



DISCERNING MINDS

Premiere Metaphysical Quarterly For The Abstract Enthusiast

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

VOLUME 3 - AUTUMN 2017

What's Your Perspective?



What's Your Perspective?

Don't judge a book by its cover, rather, by what you uncover.

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The Human Condition



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Right Madness

Dr. Maxwell Therron

“I’m sorry, if you were right I’d agree with you.” – Robin Williams

We all know them. Those maddening people who absolutely must be right about everything. Those tenacious crab-like creatures who hook on to an argument and like a disgruntled bulldog who won’t let go until they prove their point *to the point* you are brain dead from listening to their pseudo scholarship.

The need to *be right* is one of our cultural memes. It is embedded in all of us. Human beings are capable of arguing about anything and we actually like it. It is invigorating, empowering and ego boosting. We continue to do it even though our brains and consciences know it is the reason behind hatred, violence and even war. When we are caught up in the thrall of an argument that has superseded the rules of *debate* we pay the price and often sever good relationships that had the potential of not only serving ourselves but others.

From the very beginning – the second we incarnate into this world, we are surrounded by the construct of right and wrong. Even our first encounters with education show us that correct answers garner us rewards and success. Correctness saves us from shame and embarrassment. The pity is this has nothing to do with actual learning and everything to do with conditioning. We have lost our way from ancient Greece when a student was rewarded for asking the right question rather than spewing out a correct rote answer.

Our fixation with *beliefs* also get thrown into this recipe. Thoughts and beliefs defend our territories and buoy our boundaries. If we think about it, this is linked to our primal cultures and the need to conquer AND the human ego need to be honored and respected above all – he who has all the toys wins – literally. What we have failed to grasp during our evolution is that the pervasive attachment to always be right erodes our natural instinct to learn. How can we learn anything new or add it to our mental catalog for consideration when there is such heavy preoccupation with being superior? It produces nothing except weakened communications.

“Life offers a cruel choice: you can be right or happy. Not both.” – Albert J. Bernstein

There is a freedom in not being right all the time. It is an escape from linear one dimensional thinking. If we look at this need honestly and with a clear lense, deep down inside we recognize that it is based in fear and aside from the overwhelming need to be credible, it is also based in the overwhelming desire to be in control. Winning an argument takes away the fear and puts one back in control.

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The sad thing is the identity is all wrapped up in all of this and accepts itself as an inflexible thinker which has become a self-validated way 'to be'. So it must be remembered: "The truth you believe and cling to makes you unavailable to hear anything new." - Pema Chodron

"The more you know, the less you need to show." – Unknown ... is a good place to start.

Being willing to engage in a fair dialog without the need to dominate, being unyielding, putting others down, lying, exaggerating, screaming and harassing is the test. Starting out an argument with a clever detraction such as, "consider this" or "I'm no expert but ..." does not assuage responsibility. In the end there is nothing won and much lost if that test is failed.

“Often after arguing about differing opinions, I hear people say, "Let's agree to disagree." I look forward to a time, so open-minded I'll hear people say, "I'm right and you can be, too” – Paula Heller Garland



Pissing Contest

Janus, the Armchair Psychologist

“Everybody loves a winner.”

Do they *really*?

Psychologists consider a little competition now and then a healthy thing but, what happens when the situation gets out of hand bordering on the extreme and ends up in a proverbial *pissing contest*? What's a spiritual person to do to avoid letting that *alpha-person* get on one's nerves? Remember it takes two to tango so stop fueling the fire.

Pissing contests occur in all walks of life and in just about every social situation. It's worth remembering that being competitive isn't bad - just being overly so. If somebody wants to be the best, but balances that with respect for others, competitiveness isn't a problem. A pissing contest ensues because all involved are taking it way too seriously. If you are working diligently on something and someone else is trying their damndest to out-do you, try to take it stride. If your work is good it will shine and nothing or no one else will deter its glimmer no matter how hard they try to piss on your attempts.

Some of the worst pissing contests occur over materialism. Gloating is a nuisance and who cares if something cost more or is a *rare* find? The one with the most toys does not win in the end... coffins don't have pockets. This behavior can be diffused by honestly finding and expressing sincere happiness for the other person's good fortune and letting it all go. If you cease to give a reaction to this type of nonsense, *the pisser* will cease thinking it important to tell you about it.

Learn how to laugh - long and hearty as it will prevent your ego from getting in the way. Let the other guy overspend on his material needs. You'll have the last laugh when you reveal how much you've saved that could be spent on something more important that will bring true life enjoyment and happiness.

Let others know how much you love and respect them but that you personally feel life is an experience and not a competition AND don't get caught in their web by competing against them because that's exactly what they want you to do.

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Some people are simply narcissistic and arrogant, and see you, according to psychologist Dr. Melanie Greenberg, "as a potential threat to their own success, or as an object to use or manipulate in order to meet their own needs or increase their resources."

Manipulation is large by-product of competition and a necessary component of a pissing contest. Manipulative techniques are based in fear behavior and are thus expressed as a strong desire to control others and situations. The worst kinds of pissing contests have foundations in this defense mechanism. When you think about manipulators, they are nothing but bullies with psychological flair. They like to blame you for things and are adept guilting others into doing certain things. In their minds, they can never lose a pissing contest because they believe themselves to be too clever and subtle to lose. What can be done about this piss puddle?

Avoidance can work but if the person is persistent, you'll need more than an umbrella for the yellow rain. It might be better to be honest with them about their behaviors. Have a frank and upfront discussion about how you understand what they are doing and that it is unacceptable to you. Expect them to deny ever doing any of the things you say they are doing or trying to turn the tables and blame it on you. However, continue to explain that you don't care for the way they are treating you and they must stop immediately. If they truly have any feelings for you as a person, they will change their ways. If they still refuse to respect your wishes, then it is time for you to re-evaluate if the other person really has any meaning to your life. Remember, anyone who does not support your growth needs to go! If lying is at the basis of the manipulation you're better off getting this person out of your life completely. This kind of leopard never changes its spots. Don't let him or her keep pissing on you with their stream of lies and deceptions.

The master manipulative pissers will literally stoop to making threats. Some will say that they'll leave the relationship or friendship if you do not comply or try to throw down major blame on you saying they cannot live without you which really means they cannot live without your *approval*. This behavior is difficult to counter but you can acknowledge their threat and see if they will really carry through with it. Many times, their threats are empty and they end up backing down and trying something else to get their way.

Believe this – you are *not* the only person they are trying to manipulate and piss on so get a clue here! Confronting a pisser may be uncomfortable but it is still better than remaining a pisse.

Perchance to Dream

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas

In these contemporary times, dream symbolism has taken on a more psychological view which also tends to be the currently accepted world view. Nearly everyone today is familiar with the psycho-analytical work of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung who basically both believed that dreams had their own language and logic based in the unconscious. Their personally approaches to dream analysis is where the psychological camp became divided with Freud an advocate of 'contra-desire' and free association symbolism and Jung who believed in 'sticking with the images' and their connection to the Universal Archetype only as they pertained exclusively to the life and experience of the individual.

There are all sorts of "Dream Books" on the market today ranging from serious psychological texts to the more esoteric brands. The psychological spin on the subject often lists common dreams and their possible 'conscious time' connections and meanings. For example, a dream of flying by one's own volition is a very common dream as is being naked in public or falling.

Flying dreams are generally pleasant or unpleasant but should this opportunity come up in the dream state it is not likely the dreamer will pass up being able to soar freely from one place to the next. Some of the ancients believed that the higher one soared in a dream the luckier he would be in his waking life... soaring to the heights so to speak. Modern psychology would ask the individual to define how he or she felt while flying in the dream and if those feelings in any way equated with a waking life situation. If pleasant, the dreamer would be asked if the dream equated with any conscious situation whereby the individual wished he or she felt as good as was portrayed in the dream. If unpleasant, the dreamer would be asked if the dream paralleled any life circumstance that was threatening triggering reticence to cope.

The being naked in public dream has had several meanings in the world of psychology. Freud relegated it to a waking need for exhibitionism based upon infantile tendencies and wishes for freedom. In the 1950's, Psychoanalyst Emil Guthiel expressed that he thought this dream revealed the dreamer's feelings of guilt or inferiority thus bolstering the waking sense of justification for personal shortcomings. Today this dream is thought to exemplify anxiety or worry over feeling vulnerable and being exposed particularly concerning matters of sexual prowess.

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Finally, the falling dream and the misnomer that if the dreamer hits the ground he or she will die. Almost any practicing psychologist will tell you that they have spoken to many dreamers who have hit the ground in a falling dream and lived to tell about it! Nearly all also agree that dreams of falling are generally dreams relating to anxiety connected to loss or failure. In this case the dreamer is often asked about the part of the dream that precedes the fall and how that might equate with a conscious time situation.

DREAM THEMES

One thing that has remained a constant since ancient times is the importance of recognizing the main theme of a dream. This is easier to determine in some dreams more than others if the dream tends to have less tangents or minor frivolous details. To discern the theme of a dream and the subconscious wish it is helpful to record the dream in the following way:

- Jot down the dream “story” (try to keep down to a one page synopsis) during a time of the day when you are relaxed and undisturbed but do so within 12 hours. Some of the minor details may be lost but this is actually a help not a hindrance.
- Divide the dream into its parts or elements such as settings, people, characters, animals, objects, emotions, dilemmas, and actions. Don’t forget to note any outstanding colors. Dream breakdown is done only to avoid overlooking something that may be important to analysis.
- Since you are actually one of the dream elements, note whether you had an active role in the dream or a passive observer role.
- Highlight the main elements of the dream.
- Ask yourself if any of the main elements relates to a recent event or idea in your life that you are currently struggling with or considering. Also allow yourself to memory associate to see if the dream relates to anything from your past.

