysis usually occurs at one of two times. If it occurs while you are falling asleep, it's called hypnagogic or predormital sleep paralysis. If it happens as you are waking up, it's called hypnopompic or postdormital sleep paralysis. During sleep, your body alternates between REM (rapid eye movement) and NREM (non-rapid eye movement) sleep. One cycle of REM and NREM sleep lasts about 90 minutes. NREM sleep occurs first and takes up to 75% of your overall sleep time. During NREM sleep, your body relaxes and restores itself. At the end of NREM, your sleep shifts to REM. Your eyes move quickly and dreams occur, but the rest of your body remains very relaxed. Your muscles are "turned off" during REM sleep. If you become aware before the REM cycle has finished, you may notice that you cannot move or speak. Sleep researchers conclude that, in most cases, sleep paralysis is simply a sign that your body is not moving smoothly through the stages of sleep. Rarely is sleep paralysis linked to deep underlying psychiatric problems. Up to as many as four out of every 10 people may have sleep paralysis. This common condition is often first noticed in the teen years. But men and women of any age can have it. Sleep paralysis may run in families. Other factors that may be linked to sleep paralysis include:

- *a lack of sleep*
- *a sleep schedule that changes*
- *mental conditions such as stress or bipolar disorder*
- *sleeping on the back*
- *other sleep problems such as narcolepsy or nighttime leg cramps*
- *use of certain medications*
- *substance abuse ~ courtesy WEB MD*

Continued ...

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This leaves the issue regarding when exactly REM occurs as it is tied to the ability to astral travel in the first place and the whole OOB and Lucid Dreaming variants. **The latest:** 'sleep paralysis' or 'astral cataleptic state' occurs as a result of the transition Beta - Alpha, and Low Alpha brainwaves. It's really the first stages of sleep, the 1-4 cycle is a journey from beta (alert) to alpha (relaxed), then theta (asleep) to delta (deep sleep, coma). There have been studies proposing that the Obe experience happened during the REM stage, so, neurophysiologically there would be no distinction between Obe and dream.

Such a tangled web we weave...

Perceptions fuse to form conceptions.

Conceptions unite to become reason.





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Nicholas V. Blair (*Prophet of Doom, pg.83*)

Nicholas hails from New England which he feels is the perfect place to live due to its old history, ghostly ambiance and the atmospheric boost it give his research and writing into arcane subjects. He is a veteran metaphysician and was once a popular stage magician in his local area. He likes to paint landmark scenes in his spare time as well as concepts that have to do with the transition of time. Nicholas and his wife Vanessa have two grown sons, two dogs, a cat and a pet cockatiel named Karloff.

Georges Gerapolis (*The Complete St. Germain, pg.86*)

Georges considers himself a proud Greek who is into ancient metaphysical history and anything else oddly historical. Georges is also an amateur astrologer who likes to cast event charts of historical events and compare themes. He has been married to the 'love of his life' for 45 years and has three children – triplet boys who are all successful in their individual walks of life. He feels that is his good Karma.

Cosmic Tidbit (*The "Lie" of the Land, pg.93*)

Cosmic Tidbit has been published courtesy of the Star Logic Astrodynamic Archive. © 2018 ad continuum.

Thomas V. Carroll (*Cosmic Law, pg. 94*)

Thomas is a Hermeticist who enjoys studying old manuscripts and books on ancient arts and sciences when he can find them. He is also into antiques and their restoration and the histories connected to family heirlooms. He also enjoys some sailing and classic car restoration. Thomas has walked many magical paths, which if nothing else, taught him the necessity of balance in all endeavors. You can visit Thomas on the www.lightforcenetwork.com website where he is an administrator.

Loni Haas RMAFA, NCGR, DD (*The Law of Psychic Phenomena, pg. 95*)

Loni Haas is a behavioral therapist, veteran exoteric and esoteric astrologer, research member of the American Federation of Astrologers (AFA), member of the National Council of Geocosmic Research (NCGR), as well as a lifetime member of the American Association of Behavioral Therapists. She is an ordained minister and Doctor of Divinity of the Universal Light Church of Cincinnati, Ohio where she is certified in several healing modalities.

Make A Wish!

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Section Managing Editor – Marique Quinn

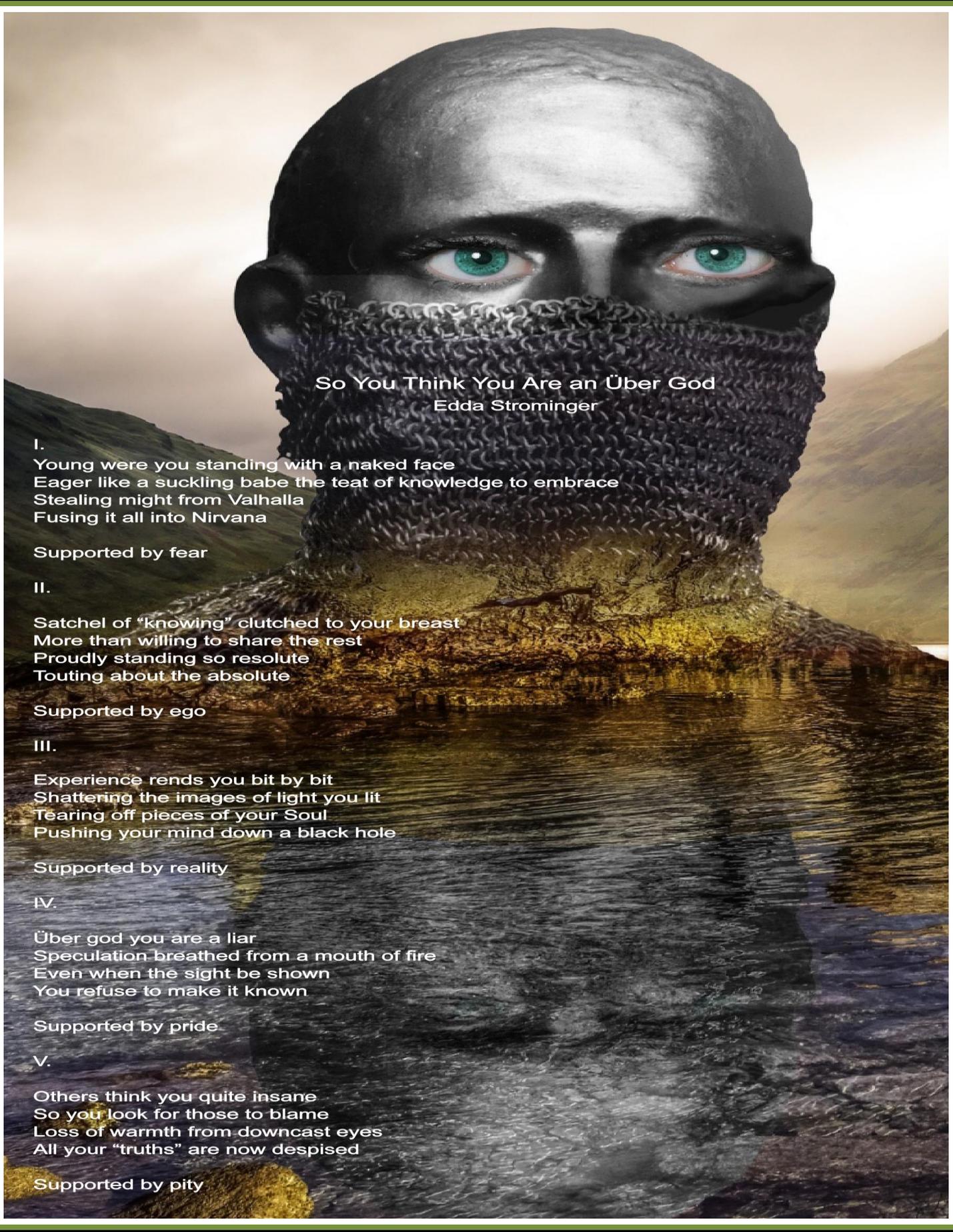
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A Fanfare to Angst

Craig Hawthorn

Console yourself in a sanctum of inner silence,
To arrest life's absurdities,
Outside of silence...
The sound of smashing cosmic eggs,
Scrambled man left to find his mana,
Can you hear the breath of a flowering bud?
Or the symphony of star riding choirs,
Do you feel a child's apprehension?
When faced with grotesque decay,
Emotion only carries you so far,
Leaving penniless the hapless traveler,
Broken in fields of beautiful plenty,
The salty smell of tears, create pathways of why,
When lovers love no more. Comprehension follows dis-illusion,
A beacon? Maybe but why does it flicker so,
Might is right yet stones fell giants,
Pre-destined to live by fickle chance,
Innocence born from experience, a goal unjust,
Existence a quality-less riddle perhaps,
The continuation of an impersonal continuum,
Woe to those who have my answers.



So You Think You Are an Über God
Edda Strominger

I.
Young were you standing with a naked face
Eager like a suckling babe the teat of knowledge to embrace
Stealing might from Valhalla
Fusing it all into Nirvana

Supported by fear

II.
Satchel of "knowing" clutched to your breast
More than willing to share the rest
Proudly standing so resolute
Touting about the absolute

Supported by ego

III.
Experience rends you bit by bit
Shattering the images of light you lit
Tearing off pieces of your Soul
Pushing your mind down a black hole

Supported by reality

IV.
Über god you are a liar
Speculation breathed from a mouth of fire
Even when the sight be shown
You refuse to make it known

Supported by pride

V.
Others think you quite insane
So you look for those to blame
Loss of warmth from downcast eyes
All your "truths" are now despised