Dream Theme Example

This was the dream of nice Hindu woman who for many years had been holding a serious religious occasion for her community in her home. This was an important event in the community which lasted a full week and ran a full 24 hours each day with people coming and going at all hours. It took tremendous planning for the religious aspects, food, lodgings, and entertainment. She and her husband were considered pillars of the community and her husband wanted to continue the event on an annual basis but she has grown tired of it all and needed a break. She expressed her wishes to her husband who was resentful and who kept arguing with her in an attempt to change her mind. The dream occurred the day after her husband expressed a vehement counter argument in favor of the festivities.

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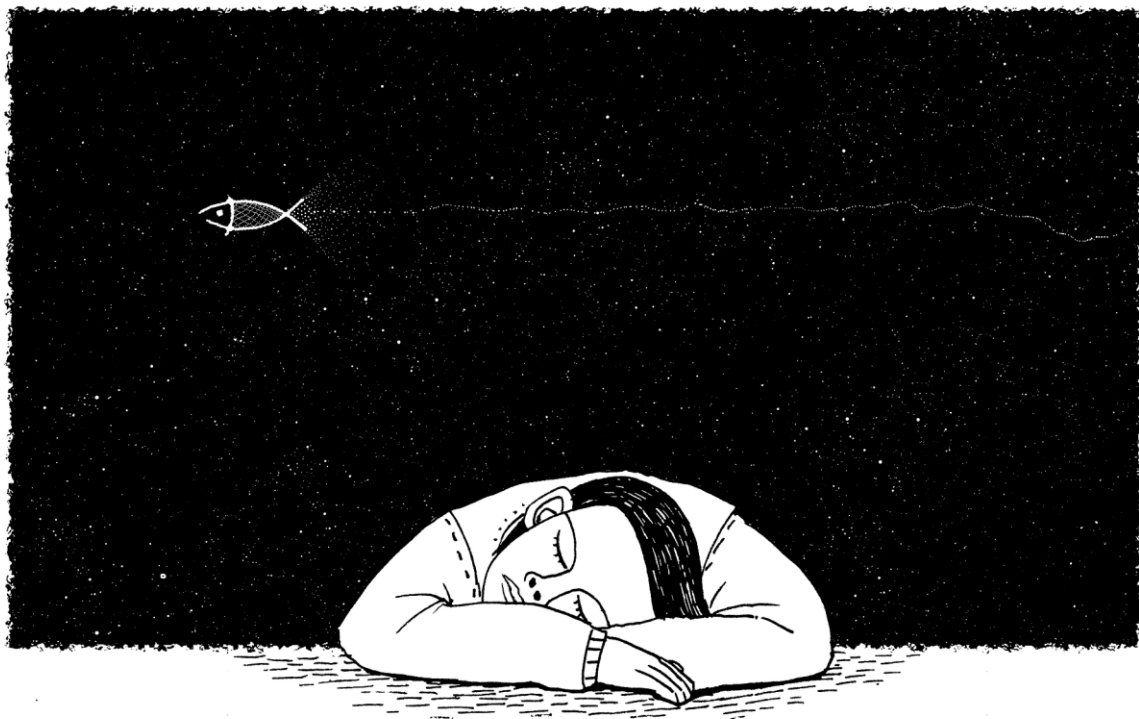
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Summary:

“I (active role) was in my house doing my routine (setting) domestics when I became aware of a terrible commotion (action) outside. When I went outside I saw Shiva the Hindu god of destruction (character) tearing up the neighborhood destroying (action) everything in his path. He was jumping from rooftop to rooftop smashing and burning everything. Finally he landed on the roof of my house and I was very frightened (emotion) trying to figure out a way to get out.” (dilemma) Dream ends.

After a brief analysis it was discerned that the subconscious wish was to be free of the guilt she felt by declining to host any further festivities. She felt trapped and was looking for a way out of the situation. She was also worried that she would be punished on a spiritual level because she was declining to do her duty and was concerned about losing face in the community. It just so happened that this woman’s personal patron god was Shiva.

Once the dream was analyzed she felt better. She was able to reason with her husband who finally agreed to take a break. She spent the following year having her home repaired and painted. She was able to bring her subconscious wish to conscious fruition.



Hey There, You with Your Nose in the Air

Kellie Nothe

According to most internet dictionary sources, the term *self-righteous* is defined as being characterized by a certainty, especially an unfounded one, that one is totally correct or morally superior. Add to that sanctimonious, smug, priggish, pious, preachy, hypocritical, goody-goody and all around holier-than-thou and you have described that person with their nose clearly in the air a “high nose.” You know, that nose you would love to punch and flatten. It goes beyond trying to reason out someone’s personal opinion. This person gets up our ire and outrage every time mostly because they *seem* to present a good argument laced with terms like, “there’s a right way and a wrong way,” “it’s improper,” and the psychological zinger, “it’s not fair and equitable.”

It is the ultimate guilt trip.

Worse yet, these individuals often acquire a following – those unhappy, frustrated beings usually suffering from low self-esteem who literally need to hear the constant avalanche of spewed moral trite. They willingly attach themselves to one who they believe to be superior or “knowing.” In some psychological circles this is known as a control attachment. Scary.

As far as the rest of us ... if we think about it we come to know that these people are nothing more than criticism mouthed manipulators. So why do we react to them? Are we being self-indulgent because we are letting them stir our emotions? After all in reality the “high noses” are actually sabotaging themselves ready for the time when someone really in the *know* comes along and bursts their bubble. This is often messy when all the heady and haughty exhilaration spills out like gopher guts all over the lawn via annihilation by a higher intellectual lawn mower.

What is an intellectually sound person to do? If you decide to engage a “high nose” here are some tips:

- The very best thing to do of course is to ignore these people. If what is being delivered has no relevance to your life there is no point examining it further.
- If you are becoming that angry then you need to figure out what the trigger is and you can only do that by listening to the pros and cons of what is being delivered. Look for validity or what might ring true for you on some level. Dismiss what does not comply.

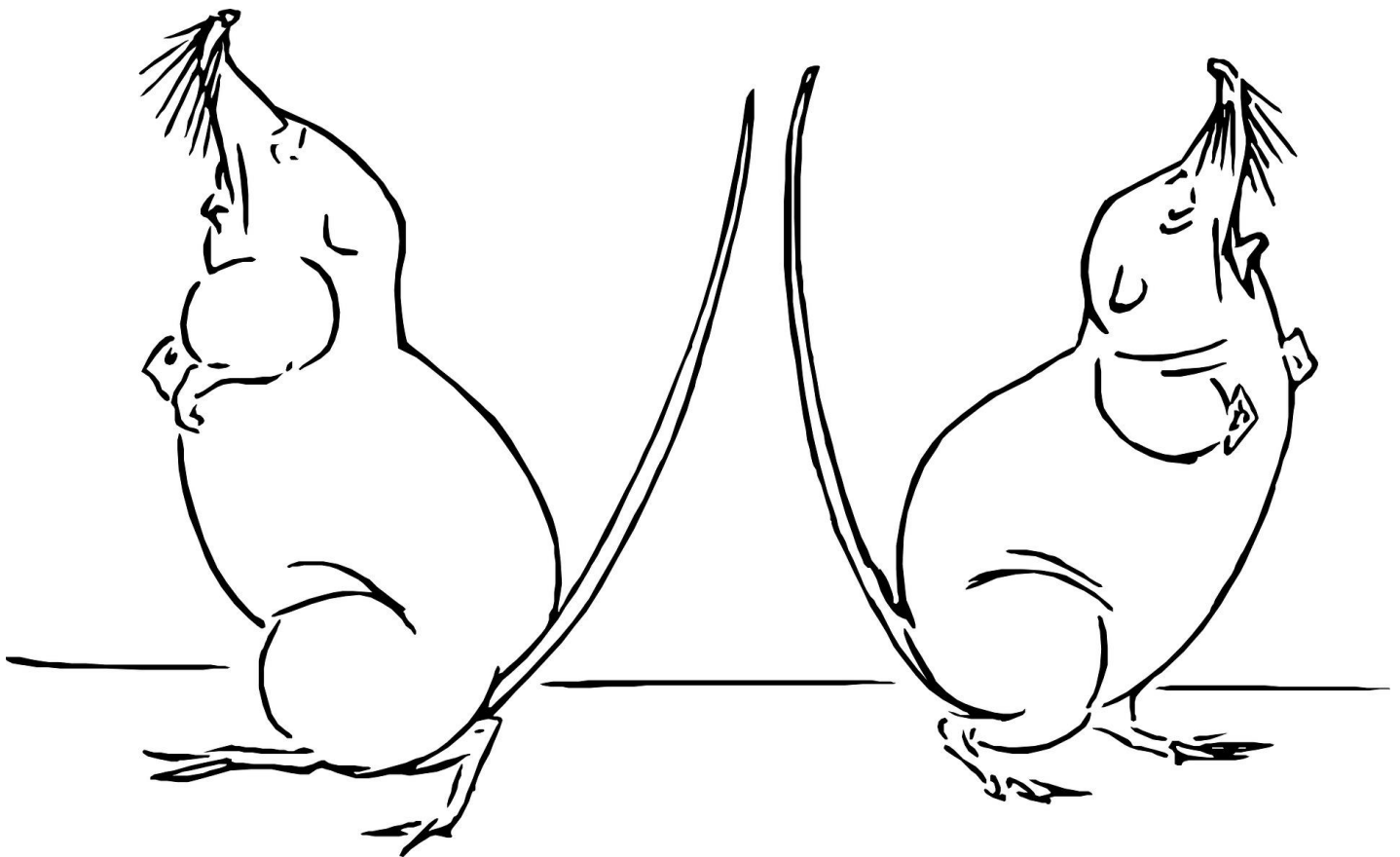
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- For heaven's sake keep your sense of humor and keep anger out of any responses if you decide to respond. Anger loses an argument every time ... that's right every time. Why? Because credibility is lost. When credibility is lost so is the audience. This can actually be very beneficial to apply helping to put things in the best perspective.
- Once in a while a valid point is made amongst all the slobbering sanctimony. If you can pick it out, it just may be useful in your life. By doing this you will have learned a bit of detachment and objectivity.

It is OK to be different and not go along with the crowd.

It is not OK to become a "high nose." Leave that to the gophers.



Inside Out OR Outside In?

Marilee Zamaralia

Chance, accident, concomitant, concurrent, fluky, fortuitous, parallel, simultaneous, unintentional, unplanned, synchronous

We all know how it works ...

A song has been running through your head to the point where it is becoming maddeningly annoying. You suddenly decide to turn on the radio in hopes that you can rewire the loop in your brain and there is that exact same song resounding through the airwaves right back at you.

You've been thinking about someone and you inexplicably bump into that person while you're out and about or the phone rings and that person is on the other end of the line.

You are planning to write a blog post or plan a social event or a vacation and suddenly you're inundated with useful information regarding your plans from all manner of media sources; including the guy next door who rarely talks to you but just happened to run into you at the mailbox and has amazingly turned into a veritable magpie with a vast wealth of knowledge he cannot wait to share.

Out of twenty guests at a party, two of them have exactly the same birthday.

We all live with these little "coincidences" or as Jung so fondly referred to these acausal principled events, "synchronicities," every single day. Most times we ignore them or just accept them as unimportant part of our mundane lives.

In essence: Is the "internal" process creating "external" manifestation of events and situations OR is the "external" providing the manifestation of events and situations to get our attention so we keep traveling life's highway to face challenges?

Although this mind boggling query has obviously been dissected to the point of obliteration aka "kicking a dead horse," consider the following:

If we accept the premise of incarnation within the mental construct that we have come here to accept life's challenges as the reason we are all here, then we can also accept that the long stretch of highway known as life just might have "flagged" events that act like distance markers.

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By review we are:

1. Having a thought, pondering or daydream.
2. Seeing it manifest itself shortly after the thought, pondering or daydream occurred.
3. Considering and discerning if we are actually foreseeing one of those flagged events.

Kick that up a notch. Are the experiences we tend to shrug off so dismissively just “coincidences” or are they proof that we were very much alive before we came into this life and will be very much alive upon re-entry?

Are they snapshots of immortality that tell us we are in perfect synch ... AND with what?

If so, this would undeniably relay that there obviously is NO SUCH THING AS COINCIDENCE.

For those with a highly empirical bent, a coincidence is happenstance, a simultaneous collision of two events that has no special significance and obeys the laws of probability. "In reality, the most astonishingly incredible coincidence imaginable would be the complete absence of all coincidence," says John Allen Paulos, professor of mathematics at Temple University in Philadelphia, and best-selling author of Innumeracy: Mathematical Illiteracy and Its Consequences. "Believing in the significance of oddities is self-aggrandizing," he adds. "It says, 'Look how important I am.' People find it dispiriting to hear, 'It just happened, and it doesn't mean anything.'"

To the mystically inclined, however, coincidence is a synchronicity, the purposeful occurrence of two seemingly unrelated events. The argument is not likely to be resolved anytime soon. Of late, though, the phenomenon of coincidence has begun to yield new scientific insights. It turns out that we may actually be hardwired to connect anomalies in a meaningful way. Many of the remarkable feats our brains regularly perform—including our ability to learn the meaning of words or decode the unspoken laws of social decorum depend on our penchant for noticing coincidences. In fact, mathematicians, cognitive scientists and paranormal researchers are applying the tools of statistics and probability to tease out just where coincidences lie on the bell curve of everyday experience. ~ Jill Neimark Psychology Today

“Every individual decision is nothing but coincidence ...” ~ Alva Noto



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Dr. Maxwell Theron (Right Madness, pg. 2)

Dr. Max is a retired psychologist who volunteers his time to trauma units where he assists families with directional guidance. His wife April is a practicing RN. They have five children and fifteen grandchildren who he believes will carry on the family legacy of service to others.

Janus, the Arm Chair Psychologist (Pissing Contest pg. 4)

Janus is a former native of New England whose friends and neighbors dubbed her with the honorary title of Arm Chair Psychologist mainly because of her observant and perceptive nature. She enjoys historical mysteries and digging deep underneath the rocks via research. She has been married to the same man for 40 years and has two grown children.

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas (*Perchance to Dream*, pg. 6)

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.

Kellie Nothe (*Hey There, You with your Nose in the Air*, pg. 9)

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.

Marilee Zamaralia (*Inside Out OR Outside In?* pg. 11)

Marilee loves to write except about herself and prefers to remain anonymous.

A Matter Of Spirit

*What moves you within
Manifests without ...*



Section Managing Editor – John “Salaam” Solis

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Discovering Your Path

John Bennett

I was raised a Roman Catholic. I was taught that God was up in heaven and watched over me and my family. I didn't go to parochial school; I went to a weekly catechism. This was where I was given the beliefs and practices of my religion. Early on we were shown how to make the sign of the cross. We would call out the Father (God), the Son (Jesus) and the Holy Ghost (still not sure about this one). The Church called this the Holy Trinity. Three different gods, but they told us there was only one. ?????????????? Yeah this had me going also. I guess this was my first inkling that Catholicism didn't have all the answers, in fact they weren't even asking the right questions.

For the next 40 years I was on a spiritual journey, wandering around, reading the holy text of the major religions. All the books had something to say to me. But none of them were able to make a connection to my spirit. I believed that there was a central power in the universe I just didn't know how to make a connection.

I started reading books on Wicca, Druidism and many other Paths. The more I read the more I came to understand that my questions were actually the foundation of my beliefs. I didn't have to look for a Divine Being, it was inside of me. What I needed to do was learn to make that connection to the Divine.

I started with the Internet, looking for teachers. I figured that was the best way. Someone would be able to teach me the answers. For me this was not the right path. I realized that many of the problems I had with book religions were present here. I guess that it's just human nature. I know of many people who have found their paths with the help of a teacher/guide. For me this was not the right way.

I started to visit the various shops and soon discovered that there were many more people with my views on life than I had thought. I do what I do best, started talking.

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No one had my exact views, but that's the stimulus that I needed to find my path. I realized that I needed to take those things that meant something to me, spiritually, physically and emotionally.

I couldn't be shown the path, I had to make one for myself.

And so it has come to this - my journey will cover many lifetimes. Hopefully with each one I will grow closer to being able to join with the Goddess/God within me.





The Concept and Construct of Satan

Syd Alrruhi

At some stage in our esoteric lessons, we come to consider the need for clarity regarding a subject that has been greatly misunderstood throughout the ages – the concept of Satan or the Devil. The Devil is not a particular possession of the Christian faith and its origin is found in the remote past.

Some thought flow buoyed by history.

We'll keep it simple.

Consider:

In the Old Testament, Satan is mentioned only three times.

Zechariah 3: 1-2 – “Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. And the Lord said to Satan, ‘The Lord rebuke you, O Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you!’”

Job 1-2 – Satan is presented as the tempter and adversary of God, plying him for the soul of his servant Job.

1 Chronicles 21:1 – Satan appears as the tempter of David.

These particular passages, scholars consider to be from the postexilic period dated later than 539 B.C. Historically from this, we can theorize that Satan did not stem from the period when the Jews were held in captivity by the Egyptians. Current thought then lends this possibility – that the idea of a force of evil equal to God may have been derived from contact with members of the Zoroastrian faith of Persia.

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The Zoroastrian religion, based on the teachings of Zoroaster, holds that two gods, Ahura Mazda aka Ormazd, was the leader of the “host of light” and the source of all good while Angra Mainya aka Ahriman was a spirit of darkness and the source of all evil. These two constantly battle for control of the world and all of its manifestations. At the end of it all, it is believed that Ormazd, the god of good wins and defeats Ahriman, the god of evil.

Further along, when this concept came to Judaism it led to the creation of the Satan (Sa-tan) patterned after Ahriman the creation who stood in opposition to God who sought to ruin man and frustrate the purpose God had for man. The Hebrew word Satan literally means adversary or accuser. This particular creation was always inferior to God rather than a dualistic equal version found in Zoroastrianism.

When Christianity rose and at the Council of Toledo I A.D. 447, Satan was transformed into the concept of Devil which is Greek for slanderer by the Church.

The Devil gets his horns:

Yet here is a puzzle piece to consider: The Devil as understood by Christianity was a misunderstanding based upon ignorance regarding the true nature of Wicca and its traditional association with horned gods and priests. This was fostered during the medieval period when Christians happened to stumble upon outdoor meetings of Wiccans whereby a priest might be dressed as a creature of horns dancing around a fire as it had been done for centuries. Because of the teachings of the Church and some lively imaginations observers went back to their priests insisting they had seen Satan himself. Unfortunately, because these people could not read or write, they did not know *why* the Church came to believe in the Devil.