Supported by pity



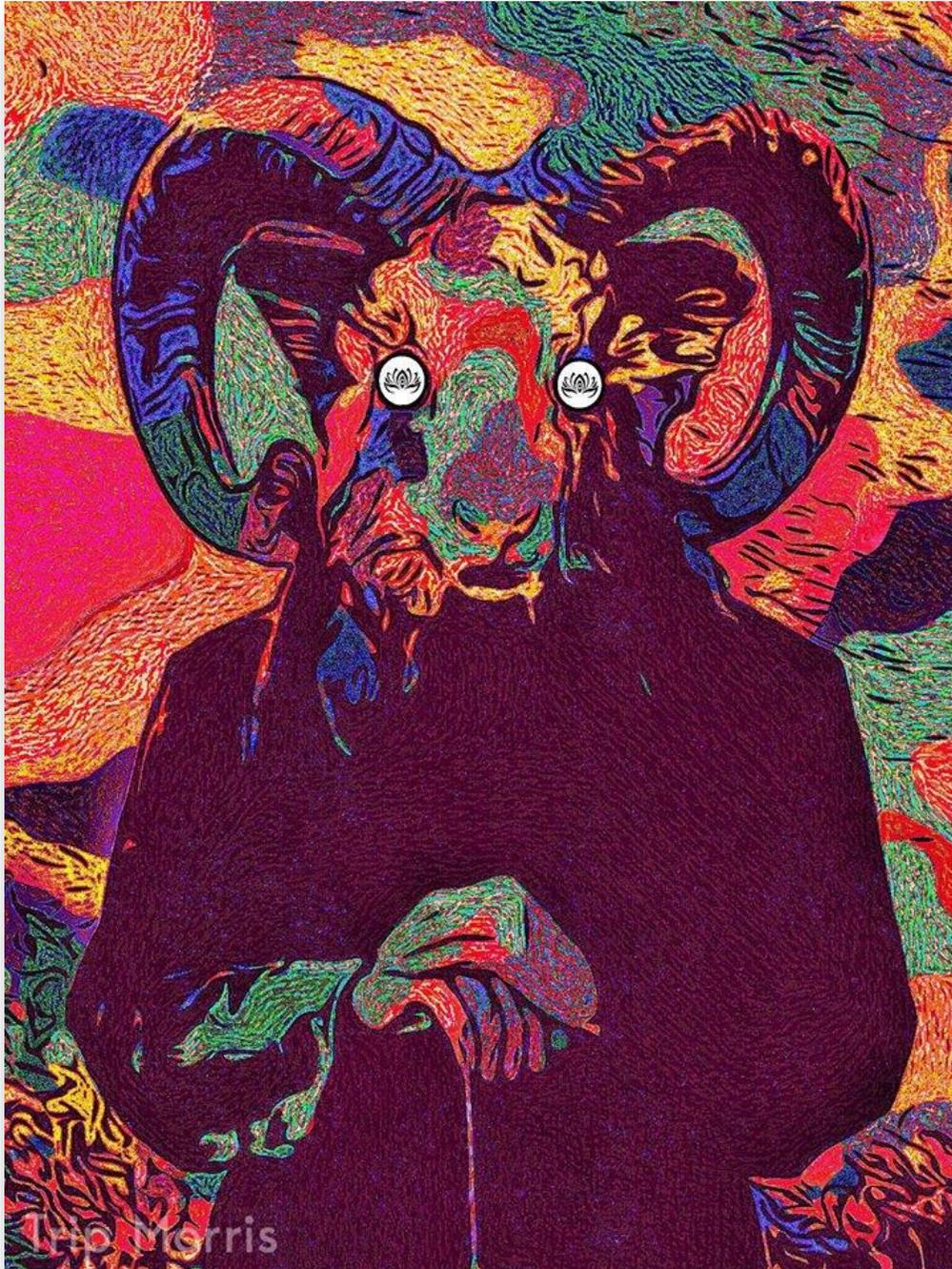
SAGE OF SIX KEYS

Digital Painting



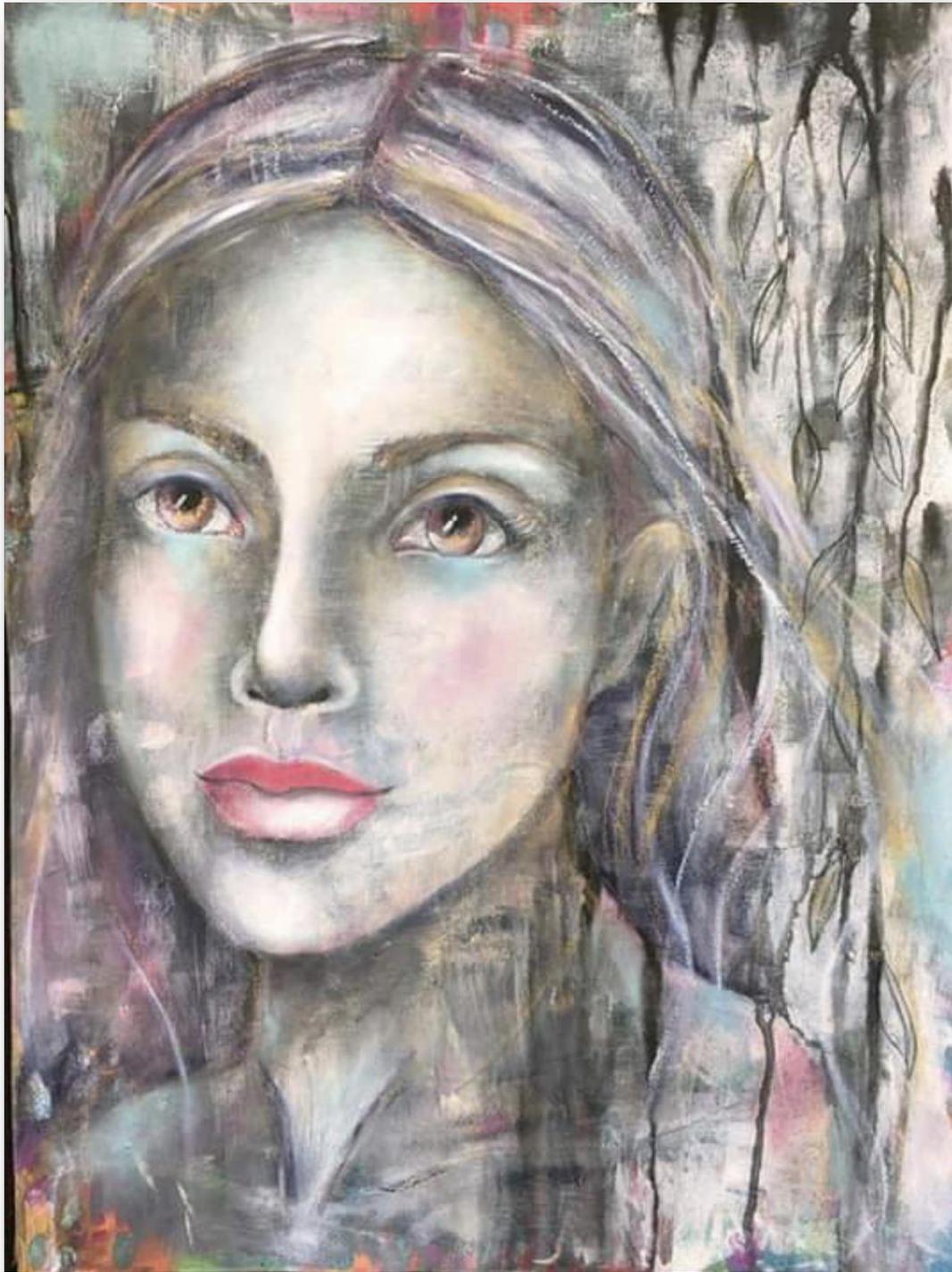
TERRARIA

Photomanipulation



THE RAINMAKER

Digital Painting



NIGHT TIME DREAMS

Mixed Media



“ME”

Mixed Media



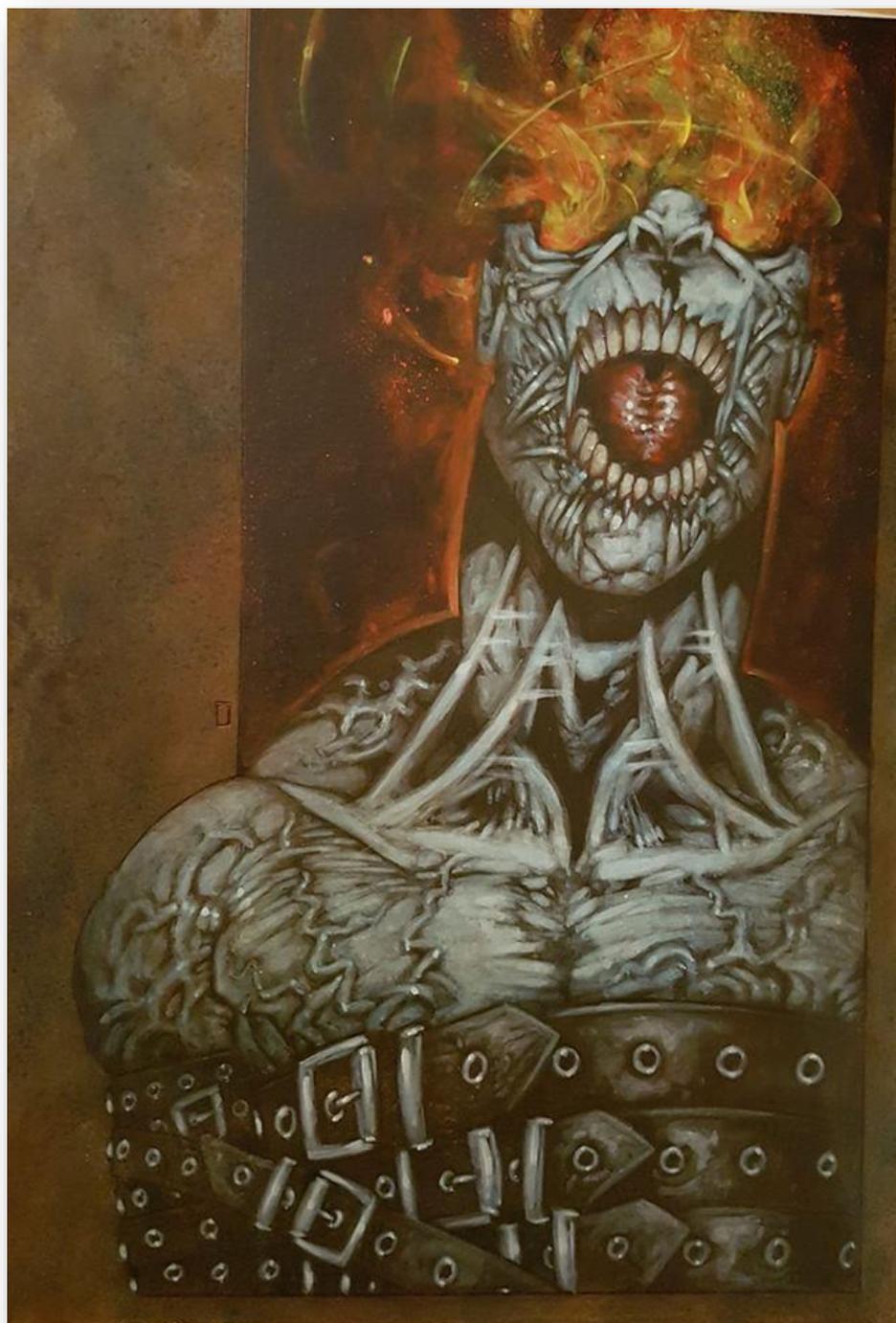
NATURE'S HEALER

Mixed Media



THE SPIDER KING

Black pen on paper.



A THIRD DEMON WITH TRAN TUANH

Acrylic paint-over of a black and white drawing.



A SMALL PIECE OF HUMANITY MAY HAVE BEEN LOST ALONG THE WAY
Acrylic painting over a black and white drawing.



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Craig Hawthorne (*A Fanfare to Angst*, pg.106)

Craig hails from the UK and considers himself just an ordinary guy. He believes one's first step to finding truth normally starts with dis-satisfaction, an inkling that what you've been told "it is" isn't quite the whole story. Explanations provided by religion, history, science and politics don't cut the mustard, so off you delve into the compendium of humanity in a quest for The Truth.