In contemporary times, some people still believe in God and Satan in a literal sense often using the argument that Satan’s strongest tool is the use of non-belief in his power or existence. Some believe there is God but certainly no Satan.

Continued ...

Still others believe there is a foundation based upon the balance of the forces of good and evil with no constructed concept of the duality of God vs Satan.

What does your contact with the Universal Mind tell you about the mythos?

Enter the silence and find out.



Evil

Mad Max Lucasi

“The problem of evil is one of our oldest intellectual conundrums. Volumes have been written attempting to define evil, to catalog its horrors, to account for its persistence, to explain its appeal, to confront its consequences. The moment we begin to ask questions about the nature of evil, however, we begin to understand how difficult it is to answer them. One way to start the discussion is to narrow the focus.” ~ Alan Wolfe

How do you define evil? Is it merely a relative term that each person will define differently? When we review history, do we see concepts that were once considered evil are now acceptable?

Evil is all too often analyzed at too high a level of abstraction. Theologians will tell us that evil is the absence of God in our daily lives, a neat little umbrella term that loses some of its punch when these very same theologians, in the same breath, have a good degree of difficulty defining Divine Essence in general. Contemporary metaphysicians and philosophers will confidently claim that evil is a disturbance in the natural order of the Universe only to fall short trying to explain “what” the “nature” of the Universe actually is let alone what “order” constitutes. Science will tell us that evil is a by-product of some faulty cross wiring in our brains so we are then reduced to mindless madmen and women who are not responsible for what our minds are producing thus giving birth to the neighborhood rapist, the hell bent destructo-terrorist and even the covetous unethical politician who’s helping to pass legislation to rob us blind.

"Malum naturæ" ... "culpæ" ... "paenæ"

Some believe that evil is divided into three categories - physical, moral, and metaphysical.

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These following definitions are from the Catholic Encyclopedia:

Physical evil includes all that causes harm to man, whether by bodily injury, by thwarting his natural desires, or by preventing the full development of his powers, either in the order of nature directly, or through the various social conditions under which mankind naturally exists. Physical evils directly due to nature are sickness, accident, death, etc. Poverty, oppression, and some forms of disease are instances of evil arising from imperfect social organization. Mental suffering, such as anxiety, disappointment, and remorse, and the limitation of intelligence which prevents humans beings from attaining to the full comprehension of their environment, are congenital forms of evil each vary in character and degree according to natural disposition and social circumstances.

Moral evil is understood to be the deviation of human volition from the prescriptions of the moral order and the action which results from that deviation. Such action, when it proceeds solely from ignorance, is not to be classed as moral evil, which is properly restricted to the motions of will towards ends of which the conscience disapproves. The extent of moral evil is not limited to the circumstances of life in the natural order, but includes also the sphere of religion, by which man's welfare is affected in the supernatural order, and the precepts of which, as depending ultimately upon the will of God, are of the strictest possible obligation. The obligation to moral action in the natural order is, moreover, generally believed to depend on the motives supplied by religion; and it is at least doubtful whether it is possible for moral obligation to exist at all apart from a supernatural sanction believed to depend on the motives supplied by religion; and it is at least doubtful whether it is possible for moral obligation to exist at all apart from a supernatural sanction.

Metaphysical evil is the limitation by one another of various component parts of the natural world. Through this mutual limitation natural objects are for the most part prevented from attaining to their full or ideal perfection, whether by the constant pressure of physical condition, or by sudden catastrophes.

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Thus, animal and vegetable organisms are variously influenced by climate and other natural causes; predatory animals depend for their existence on the destruction of life; nature is subject to storms and convulsions, and its order depends on a system of perpetual decay and renewal due to the interaction of its constituent parts. If animals suffering is excluded, no pain of any kind is caused by the inevitable limitations of nature; and they can only be called evil by analogy, and in a sense quite different from that in which the term is applied to human experience.

Say what??? You might want to read that again ...

Many times I'll hear someone refer to someone else as "evil" and this generally applies to the describer describing the described as evil due to actions based upon his/her particular belief system or personal philosophy. A popular tag line connected to this scenario is, "... that S.O.B tells lies and manipulates others into believing the BS peddling he/she is putting out there." Is this *really* evil? What if the person isn't cognizant of this evil-doing? Is this accusation warranted because it is not in accord with proper rational value structures? Let's say it is true; the persona lies and leaves a BS trail a mile long. Is this evil or is it a matter of irresponsibility?

If something is defined as evil, then the ways and means for eradicating it from society becomes legitimate. We know enough about history to understand how that statement plays out - Hitler blamed Jews. Once he had defined them as evil, his solution was to make them pay. Sin requires payment; when we falsely identify sin, we falsely demand a sacrifice for sin. Marx blamed capital and capitalists as the depraved element that polluted society. Marxist revolutions have thus tolerated every horror imaginable against these elements as cathartic for society.

Could it be that man is inherently good and evil is imposed upon him from the external?

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Even if we surmise that evil is external to man, why good men are so susceptible and controlled by evil?

What about evil and malevolence? Are they the same thing? Most would answer with a resounding, “YES!” OR at the very least one was a sub category of the other. Both are conscious disregard for the welfare of others but does evil kick that whole concept up a notch? Think about it.

Can we actually define evil or are we only capable of coming up with a myriad of examples?



The Newest Karate Kid

William St. Thomas

When the student is ready, who shows up?

How many times have we heard the axiom, “When the student is ready the teacher appears.” Think of all the movies that prove that statement over and over again. I remember *The Karate Kid*, yes Miyagi-san telling our soon to be hero, “Wax on, wax off!” And who thought there wasn’t a lesson in waxing a car? Now I will share that I enjoyed both “popcorn” movies and I liked Ralph Macchio and Pat Morita, but there is more to this axiom than what meets the eye.

Seems Hollywood believes that in our crisis we will find a kind Asian gentleman to bring us back to our path and overcome the “demons,” that haunt our lives. Well, the movies were fun; the message was a bit off. You see for this entire Hollywood folder, I do believe when the student is ready, the teacher will come - call it the extended director’s cut.

Our “teachers” are with us constantly. As we master one lesson, the next presents itself. Funny my personal belief is that both abundance and poverty are the same lesson wrapped a bit differently. So, how does this play out in our lives? Many times these lessons appear in the subtlest ways. Imagine, leaving the grocery store and the clerk made the wrong change ... have you gone back? Or, did you say a prayer of thanks for the small windfall and move along? In small places and events like these we discover allot about ourselves and truly, that event was our teacher.

Personally, I have had so many teachers along the way it is impossible to keep count. Some lessons I aced, others I failed miserably. Yet, I did discover something on this journey. If we can face our teachers and honestly see them for what they are, we can learn from them.

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Once the lesson is learned, every fiber of your being calls forth truth the next time that teacher appears in our lives. The answer is so clear, that the question seems unreasonable.

Some of our teachers come in roaring; others quietly climb onto the center stage of our lives. You will find a legion of educators in your life; the question is will you honor the lesson they bring or escape hoping to avoid the consequences of your thoughts and actions? I've done both. I find that facing them brings peace, completion and graduation! Running away breeds fear, and takes you off your path.

So the next time you find yourself in the middle of a very difficult decision, one that will force you to declare who you are to the world. I would encourage you to stop, listen and ask the question, what is this lesson for? Before you say yes, no or not now, realize that every lesson becomes part of you. If you successfully learn your lesson, you will move on. If you don't, the lesson will play out in your life over and over, until you master it. Unless, you like life as a merry-go-round, I recommend you look at learning the lesson and moving forward on your path.

I encourage you to move through your day and honor the teachers that step forth to offer you their wisdom. Even in the hardest of circumstances, you can find amazing love, peace and grace. I enjoyed Pat Morita's work, he was a fine actor and from what I have read, a man of integrity and love. The lessons that his character Miyagi-san shared are simple yet timeless. Are you ready to face your teachers?

The camera pans the horizon as you are walking the Pacific beach at sunset, you turn smile and the screen fades to black and your journey continues ... Cue the next teacher.



The Epiphany

Rev. Dr. Don Hauck

I thought I'd write about this while it is still fresh in my awareness. Maybe you have had this experience before me but it is so beautiful I want to share it with any of you who have not.

Let me set up the human situation beforehand. Imagine accidentally becoming acquainted with another, and almost instantly you can perceive their Spirit. It is awe inspiring, you can feel and see its beauty. It's "light" and it makes you feel honored to be in its presence. You experience this perception in your entire torso. You share several days through several weeks together. Just casual and Spiritual conversation is shared between the two of you and then they leave.

After a short time they decide they want to share more time with you. They come back into your life for about three weeks. Three weeks of intense Spiritual and intellectual interchange. During this time you become very much aware that you sincerely love this Spiritual person and at the same time, are extremely annoyed by the much stronger Egotistical (Satanic) side of them. You see, feel and sense the self-destructive course they are on. Nothing you can say or do seems to have any effect on them. This battle in them will continue as a pattern. They have made you aware that this pattern has been their constant life pattern. They start to succeed only to have something cause the destruction in their work, relationships and seemingly everything in their life. You want to help them. The Creator has given you the knowledge and abilities necessary to help people rid themselves of these characteristics. You have spent many years doing that exact thing for hundreds of people. The only thing different is that this new individual's ego is so strong it will not allow you. It is like watching a person bent on self-destruction and you love them. We have all seen people like this but this is the first time you have been in this close of a relationship with a person who has this pattern in life.