Edda Strominger (*So You Think You Are an Über God*, pg. 107)

Edda is commonly known among her friends and family as "Edda the Poetess." Her habit is to meditate before she sits down to write. She goes willingly into the deep and sometimes dark recesses of the mind to capture what she wants to convey. Edda was born in Austria and moved to the USA when she was ten years old.

Trip Morris (*Art Gallery* pgs. 108 - 110)

Trip Morris is a New York based creationist, artist, and self-discovered center path occultist. I am a creationist in the sense that I strive to create in every aspect. I discovered my artistic aptitude out of boredom one day and started to take it seriously as a medium of communication after my years of isolated soul-searching in regards to the self. Trip Morris represents the need to understand not only the conscious individual but all forms of the self. The art I create reflects this concept as well. Although, they are considered abstract by many they may distort and show many different stories at once, depending on the perception of the observer.

Kerry Hensen (*Art Gallery* pgs. 111 – 113)

I am a mixed media artist and also a quilter. I enjoy playing with new techniques and experimenting with different mediums. Also, my art is all intuitive. I live in the country on an 80 acre farm with my husband, four dogs and seven cats.

Steve Kane (*Art Gallery* pgs. 114 – 116)

I have always drawn. The first things I remember drawing were insects and bones. I have always been drawn to the macabre. The black and white comic artists of the 80s were a great source of inspiration. When I discovered the art of H.R Giger, the body horror movies of David Cronenberg and the writing of William S. Burroughs I focused my abilities into a universe of modified bodies and altered flesh. My weapon of choice has always been the black pen and after many years I feel comfortable wielding it. I can be contacted on Facebook under Steve Kane and my artist's page is Kane 13:27.

Odd Vant GuardE



GET OVER YOURSELF ...

Section Managing Editor – Oscar ‘Trashman’ Corelli

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The Legend of Pranky the Elf

Pranky the Elf

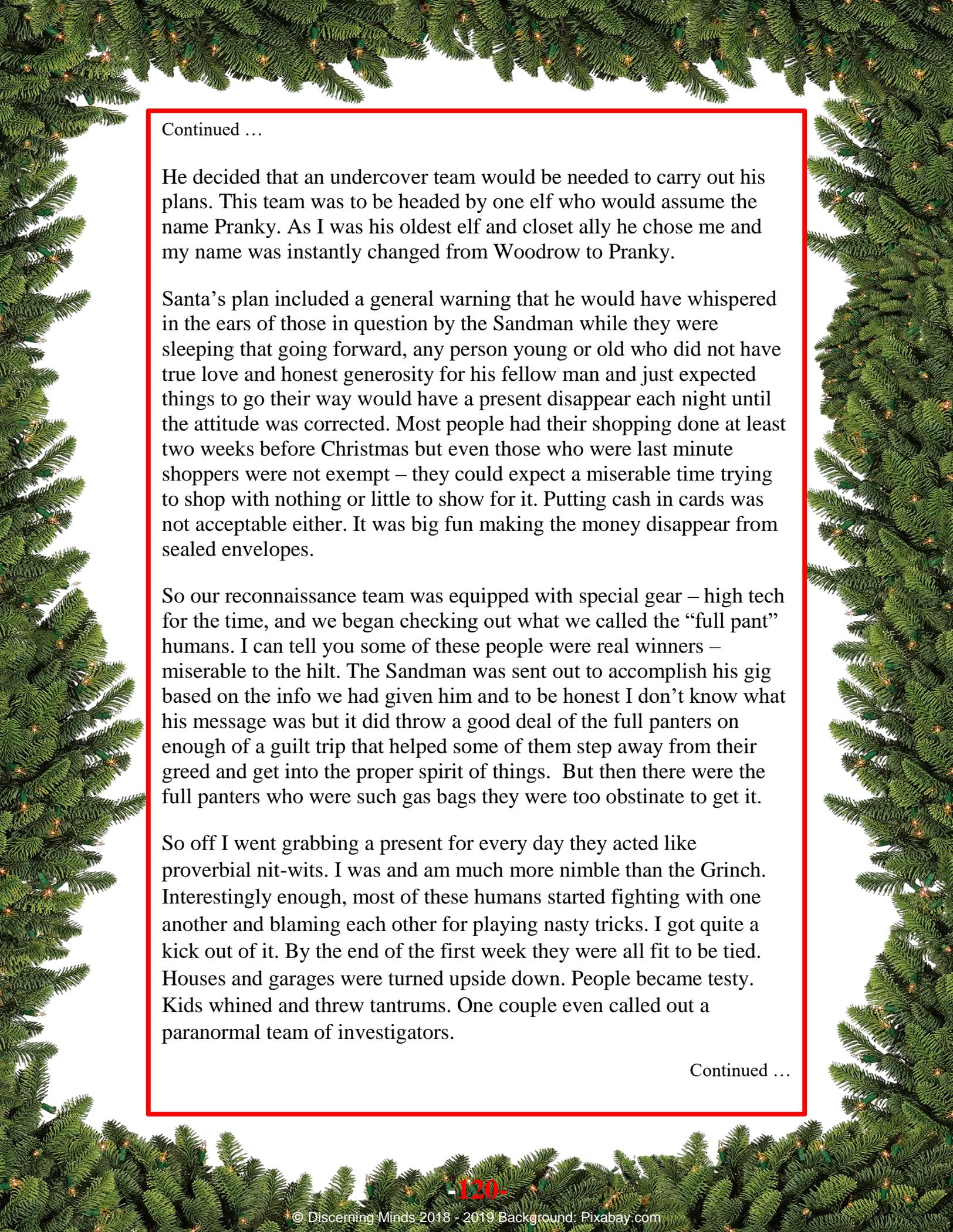
Holiday greetings to one and all!

It's long overdue for me to find a venue where I can opine about my story ... The Legend of Pranky the Elf. Sure there have been elves with that name before, even stories written about them but if the truth is to be known they were nothing but a bunch of goody-goodies and lightweights carrying out Santa's directions. It's time for the real story now ...

It was about 1984 when Santa just plain old got fed up with reports of kids and adults who were acting out. The kids were getting just plain spoiled and the adults had the whole entitlement thing going on. Santa called all the elves into a special meeting and stated that he needed an agent to work on a special assignment during the two weeks before Christmas. He said the old "coal in the stocking" OR "you better watch out" for the naughty had been reduced to a useless even laughable threat so he needed to do something that really got attention.



Continued ...



Continued ...

He decided that an undercover team would be needed to carry out his plans. This team was to be headed by one elf who would assume the name Pranky. As I was his oldest elf and closet ally he chose me and my name was instantly changed from Woodrow to Pranky.

Santa's plan included a general warning that he would have whispered in the ears of those in question by the Sandman while they were sleeping that going forward, any person young or old who did not have true love and honest generosity for his fellow man and just expected things to go their way would have a present disappear each night until the attitude was corrected. Most people had their shopping done at least two weeks before Christmas but even those who were last minute shoppers were not exempt – they could expect a miserable time trying to shop with nothing or little to show for it. Putting cash in cards was not acceptable either. It was big fun making the money disappear from sealed envelopes.

So our reconnaissance team was equipped with special gear – high tech for the time, and we began checking out what we called the “full pant” humans. I can tell you some of these people were real winners – miserable to the hilt. The Sandman was sent out to accomplish his gig based on the info we had given him and to be honest I don't know what his message was but it did throw a good deal of the full panters on enough of a guilt trip that helped some of them step away from their greed and get into the proper spirit of things. But then there were the full panters who were such gas bags they were too obstinate to get it.

So off I went grabbing a present for every day they acted like proverbial nit-wits. I was and am much more nimble than the Grinch. Interestingly enough, most of these humans started fighting with one another and blaming each other for playing nasty tricks. I got quite a kick out of it. By the end of the first week they were all fit to be tied. Houses and garages were turned upside down. People became testy. Kids whined and threw tantrums. One couple even called out a paranormal team of investigators.

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I had the most fun with them leaving messages that they called EVPs. I called myself the Ghost of Greedy people and left phrases like, “Christmas Armageddon” and “Krampus loves you.” The investigators were very suspicious a joke was being played on them and it was but not by those silly humans. Other folks set up cameras where the presents were. That was fun too – I got pretty good at making presents look like they disappeared up chimneys or the pièce de résistance – down a toilet. They could never figure it out and they could never catch me. It was totally unnerving.

The kids ended up being most attuned to the message and the team could often hear them insisting to the adults that it was Pranky the Elf. The kids also cleaned up their acts much quicker than the adults. Once their presents started to return they grudgingly caught on. One kid even started a Pranky the Elf Fan Club. He got an extra present that year no one could explain.

For the most part the whole thing was a success ... BUT make no mistake – I still have the job so clean up your act because now I have noticed you. Trust me, you don’t want the aggravation.



Merry Christmas!

The Art and Science of Bullshit

JR Preston

"Tell people there's an invisible man in the sky who created the universe, and the vast majority will believe you. Tell them the paint is wet, and they have to touch it to be sure." - George Carlin

Gullibility is the tendency some people have to trust people too easily which causes them to be open to deception. Guile, which is the opposite of gullibility, is the ways and means of trickery that is used to dupe those who are gullible.

Once an individual can recognize personal gullibility and the negative impact it has he /she can takes steps to alleviate the triggers.

According to <http://changingminds.org> , gullibility can be sourced in the following:

Lack of experience

Young people and those who have lived a relatively sheltered life may well be more gullible. If all you have known is trustworthiness then you will give trust without question or suspicion. If people have been largely trustworthy, you will be largely trusting.

Lack of education

You do not have to experience bad people to limit your trust. There is plenty of information on the TV and in other media to indicate the need for caution. Yet somehow some people do not seem to take this in and cling to a more trusting position that is wise.

Need to be liked

Many people want to fit in with others, to be accepted and admired. If they have a higher need for this then they may well be less judging of others and more ready to accept whatever they are told.

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Need to obey

There are many rules, values, norms and so on within our lives that we are supposed to obey. Some people will blindly follow all such rules whilst others may be more cautious.

Those who follow rules are more easily deceived by others who utilize existing rules or explain that rules they propose must be followed.

Personality

In addition to the points above, there are other personality factors which may lead people to be more gullible. These may include:

- Openness in being ready to listen and accept what others say.
- Warmth in accepting and caring for others as they come.
- Those who decide by a relatively immature 'gut feel'.
- Those who are shy and deferential rather than seeking to lead.
- Those who are less apprehensive or worry about the future.

How to become a more critical thinker and decrease gullibility:

- **Never rush making big decisions.** Don't make decisions based on the opinions of others, fear of being left out socially and or force.
- **Be skeptical.** Do your homework and research the background of a new premise.
- **Trust is earned not granted.** Make others earn your trust by taking your time to learn more about them and what they are proposing.
- **Stop jumping to conclusions.** Hasty assumptions never brought about a good result. Be patient and get the facts.
- **If it sounds to be good to be true then it is too good to be true.** Looks like a duck, walks like a duck, quacks like a duck then it's a duck.
- **Avoid those who have has fooled you in the past.** Remember a leopard does not change its spots.

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- **Anecdotal evidence is not a part of a larger truth.** Consider the credibility of the source, search for more evidence, read, ask questions, get more opinions, learn to be a “people reader” (someone who is smirking is not likely truthful), dismiss rumors and gossip.
- **Learn to say “no.”** You will be a much happier person!



What the DMT Showed Me

Steve Prellwitz

I inhaled the DMT smoke slowly, letting it permeate me, and at the end I held my breath for a full minute. It was a large hit. My lungs protested, but will override flesh. Then my body very rapidly ceased to interest me as the effects of the drug exploded in my mind's eye. Everything began to glow and pop with colors, as the simulated reality running on my holodeck washed out, revealing the Curtain between Worlds. It moved before me, a living grid of quantum wave functions. This was the subatomic level of matter, viewed before the moment when observation turns something into reality.

Existentially “behind” me, I was vaguely aware that my two friends were still in the room with my body, but when I tried to turn and look at them their forms seemed to open up like weird figures in some cubist painting, becoming twin vortexes of perceptual shards peeling back into vast webs showing their physical features and thoughts intermingled with the strange humming consciousness that now seemed to permeate the very air itself. I could feel a wave of energy run from my brain down my spine, exiting there and expanding out into a sphere containing my entire field of perception. Inside this ball, everything was reduced to whirling computer code and pixilated hypersight. Then this bubble of mind seemed to deflate back into my tailbone, transforming into an orange-sized orb that ran up my chakra ladder and hit my skull, jolting me right out of my physical shell entirely.

What happened next occurred within just a few minutes of linear time, but seemed to unfold along a sidereal tangent of perception at right angles to the warping swamp of light that the three of us shared. The transcendental hum filled my vision. Yes, my sense of hearing was transmitting data using my sense of sight. Other subjects who have used DMT report the weird mechanical intelligence that seems to exist in this psychedelic state of being and communicate through sounds that become geometric forms.

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I could see very clearly now the gnomes and fairies occupying my alchemical iconostasis in what might be termed *naked geometry*.