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Finally they leave again, probably never to be seen again. Surprisingly, you find there is a very, very strong loving relationship to them from you but not from them to you. You find astrologically, there is a strong Karmic connection from another lifetime. You try to understand it so that you can let it go or get over it and go on with your life. This connection stays and causes you to have them come into your mind often. Since this is Karmic, you FEEL their presence...This goes on for months in which you have prayed, done the things you have learned to handle Karmic energies and finally, it happens. An epiphany!

My spirit lifted me up and gave me, what I was led to believe, on a very small scale, what the Creator, God, Allah, view of each of us. The Creator truly LOVES us with an unending LOVE which is the very source of our existence. At the same time, it is completely aware of all the thoughts, words and deeds of ours which tend to hurt us. This awareness is met with more LOVE and COMPASSION and the hope that we will turn to the TRUTH AND the LIGHT which is already IN US. That was what I saw in them back in the beginning and even 'fell' in love with, and still love. For whatever reason this is part of my destiny, which shows in the astrological chart, to continue to LOVE, have compassion for them and send best wishes to them in spite of the clear awareness of their self-destructive 'free will' choice of thoughts, words and deeds. There are no condemnations only Love. I have complete compassion and constant hope that they will turn soon enough to that Truth and Light which I too have seen and continue to Love.

It is a whole lot like watching your child learn to ride its new bike. Your child tries, but it is unaware of the ability within itself, so it falls. You think it does already have the ability?????? Think, the child knows balance and it can walk without falling by now whereas, before it discovered balance, it would fall while in its effort to learn to balance. So to in riding the bike, it simply needs to relax and use its ability to balance. Until it uses that which is already within, it is bound to fail.

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And so it is with us, the more we learn to turn within and get out of our heads (ego), and stop thinking and become the observer; use the co-creative power which is always there, we will continue to go so far only to have 'something/someone' cause us to fail. Remember we were originally created in order to learn – the only way a human can learn. If you read a book you are not really learning, you are acquiring DATA for your brain. You must have the experience which teaches us the only thing we have, which is our own unique perception of our experiences. We actually know nothing. What we think we know is our ego! We must seek to become the observer. And when we have, each day we live we are in the JOY, PEACE & LOVE of our Creator – that is what we will observe!

Now the Epiphany was this: it happened in less time then it took to type the word, 'happened'. I could sense that my spirit was lifted higher and the experience was so intense, my physical self could not endure more of it and for my spirit the spiritual experience was as if in a rapture. I, for just an instant, was completely with the Creator and realized from that point of view what I had only 'thought' for two or three years. And like all things 'thought' you really don't know until you experience it. Now I was given the experience so I can truly know and believe it to be TRUTH. Are you ready for this: It is really OUT OF THIS WORLD! Believe it or not, the Creator DOES NOT CARE ONE BIT what you say, think or do in this physical world.

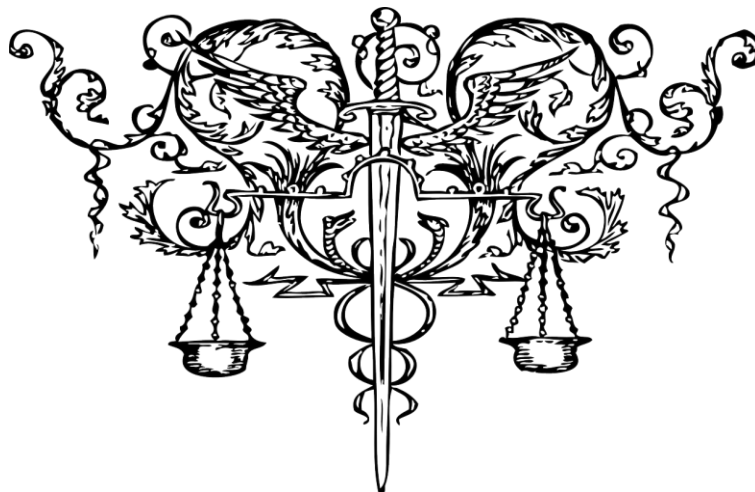
Regardless of what mankind claims to be 'Right', 'Wrong'. 'Good', 'Bad'; The Creator of all that is, was or will be, does not care or judge. From a kind deed to murder; from robbery to giving to charity; from prostitution or lust to being celebrate. The only thing that matters to God, Allah, and the Creator is you state of conscious awareness; are you functioning from your Carnal (Satanic/Ego) Mind or from your Spiritual Mind. The difference: Carnal Mind wants for SELF the seemingly 'good' results. Even that subtle thing we all have done; being nice or doing 'good' for someone else for an ulterior motive, as simple as wanting them to like us! It is the SELFISHNESS.

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Now the Spiritual Mind seems to be the same except it's selfishness is, it does for others for the feeling of satisfaction of its Spirit, It does for others because it knows that is what it was created for and that brings it a feeling of completeness. It is not done for PERSONAL gain, the PERSONAL GAIN is giving to another(s). That is what the Creator does; gives Grace, Blessings, Love, etc. to us the person, we give IT thanks if only by way of receiving and using the gift. IT does not give us anything in order to get anything from us. All must learn to do as the Creator; give with NO EXPECTATION of return - the satisfaction is in the giving. For those that are having a hard time with some of this, please indulge me for a moment and then do your own investigation of Spiritual Sex. In the east it is referred to as Tantra or Tantric. The fine line difference is, Carnal sex is always with at least a small hope of personal physical satisfaction to total selfish want of total physical satisfaction. Now if you have never experienced Tantra (Spiritual) Sex it is the want to just give complete satisfaction to the partner(s) to such a concentrated effort that the Giver, experiences only the feeling of inner satisfaction (which the other only gets through a physical climax) and feels joy in it without a physical climax.

That can only be achieved through an ALL GIVING Spirit.





AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES



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John Bennett (*Discovering Your Path*, pg. 15)

In John's own words, "Been a Wiccan all my adult life, didn't put a name to it until about four years ago." John feels his article serves as both his personal experience and his bio. He is a natural counselor and a gifted listener who states, "People talk to me and I try to help them truly hear what *they* are saying."

Syd Alrruhi (*The Concept and Construct of Satan*, pg. 17)

Syd Alrruhi is the favorite pseudonym of Gerome Cass. If you ask him what the name means he won't tell you! Gerome considers himself a human dichotomy who has a foot in the mundane world and a foot in the other worldly realms. He believes all humans should confront the realms of transformative power that lie just outside of everyday consciousness without fear and trepidation and go for it. Gerome has several degrees including Ph.Ds. in psychology and physics which he refers to as being "piled higher and deeper" since there is so much more to be discovered outside of human designed constructs

Mad Max Lucasi (*Evil*, pg. 20)

Mad Max is a seeker of truth and justice. He hails from the east coast USA and is employed as aeronautical engineer. He enjoys dissecting conspiracy theories and spiritual falsehoods. Max is happily married with three children and a dog, a cat and a tank full of tropical fish.

William St. Thomas (*The Newest Karate Kid*, pg. 24)

William St. Thomas (nee Dargin), like the Blues Brothers is on a mission from God. As a student of the world, living in North Africa, the Middle East and Europe, he experienced great change and connection to the Divine much like the movie "Seven Years in Tibet." With a focus on spirit and love, he believes, "the truth is out there." He enjoys history, politics and theology and believes that great change is coming. As a Knight Commander in the Knights Templar much of his life has been a journey, like the crusade of Kingdom of Heaven. He enjoys laughing, reading, writing and the movies... and endeavors to take things lightly in stride.

Rev. Dr. Don Hauck (*The Epiphany*, pg. 26)

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/>



The Body Temple

I am the Universal Cathedral ...

Source dwells within me

Section Managing Editor – Lynda Lidel Harley

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Is there Dark Matter in DNA?

Global Cancer

Fred Lee

Science states that Solar Neutrinos are not penetrating the Earth's crust to any great extent, "Only 0.025%". The University of San Diego recently did a study that showed that the proton aspect of the individual atom is 4% smaller today than it was 20 years ago.

When you take a minute to consider the makeup of an atom, you see that it is the proton and neutron element that makes up the nucleus of the atom. There will be from one to seven shells of electrons, depending on the atom that you are talking about.

When you consider the last two paragraphs, it becomes obvious that the individual atom is absorbing the neutrino element that is not passing through the Earth's crust.

For the past several years our Solar Sun has been producing solar flares in the flavor of "proton radiation". This is obviously the Solar systems effort to feed a deficit that is created by that buildup of neutrino element within the individual atom.

This buildup of neutrino element is obviously the cause of the evolution of earthquakes and tornadoes, etc.

Through much consideration, contemplation and meditation, I have been made aware that, there is an answer to this dilemma.

Anybody that has researched the Pyramid of Cheops knows, that at one time the Great Pyramid had a Gold Capstone.

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At the base of the Pyramid, remnants of red chalk have been found. At ground level, in the center of the pyramid, there is a pit that goes down towards the Earth's core. This pit is filled with rubbish, and has no apparent purpose.

Let's picture the Pyramid as it must have been in the days of old. Gold Capstone, and the sides painted with red chalk. As various solar and cosmic radiations would bombard the Pyramid, the red chalk would naturally attract low-frequency energy. These energies would be refracted inward "toward a deficit caused by the Gold Capstone", this would then create a particle stream that would be the cause of the pit in the center of the floor of the Pyramid. This activity would drain the neutrino buildup in the surrounding area.