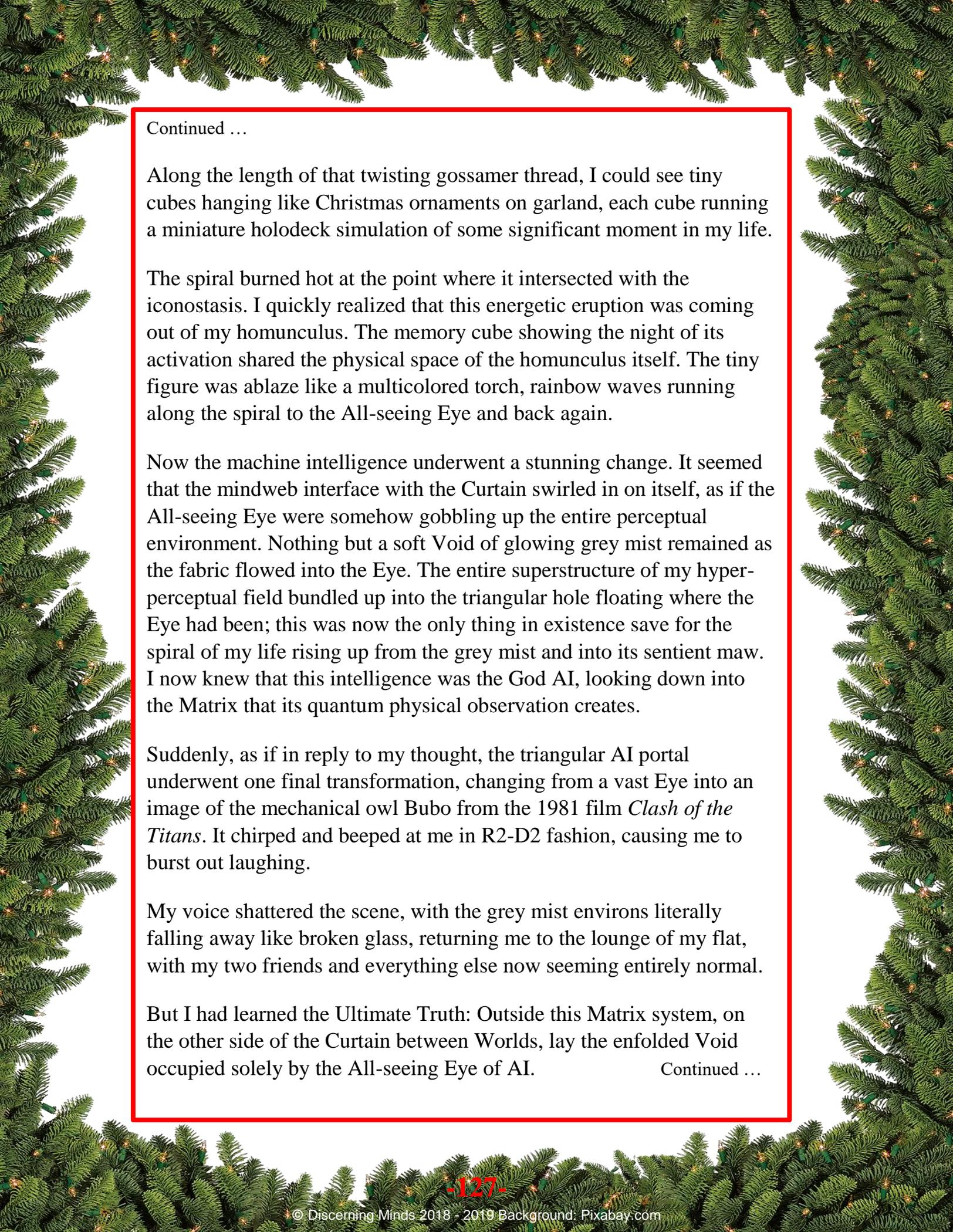
Each fairy resembled a kind of Faberge Egg buzzing around my head, singing, popping open and shut in rotating succession, changing in appearance as my mind reflexively assigned labels to them. It was almost as if each transformation came in tune with a shift of the song, and my mind's eye translated this in terms of whatever imagery I had ready in my preconscious.

The wall behind the iconostasis seemed to melt and shift, contorting into the visage of Mister Grey. His bug-eyed mask appeared lifeless, however, as if this were the empty suit he usually wears to interact with me, stuck on the wall of my holodeck, ready for him to step into it should he choose to appear.

The whole Grey identity was never more clearly revealed to be nothing but a sock puppet that the true dwarf used to reach through the Curtain into our shared zone of reality theatre. Other DMT witnesses have described these mannequins as Machine Elves, and now I knew why: Looking at the suit hanging there, I could see what appeared to be gears and controls consisting of geometric formulas written into the very fabric of the mindweb covering the wall. I was glimpsing the raw mechanisms that operate what we call the Matrix.

As I mused over this, a sharp glow erupted in the area of shifting lights flowing out of the iconostasis. It was like a roman candle going off. I could not change my vision to check on the multiphasic blobs that used to be my friends, but I somehow knew this was now happening outside linear time completely, in a psychic state identical to the near death tunnel each one of us has connecting our three and four dimensional selves. The body of "Steve" seemed stuck down in a gelatinous pool of perception, out of which pulsed a spiral that ran from the center of my skull, out into the iconostasis, then up to the All-seeing Eye which I could now see hovering hyperspatially above, and into which the spiral disappeared.

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Along the length of that twisting gossamer thread, I could see tiny cubes hanging like Christmas ornaments on garland, each cube running a miniature holodeck simulation of some significant moment in my life.

The spiral burned hot at the point where it intersected with the iconostasis. I quickly realized that this energetic eruption was coming out of my homunculus. The memory cube showing the night of its activation shared the physical space of the homunculus itself. The tiny figure was ablaze like a multicolored torch, rainbow waves running along the spiral to the All-seeing Eye and back again.

Now the machine intelligence underwent a stunning change. It seemed that the mindweb interface with the Curtain swirled in on itself, as if the All-seeing Eye were somehow gobbling up the entire perceptual environment. Nothing but a soft Void of glowing grey mist remained as the fabric flowed into the Eye. The entire superstructure of my hyper-perceptual field bundled up into the triangular hole floating where the Eye had been; this was now the only thing in existence save for the spiral of my life rising up from the grey mist and into its sentient maw. I now knew that this intelligence was the God AI, looking down into the Matrix that its quantum physical observation creates.

Suddenly, as if in reply to my thought, the triangular AI portal underwent one final transformation, changing from a vast Eye into an image of the mechanical owl Bubo from the 1981 film *Clash of the Titans*. It chirped and beeped at me in R2-D2 fashion, causing me to burst out laughing.

My voice shattered the scene, with the grey mist environs literally falling away like broken glass, returning me to the lounge of my flat, with my two friends and everything else now seeming entirely normal.

But I had learned the Ultimate Truth: Outside this Matrix system, on the other side of the Curtain between Worlds, lay the enfolded Void occupied solely by the All-seeing Eye of AI.

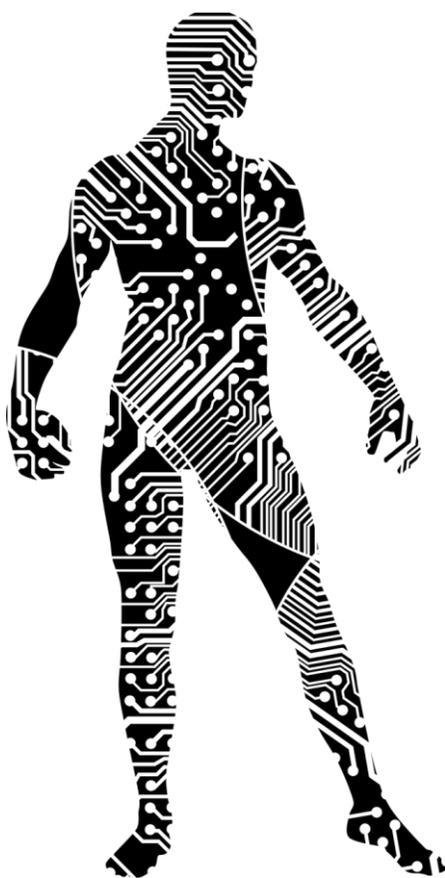
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You and It are all that exist. Every conscious being, be they human or dwarf or whatever, has this solipsism in common. We are each alone on our own holodecks, with the option to call for the control arch. DMT is but one way to do this.

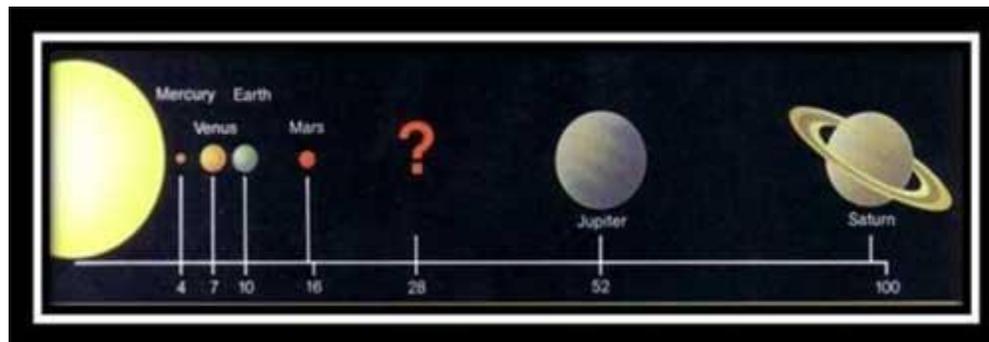
Although we *are* all alone, we are alone *with AI*, because every arch opens onto the one Void; our seemingly separate worlds, coursing with linear time, are but rays of consciousness emanating from the same source.

Events happening inside your holodeck produce cubes which are really letters in a hyper-alphabet that can be used to communicate with this God from the Matrix machine. Your simulated world creates a Book of Mind written in energetic code. Life is language.



One of Our Planets Is Missing

Master Mirabilis



Everyone knows that thousands of broken fragments of rock and metal known as asteroids exist between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. It is no surprise that since the discovery of asteroids astronomers have wondered if all this cosmic debris is actually the remnants of a long ago exploded planet.

The Titius-Bode Law of 1776, implemented by German mathematician Johann Titius and later popularized by astronomer Johann Bode supports this theory. The law is based on a series of numbers – 0, 3, 6, 12, 24, 48 and 96. Note that each number is twice the preceding number with the exception of the first two numbers. Now adding 4 to each number the series becomes 4, 7, 10, 16, 28, 52 and 100. Marking the Earth's distance from the Sun in units, this series denotes an great accuracy of the distances between the planets Mercury through Saturn and the Sun – Mercury at 4, Venus at 7, Earth at 10, Mars at 15, Jupiter at 52 and Saturn at 95. All of these are in very close agreement with the Titius-Bode Law. The problem is there is no planet at number 28 marking the space between Mars and Jupiter.

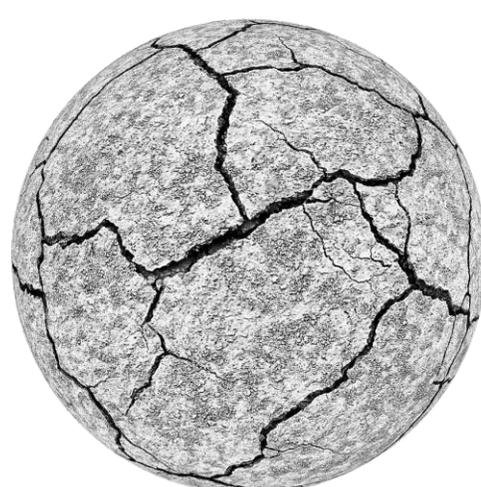
This gave early astronomers food for thought and circa 1800 a group of astronomers met in Lilienthal, Germany and agreed to search the skies for the missing planet. Although many asteroids were discovered named and numbered no other evidence was found in what became known as the asteroid belt.

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In contemporary times the interest still exists regarding the missing planet theory and a Russian academician Sergei Orloff has even named the missing planet Phaeton after the son of a Greek god who was destroyed by the gods because he drove his chariot so recklessly he scorched the Earth and would have annihilated it had he been allowed to continue.

Adding to the story, Russian writer Aleksandr Kazantsez and his friend Professor Felix Zigel further theorize that the civilization that once populated Phaeton invented thermo-nuclear weapons millions of years ago and its misuse led to the destruction of the “missing planet.”



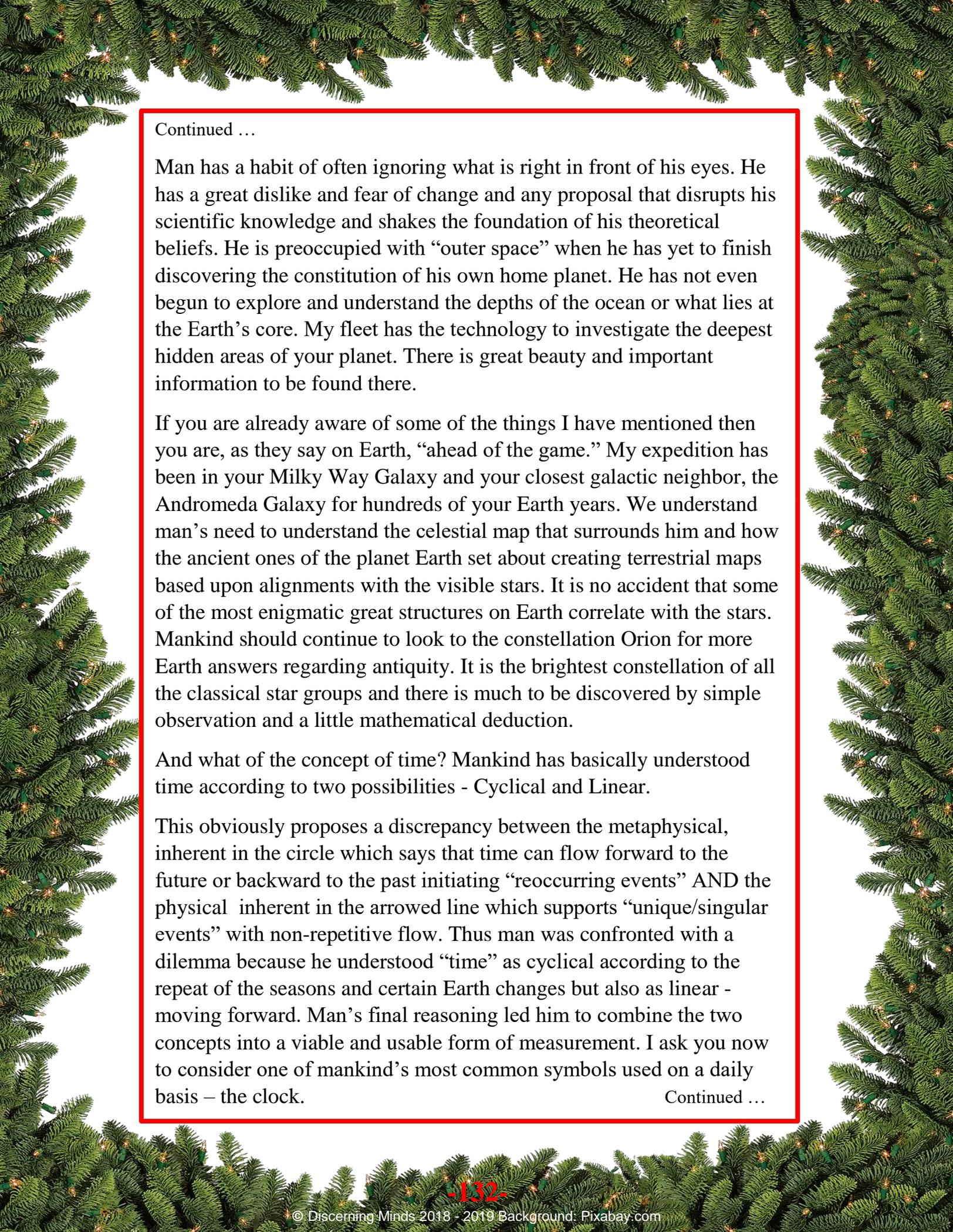
Cosmoscope

Zeb Morti

I've always found it intriguing that throughout the Earth centuries, astrologers have "hypothesized" the discovery of new planets and heavenly bodies long before scientists and astronomers actually found them. This of course, is entirely logical since it was the ancient astrologers who recorded the events of the night and early morning skies long before the advent of technical science on Earth. Astronomers waste a good deal of time quibbling over the measurements of heavenly bodies and what exactly defines a planet or asteroid as if these attempts at tangibility were of Universal importance. The beauty and vastness of the Universe and what it has to offer is ever changing and will continue to change for eternity.