I am sure that the obelisk towers that surround the Pyramid were used to keep this system locked into place, and to keep the environment from becoming waveform. Some of the markings shown on the obelisk towers signify radiation, horizontally and vertically.

It has become very obvious to me, that the Great Pyramid was used to drain low-frequency neutrino element into the Earth's core. And in turn creating an environment that was conducive to light beings, as well as very large human beings "Giants".

Some of the anomalies that have been found in and around the Pyramids can be explained now. It has been found that a carton full of milk will not spoil in the confines of the Pyramid. Also, animal carcass does not decay within the Pyramid.

Something else, that I feel is absolutely relevant to us at this time, is the fact that when some people go in or are around the Pyramid, they get ill.

Science has proven that the human anatomy is light, at a foundational level.

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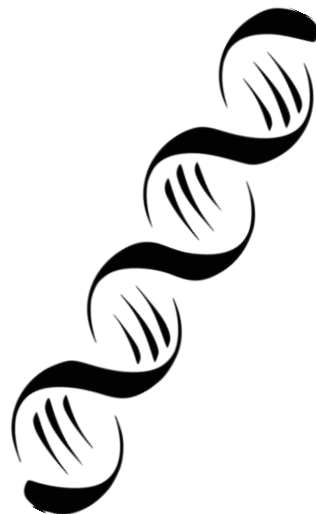
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It was scientifically proven in the 1960s, that the nucleus of an atom is a particle light. Another study that was done in 1960s, showed that people with emotional problems "Bipolar, Schizophrenic, Alcoholics, Addicts, Murderers and Rapists, etc." are found to have very large ingredients of some type of Dark Matter integrated into their DNA

Obviously, all people have some amount of Dark Matter in their DNA. It would have to be a part of the construct

It would seem that when people go into, or around the Pyramid, and become ill, it is because their system is being antagonized, because of the high energy within the Pyramids boundaries. The high energy is having an effect on dark matter in the individuals system.

I think that this is relevant to understand at this time, because science is showing that our inner light is at a deficit "Proton, 4% smaller today, than in that 1960s". This deficit allows for an environment that is conducive to the development of Dark Matter that has been found within the DNA, resulting in more cancer patients and psychiatric patients, etc.





What does your aura say about you?

You and Hue

Desiree Lucente

Are you singing the blues today? Have you ever been green with envy? Have you ever been caught red handed? Are you feeling in the pink today? Has anyone ever told you that you have a heart of gold? Has anyone ever told you that radiated joy or had SUCH positive energy? Be careful because your aura can give you away!

Almost everyone knows that the human aura is an electromagnetic energy and light field that surrounds the physical body. This energy field vibrates with specific speed and intensity unique to each individual. Since color is defined as light vibrating at various speeds, the human aura expresses color based upon the physical, emotional and mental intensities that affect this speed.

Your aura is basically an extension of who you are and by learning more about your aura you can certainly learn more about yourself.

The human aura can be photographed using special computerized equipment that can measure the electromagnetic field. The image is caught on Polaroid film. The original “aura camera” was invented by Guy Coggins, (President of the Progen Company and inventor of the Aura Camera 3000 & 6000 and Interactive Biofeedback Field Imaging). Initially fascinated by Kirlian photography, Guy set out to find a way to capture the human aura on film.

Here is some background from Guy:

“I became interested in the “New Age” movement through Kirlian photography. I discovered that an aura camera had been developed in Russia in the 1930s that could photograph the energy-or corona discharge of your fingertips and toes. I was practicing meditation and yoga at that time too.

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My interest in auras was mystical, spiritual, and scientific. It seemed natural to me to blend together what I knew from each discipline. I built my first Kirlian style aura camera in 1970... to me it just seemed like the most logical step to develop existing technology into a system that could show the energy field around someone's portrait. Aura imaging systems can help people see what is going on in their personal space, and seeing it is the first step towards making changes."

Guy goes on to say that he believes that hospitals in the future will employ a combination of surgical techniques and spiritual energy balancing. For example, future MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) will not only show the body but also the energy field around it in 3D on a computer screen. Along with the medical team, a holistic counselor would also view the energy to find out why you're hurting from a subconscious level. Finally! A complete diagnosis! Currently, biofeedback Aura Imaging technology can be used to measure biological changes which show up as Aura values but Aura Imaging has not been approved or recommended for medical diagnosis or therapy.

The colors of the aura are always in a state of flux due to "human" factors such as physical and emotional stress, feelings, body temperature and even spirituality. Each color expressed in the aura has a different meaning and can tell an individual quite a bit about their current health and "human status."

There are no "absolutes" in aura color interpretation and no two auras are exactly alike. A seasoned aura interpreter can determine the meanings of the colors and color combinations along with the meanings of spheres, balls, spikes and sometime objects or figures that appear within the aura or around the edges. They also examine the right and left halves of the aura to see if "manifesting energy" (right half) is balanced and matches "reserve energy" (left half).

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I have personally heard some amazing things during aura analysis from a good aura interpreter. While observing a friend's session - she was not only told she was hungry and needed to go eat and drink something immediately before she dehydrated but was also told in detail about a shoulder injury that needed attention.

Here is a general guideline to aura colors that has been compiled with help from my aura interpreter (Sorry – she does not want her full name disclosed).

RED: A physical color that reflects vitality and stimulation. A large amount of red in the aura often indicates a person who is a mover and shaker with strong willpower, passion, and intensity. Dark red indicates overdrive, stress and/or anger.

ORANGE-RED: Shows extra confidence and a high degree of energy that can be used for creativity.

PINK: Sensuality and sensitivity are indicated by pink. The individual may be very artistic and also compassionate and loving. Clairvoyance is often a gift. Muddled pink can indicate dishonesty and immaturity.

ORANGE: Balance, harmony, creativity and playfulness belong to the orange aura. The individual is a great intellectual communicator often with a funky sense of humor and social skill. Murky orange can indicate uncertainty and self-victimization.

ORANGE-YELLOW: Intellectually creative with a penchant for detail. The individual is often a perfectionist with a scientific nature.

YELLOW: Power and high intellect are governed by yellow. The individual tends to be very goal oriented, analytical, independent and very stubborn.

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This is also the color of joy and spontaneity. Pale yellow indicates that psychic awareness is starting to bloom. Lemon yellow indicates fear of losing control or respect. Muddy yellow indicates fatigue.

GREEN: Green shows affinity between the heart and soul and is often connected to healing. It also represents growth rebirth and change. Emerald green is often found in the aura of healers. Dark green represents feelings of resentment or blame, jealousy and lack of self-esteem.

TEAL or TURQUOISE: The individual is a natural healer who is sensitive and compassionate. This color is often found in the auras of therapists.

BLUE: Vision, imagination, creativity and spirituality are reflected in the blue aura. The individual is a "communicator with consciousness" who is trustworthy and willing to help others. Muddied dark blue indicates fear of self-expression or of speaking one's personal truth.

PALE BLUE: Indicates honesty, peacefulness, intuition and truthful communication.

ROYAL BLUE: The individual is highly spiritual following a Divine Path. Clairvoyance is finely tuned and used to recognize new opportunities that might have otherwise been missed.

INDIGO: Still waters run deep as do the feelings of the indigo individual. Universal awareness and psychic ability is prominent.

VIOLET: Indicates an extremely psychic individual with natural healing abilities. The individual is very mystic with deep spiritual understanding and could be a spiritual leader. The individual can also be very magical, idealistic, and futuristic.

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LAVENDAR: High imagination and vision with a touch of daydreaming is indicated by lavender. The individual is often attuned to the "etheric" or "angelic."

SILVER: Physical and spiritual abundance are indicated by silver. The individual may in fact be wealthy or coming into money. Silver also indicates a Cosmic Mind that is receptive to new ideas.

GRAY: If this color shows up in the aura it can indicate health problems. It also signifies fear and stress which is contributing to ill health.

GOLD: A DIVINE color that resonates with wisdom and protection from a higher source. Golden auras are often referred to as "Christ Energy." The individual is in a highly spiritual state and is being guided by their "higher self." Gold encompasses, love, forgiveness, generosity and goodwill.

BLACK: Black is considered the absence of light. It draws light in and consumes it and in the aura it indicates that the individual is very unforgiving and might be harboring past life residual hurt and trauma. Some healers feel that black also represents negative entities trapped within a person's aura.

WHITE: A highly evolved being with the ability to focus spiritual and mental energy is indicated by white. Individuals with a lot of white in their auras often express boredom with mundane life and they sometime appear eccentric to others. This is because they are literally "tuned to a higher channel." White sparkles in the aura indicate the presence of angelics.

RAINBOW: Rainbows are multi-colored streams or stripes infiltrating or surrounding the aura usually around the hands, head or body. Natural healing ability is prominent. Some aura therapists believe that the individual might be a "starchild" experiencing their first incarnation.

MUDDY OVERLAYS: Dirty or muddy brown or gray overlays surrounding the aura indicate inability to "let go," insecurity, and guardedness.



How can a change of seasons aid in healing?