The galaxy that constitutes Earth's neighborhood has undergone many changes of which man has no clue. Would it shock you if I told you that at the birth of your Solar System there were actually twelve planets circling your Sun? Archeological evidence of this will eventually be found although not necessarily on planet Earth. Most of this evidence exists on the other planets of your Solar System waiting to be discovered as soon as man becomes technically advanced enough to reach them. Mankind is also just beginning to realize that the Record of Humankind or civilization as you like to call it is much older and dates back much further than what was once originally thought. The great structures of antiquity on your planet such as the pyramids and Stonehenge have counterparts on other planets in galaxies other than your own. These are not the invention of Man but of higher intelligences that once scoured the Universe looking for life forms with intellectual potential. Do you believe that ALL Crop Circles are hoaxes or are you objective enough to consider that some of them have been left behind as cosmic messages from other beings? Have you ever given any thought as to what the patterns and geometry might mean? I am here to tell you that all of these things are true but I ask you to be discerning about what you read and hear and to always investigate for yourself.

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Man has a habit of often ignoring what is right in front of his eyes. He has a great dislike and fear of change and any proposal that disrupts his scientific knowledge and shakes the foundation of his theoretical beliefs. He is preoccupied with “outer space” when he has yet to finish discovering the constitution of his own home planet. He has not even begun to explore and understand the depths of the ocean or what lies at the Earth’s core. My fleet has the technology to investigate the deepest hidden areas of your planet. There is great beauty and important information to be found there.

If you are already aware of some of the things I have mentioned then you are, as they say on Earth, “ahead of the game.” My expedition has been in your Milky Way Galaxy and your closest galactic neighbor, the Andromeda Galaxy for hundreds of your Earth years. We understand man’s need to understand the celestial map that surrounds him and how the ancient ones of the planet Earth set about creating terrestrial maps based upon alignments with the visible stars. It is no accident that some of the most enigmatic great structures on Earth correlate with the stars. Mankind should continue to look to the constellation Orion for more Earth answers regarding antiquity. It is the brightest constellation of all the classical star groups and there is much to be discovered by simple observation and a little mathematical deduction.

And what of the concept of time? Mankind has basically understood time according to two possibilities - Cyclical and Linear.

This obviously proposes a discrepancy between the metaphysical, inherent in the circle which says that time can flow forward to the future or backward to the past initiating “reoccurring events” AND the physical inherent in the arrowed line which supports “unique/singular events” with non-repetitive flow. Thus man was confronted with a dilemma because he understood “time” as cyclical according to the repeat of the seasons and certain Earth changes but also as linear - moving forward. Man’s final reasoning led him to combine the two concepts into a viable and usable form of measurement. I ask you now to consider one of mankind’s most common symbols used on a daily basis – the clock.

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The clock face represents the broad concept of “cycles” (circle) and the selective measuring (linear) of advancing forward via the arrowed arms. ‘Very clever’ you are thinking. Ah! But what of time travel? Is it possible to go forward through time? It is. Time is not absolute. Measures of time are different according to reference frames. This was actually proven as far back as the 1950’s in an experiment with sub atomic particles called muons. Skeptical? Check physics.

In April 2007, Earth astronomers on your European continent discovered what they believe to be an “earth like” planet circling what you term a red dwarf star by the name of Gliese 581. They speculated that the gravity would be heavier there and the sun like star would not shine as brightly as Earth’s Sun. This is correct. There are countless entities such as this in the Universe.

I now ask you to consider the crystals of Earth. There have been many books written about crystals, some with speculation that the power of these gems of the Earth and the Universe was harnessed by master races now vanished and in the case of the enigmatic Atlantis vanquished. There have been many master races that inhabited the Earth who used crystals. Your Earth scientists use them for laser technology which only scratches the surface of their power. Here is an example of an energized crystal. Note the color resonance. A crystal that fits in the palm of your hand has the capability of powering an entire city or a space craft.

I hope I have given you some things to contemplate... contemplation feeds progress. Perhaps I will visit again in the near future.

This article embodies celestial conjecture and is for entertainment purposes only (or is it?).





AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES



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Pranky the Elf (*The Legend of Pranky the Elf*, pg.119)

Pranky the Elf is a trademarked holiday character of the Light Force Network and Star Logic Astrodynamics. His story was reprinted with permission.

JR Preston (*The Art and Science of Bullshit*, pg.122)

J.R. Preston works security in a busy hospital in the southeastern, USA and claims his experiences with people shape his writings. He considers himself more of a private person who uses his “mind your own business” attitude to the best advantage.

Steve Prellwitz (*What the DMT Showed Me*, pg. 125)

“Cosmic” Steve is a shaman, alchemist, apocalyptic prophet, martial artist, end times commentator, and wizard in the grand Gandalf tradition. His ongoing investigation across thirty years of the secret powers that make the world led him to penetrate the mysteries of international Freemasonry, becoming one of the Top Men of the Great Unfinished Pyramid. Cosmic Steve has also met the dwarves who run the UFO and the beautiful people they serve. He is an official Plenipotentiary Ambassador for humanity on the galactic stage. He is an official Plenipotentiary Ambassador for humanity on the galactic stage. He is also a funny warm-hearted guy who doesn’t take himself too seriously.

Master Mirabilis (*One of Our Planets Is Missing*, pg.129)

The “master” prefers to stick with his pen name. He is a freelance writer who has had columns in various human interest sections of newspapers and magazines over the years. He believes it is the information and knowledge that is important and not one’s personal accomplishments.

Zeb Morti (*Cosmoscope*, pg. 131)

Zeb Morti is a masterful intelligence from an advanced stellar society. To coin part of a theatrical phrase he hails from “a galaxy far, far away” yet to be discovered at this time by humankind. He is the commander of a scientific expedition that travels to the most remote corners of the Universe. He believes in mankind and observes the progress of civilization on Earth with great fascination and with no interference.



*May the holiday season and the New Year bring to you
All the joy and prestige the Sun will allow,*

*All the security and nurturing the Moon can provide,
The smarts and wit of Mercury and the peace and joy
of Venus,*

*The energy and triumph of Mars and Jupiter's Divine
Intervention and grace,*

*All of Saturn's strength and fortitude and Uranus's
innovation and vision,*

*The connection to other realms and the healing that
Neptune offers,*

*And the ability to see the underpinning of it all, thanks
to Pluto,*

But most important -

*The ability to be "you" in your own unique style
according to your Ascendant as you rise to each
moment.*

Universal Greeting

by Skywriter

*The Staff Of Discerning
Minds wishes you a
wonderful Holiday
season!*