Balance, Equality, and Any Solstice or Equinox

Janill Mitchell

I spend a lot of time reflecting on how the “out there” offers clues on how to heal myself “in here.” The impending events are causing me to examine myself in terms of balance, specifically, the balance of my male and female aspects. Many healers have been speaking on the return of the Goddess, the ascension of the Earth, and related topics. Most agree that this is timely as life under the patriarchy has proven costly to life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness (at least for most of us). But what we fail to understand still is that our success will be a natural result of self-empowerment and not the replacement of who is in power over us. Power over, no matter who is in charge, will not sustain our human community.

What does an empowered person look like? In my mind this is a person who has achieved harmony between the polarities of the personality. This person is able to respond appropriately in each moment by relying on the healed responses of the inner male and female archetypes. To me that means that this person has the access and the ability to express emotions fully and appropriately, can receive and act on inspirational guidance for life's choices and can sustain nurturing relationships. To be this kind of person, will take healed, strong and balanced female and male personality aspects. For most of us, we have no idea; no model of what a healed, strong female or male is like, much less how they attain a balanced harmonious relationship. Think about it, can you come up with any role models from your experience? (TV doesn't count.)

It's up to us to take the initiative, do the healing work required and become our own role model. And the forces of nature are aligning to help us be successful.

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And the forces of nature are aligning to help us be successful. Wow, what an opportunity for transformation. Perhaps enlightenment is possible in this lifetime. Here is what I see as our opportunity to use the macrocosm of planetary forces as a mirror for the microcosm of our healing work.

Let's use the summer solstice in an example. Day light begins to equal the length of night's darkness as we approach the summer solstice on June 21 when the sun enters the astrological sign of Cancer followed closely by a full moon in Capricorn the next evening, (again a unique and perfect manifestation of balance with the sun in Cancer and the full moon in Capricorn but you astrological types knew that!). The summer solstice represents a time of perfect balance between the energy of the sun and the energy of the dark of night. This is a balance that we as beings on the earth can strive to emulate.

The sun is a symbol of masculine strength. It is outgoing, supportive of action, doing, and learning. It is important for all of us to have a healthy masculine side to succeed in life, at our careers and our dealings with the world "out there". It is a natural part of the psyche regardless of gender.

The night is a symbol of feminine strength. It is focused inward, supportive of resting, being, knowing. It is important for us to have a healthy feminine side to feel successful, to create and sustain nourishing relationship and safe haven. Achieving perfect balance results in happiness, fulfillment, and contentment. Are you looking for that? To help us in this quest, we have the help of that powerful celestial body, the moon. The moon shows up at the perfect time to illuminate the unknown in us. The moon's function is to shine light in darkness so that we may see and understand. It allows us to reflect. What do you see when you reflect on the male and female archetypes that you are currently living through? Do they enjoy equality in power? Do they have healthy responses to life's challenges? Do you experience happiness, fulfillment and contentment?

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It is exciting to me to know that I can heal the inner working of my being and thereby change my experience of life to include more happiness, fulfillment and contentment. The summer solstice too, it is the perfect time to take a look at these parts of our being. Here is one way to do that:

1. Sit upright with your feet on the floor, your spine erect, your chin tucked slightly. Take some relaxing breaths as you allow all of your muscles to let go and become soft. Your body becomes heavy and your breathing is deep and regular.
2. In your mind's eye create a board room with a long table and chairs all around. Use whatever colors make you feel happy and safe. Have fun decorating the room then settle down into the "power chair"; you are, after all the boss of this organization.
3. Invite all the female members of the sub consciousness to join you in the room and sit there a moment as they begin to file in and find their place at the table. It may be surprising to see who shows up.
4. Call the meeting to order.
5. The purpose of this meeting is to determine the health of the team and to create an action plan for improvements. Invite each member to make a statement. Discover how each of these personalities affects you, the choices you make and your quality of life.
6. Determine an action plan for any personality that is unhealthy. A personality may need healing, a day off, or perhaps simply acknowledged. You may need to fire someone and hire someone more appropriate. You are the boss and this is your team for creating a happy life.

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7. Get the healing you need. This may mean going to a qualified therapist for assistance. Both the medical and holistic communities offer support for this kind of healing. Imbalance in the psyche is manifested in imbalance in the physical body as well as in the emotions. The most appropriate healing may involve being facilitated by someone else.

Now do the same for all the male members of your subconscious board. When the female team is healthy and strong and so too the male team, bring them all together. Develop strategies for working together harmoniously. Each team member is allowed a voice that carries equal weight. Each team member is valued and appreciated.

Doing this kind of work may seem silly or too involved or (fill in the desired excuse). You don't have to believe me that doing this work makes a big difference in how life is experienced. All you have to do is try it for yourself and see. Use the month of May to heal your female side and the month of June to heal the male side. At the solstice bring yourself into harmony by uniting the two sides. Discover wholeness as you achieve healthy balance.

The perfect balance that we see manifested as any seasonal change approaches is something that we can attain for ourselves. All we need do is allow the bright light of reflection to shine into the darkness of our subconscious creations, beliefs and motivations in order to see clearly. From that place of clear understanding, we have the ability to choose our experience. Healing makes all things possible all of the time and enlightenment is possible in this life time.





Is spiritual abuse as debilitating as physical/emotional abuse?

Spiritual Abuse

Li Huan

Whenever your personal space OR freewill has been invaded you have become a target of spiritual abuse. Most people understand this as a psychic attack on the aura and chakra system but spiritual abuse not only affects all your energy channels but also your ability to make the best choices for yourself for your spiritual and physical well-being. Mind, body and spirit always work together.

Most invasions can be extricated easily as understood by the thousands of websites offering advice on how to rid oneself of a spiritual culprit. However some interlopers are more difficult to extricate as the negative energy can disguise itself as belonging to your specific and unique energy system. The result is often a veritable breakdown of the machine causing mental disturbances, blocks and confusion as well as physical discomfort, nervousness, anxiety, not quite feeling like oneself and in the worst case scenarios, serious depression, real pain and illness. An invader never has good intentions and those intentions can vary along a wide scale from jealousy to need for co-dependence to targeting someone whose energy will make them feel better about themselves.

Humans have all been blessed with freewill and certainly everyone's freewill should be respected. A spiritual abuser will overlook that right and cross the boundary of personal space. They use their energy in an attempt to manipulate and control. An internet stalker is a good real life example of this. They try to instill fear to get their target to do what they want them to do and they will be relentless in their efforts

What to do?

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Healing involves some good mediation (preferably specific aura meditation) in order for you to get a good handle not only on your own energy but also that of the abuser. Once identified, you might feel angry or sad and this is normal. These emotions are useful in releasing the energetic patterns that have been injected into your spirit. Should you get a glimpse of the abuser's personal space during this process do not cross that boundary otherwise you are no better than the abuser.

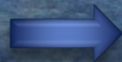
Check on your own sense of personal boundaries in daily life. If you are a push over or have trouble saying no to others you need to work on your own walls and make them strong. Often this is a psychological factor so seek counseling if necessary. Without healthy personal boundaries you will always be a target for anyone or anything.

After the healing process has begun, you can also use prayer (of your choice) or daily intentions to buoy the spirit and uplift your sense of being. Some people choose working with a Chakra healer or reader at this point to check on progress, but again, this is a personal choice.

As much as you may reject the idea, learn to forgive the abuser. Forgiveness puts out a very strong vibration and transfer back to the abuser that they are wasting their time trying to feed off your energy.

Of course eating healthily and getting exercise and returning to doing things you enjoy in life are always a good idea.





What is it like to be able to tell people the future?

Seeing and Not Seeing ... How It REALLY Is

Christmas Miller

What's It REALLY Like - Seeing and Knowing Things Beforehand for Others?

I'm often asked what it's really like seeing things and knowing things before they happen. How does it feel to be that way? Am I ever afraid? My answer is that it can be hard because often times you feel a bit helpless – especially when things you see pertain to people you love and care about. It's not scary because it's natural and I know that we all are designed to be tuned in – it's just that some of us are more refined with it than others. It's often times frustrating when it comes to dealing with the issues and relating to people on a more intimate note because I like to "AVOID" the drama but still often times walk right into it. Why do you? - Someone said to me – especially if you can see things and avoid them. The issue isn't that being clairvoyant affords me or anyone like me a free meal ticket to skating around issues and lessons – the irony is that a person like myself not only has to learn too but while learning... teach. When you have a calling in this regard... so to speak it's a hard road to walk. As many of you may know – the practicing what you preach road comes with a hefty weight of opinions, expectation, etc. I've resigned to the fact that having "Sight" is a choice – just like making a decision. We all have discernment but some of us CHOOSE NOT TO SEE... hhhmmmm.

I've often heard some say that if psychics were “really real” why is it that they don't find the criminals, prevent catastrophes and devastation, etc. Many do – you just don't hear about it all the time AND yes, I say wouldn't it be nice to be super heroes but, the reality is that some things are meant to happen and often times do as a result of "deliberate creation and free will" on everyone's direct or indirect part.

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It's like seeing starving children in the world and you can do your small part to contribute in some way but ignore doing so and then say – why doesn't so and so do something about this and that. It doesn't take a psychic to do the very things we all have some ABILITY to do something about and that's just one example – I can roll on with many more of those. Well, that's another story and soap box to haggle over but that's not the purpose of this article.

In all actuality, I hear the things that people don't tell – the secrets. The stuff they don't often tell their ministers, lawyers or doctors, or counselors. I'm certainly not meant to replace the professionals nor do I want that type of responsibility along with what I already do (even if I were credentialed in those fields). But people will do what they want to do and that is a fact. When someone comes to you with serious open ears and asks for counsel and you can tell someone something that they DON'T want to hear (forget about it being right or wrong – it's just NOT what they want to hear) and watch how the likelihood of them resisting it. Maybe they try to make it what they want it to be or in some cases tune it out and hear what they want. This happens with all “professionals” as well you know. Case in point - How many times has YOUR doctor or counselor advised you about something helpful to you but it wasn't what you wanted to do or hear? How many times did you know something already but received confirmation (often times in your face factual) and you did what you wanted to do? Yes... I think you see my point. With that said, I wonder how many would actually listen to the warnings of a catastrophe in the midst. But again, that is a very small but meaningful point behind the message that everyone has total responsibility and free will to do as they wish and they usually do (even if it's against the law) as we tend to see often in the news.

Anyway... I roll on...

Another question often asked is if it's possible to read yourself. Absolutely!

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That's what gut instinct is, that's why you have spiritual guidance outside of yourself - (source energy or God as we say). I have had visions, heard (literally told) about warnings and still done what I felt I wanted to do – Again my point about the above comment. So in closing of this article –I leave some food for thought...

If you are truly in control as we often times FEEL that we are not but in actuality we exercise decisions and actions as though we are – Are we really driving in the right direction and if not whose job is it anyway? Will YOU choose to SEE or will you continue to fly blind?





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Fred Lee (*Global Cancer*, pg. 32)

Fred considers himself, to be a teacher of "T.R.U.T.H. = The Real Untold Temporal History." He further states, "I know that The Holy Spirit is the same as Quantum Energy. It is a workable medium, which can be employed by an appropriate individual, for the purpose of bringing about positive change and ongoing prosperity." Fred is an ordained minister with the Universal Light Church of Cincinnati, Ohio. He invites you to watch his youtube videos <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tK7dVBYV-iY&t=78s> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbD-8_CbBT0.

Desiree Lucente (*You and Hue*, pg. 35)

Desiree has studied every path of metaphysics – light and dark for the past 30 years. She is a practicing clairvoyant and aura reader where little escapes her penetrating intensity. She has had many paranormal and supernatural experiences and plans to write a book about them in the near future. Desiree splits her time between living in Florida and Delaware. A vision told her to leave Florida well in advance of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

Janill Mitchell (*Balance, Equality and any Solstice or Equinox*, pg. 40)

Janill is the former Director of The Phoenix House, a healing and retreat center. She believes in seeking wholeness through workshops, classes, retreat and healing sessions. She is a Reiki master who teaches by example with compassion and love.

Li Huan (*Spiritual Abuse*, pg.44)

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.

Christmas Miller (*Seeing and Not Seeing ... How It REALLY Is*, pg. 46)

Christmas Miller is certified master life coach, and holistic health practitioner and also by birth a natural and highly sensitive intuitive. Christmas has been heard on radio stations across the country, such as Atlanta's Hot 107.9, Voice America, News Radio 1170 and many others. Christmas has also hosted her own radio shows "Contemplations with Christmas Miller" on Contact Talk Radio and "Living Your Best Life with Christmas Miller" on Webtalk Radio Network with Matrix Media. Christmas is the Author of *Illuminations: A Road Less Traveled – A Modern Day Seer's Journal of the Human Experience*. Visit <https://christmasmiller.com/>.

PHENOMENA Files

If you look with EYES of FEAR ...

THE FEAR will look back AT you ...



Section Managing Editor – John Holbrook PSI

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Happy All Hallows Eve from The Staff of Discerning Minds

"NOCTURNOS - Fade To Black"

While daytime images color your head,
Strange murmurings fill each corner,
As into the darkness you are led.
With fear and dread and horror.

Warding off sleep as if a curse,
Exhaustion overwhelms this quest,
It's time to enter the netherworld,
As midnight's favored honored guest.

Into the dream state now you venture,
The reckless seeds of your own creation,
Nocturnos takes you by the hand,
Escorting you to the nocturnal celebration.

The table is set for the feast,
You partake as if a mindless pawn,
The fear of the inner you now in charge,
With no relief until the dawn.

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Poetry courtesy of Publisher

The First Time

Matt Sharpe

It was late March of 1988 when I got a call from one of my bandmates asking if I wanted to go with him to pick up a mutual friend. I said yes and we went. Our friend had tried to stop by another mutual friend's place to find him not home. The woman that lived in the apartment upstairs invited him to wait at her place if he wanted to, so he went up. It was from there that he decided to call this other fellow to get a ride home. We pulled in and went to the door waiting to be let in and going up the stairs.

Once there, we met the woman in residence and she invited us to sit for a few minutes in her living room ... so as to not be rude we did. As we chatted a bit, I looked around and noticed the books she had on a shelf under her television stand. There were several, all having to do with types of witchcraft, and a few titles specifically about sex magic. I had been a student of Eckankar for a little over a year by that time, and we well acquainted with some of the more negative types of spirituality that some pursue, and I became alerted after having noticed the titles of her books.

We continued talking as she went out into her kitchen saying she would be back with us in a few moments. Shortly she returned, but within just a few minutes of her coming back into the room, her doorbell rang. She went to answer it, returning with two other females. I could not miss how evenly things lined up now, especially in lieu of her chosen reading material. I knew that she had called two friends to even things out, so to speak. I already knew the intent they had, but that was never actually stated nor even implied. The three settled in the living room and there was nothing done at that point, no propositions or suggestions made in any direction.

One of the girls stood in the corner, where the doorway to the kitchen was. Then it happened. She simply dropped completely limp, quite suddenly and without any noticeable reason or cause, slid down the corner to the floor and collapsed forward between her legs. Then, just as suddenly, her head popped up and looked around at each of us. As I looked into her eyes I could see that it was not her that was looking out of them! Her body moved in a way that was completely unnatural. It had the appearance of a marionette, guided by the movements of the puppet master that held the strings. Hers moved in a way that made it obvious that the human was not in control of the body. Something else was however. She moved in a jerky sort of way which gave it that unnatural sort of appearance. Gone were the smooth movements of a human that knew how to control their form. The entity that controlled it at that time appeared to not be used to doing so, and to also not much care for it.

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Then it spoke in my mind, and told me that it would kill me if I did not flee immediately, and all of my friends too.

Everyone there saw what had happened, but I suspect that even the woman that lived there and owned the books had no idea that this was going to happen, and she certainly was not in control of any of it. She looked as surprised as any of us did. At that time, my two friends were also students of Eckankar, so the three of us reacted inwardly in much the same way, and this way is one of the things taught on the path. I however was not satisfied, and decided to take things a step further. In my mind's eye I created a glowing sword made of Divine Love and attacked the demon that had threatened me. After a few strikes with this Sword of Love, it fled. My awareness of it ended there, because at that point she awakened again looking thoroughly confused about what had just happened, and asked why everyone was looking so strangely at her. No one really offered her any good explanation. I think the other two women were still consumed with disbelief and were unwilling to state to themselves what they had just witnessed, much less that any of them had any part in creating that situation. As the girl slid her back upwards in the same corner to standing, we three got up and excused ourselves, saying good bye and hurrying out the door.

On the ride home none of us said a word about it. We held our silence for another years before we three came to be alone in each other's company and someone asked if we remembered that time and situation. We quickly agreed that we had all indeed seen the same thing happen, each being relieved that we hadn't been hallucinating or been misled by something, and that we were not crazy because everyone else had seen it happen too. What we had seen was a full on physical possession. This was my first encounter with a demon in the physical world. I had before encountered disembodied entities on the Astral Plane, but never before something so present on this plane. This of course, was hardly my last experience, and they did not wait very long to start giving me further ones.

Possession is not what they make it out to be in the movies. The eyes will not necessarily turn black nor remain so. An entity will not necessarily be able to remain in control of a physical body for long periods of time either. All of these things depend on the person and the way that they think, and the choices that they habitually make. A lesser condition is that which I call ridden, in which an individual has one or more entities riding on them, doing their best to influence the thoughts and choices of that person. Whenever possible they will place thoughts in a person's head that contain strong desires, in the attempt to make the person choose to submit to the desire and go chasing after its fulfillment. The more this can be accomplished, the more control they are able to exert over the person. Things as simple as a desire for cigarettes or beer, which many have on a daily basis, to even stronger things like drugs, money and sex. One's true motivations are the key.

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Negative entities require people of low moral standing that are willing to bend rules to allow their decisions. They begin by riding such individuals. Riding means literally riding on their back, but that also contains the figurative meaning within it as well. In these cases it is not a monkey that is on your back, though in time one might wish that it were. Over time a rider or groups of them on a single individual begin gaining ever more control while the person in question believes that they are making choices for themselves. This however is not the case, but the fact remains that they did make the choices willingly, regardless of how much they were helped in doing so. That creates karma for the individual which is not lessened any by the fact that entities exerted their will upon them. Over time their power and influence grow until it reaches the point where possession is possible. By that time the demon has started habit patterns in the person that makes it easier for them to remain within them than to break free of them, which allows an entity to use laziness against the person to remain in control.

Possession is not exactly the way it is portrayed on television and in the movies. There are limits on the time that an entity can spend in a body and keeping it under full control, and while it may seem unlikely, the individual's choice is the one factor that can cause them to begin breaking free of the demonic influence, but it is no small nor easy task to do so. It requires a great deal of commitment and fortitude to accomplish a complete ridding, or self-imposed exorcism, but it is by no means impossible to do. Having said all of that, merely to paint a broad picture that includes all of the various states and conditions within dealing with entities, it must be noted that free will never disappears, but it certainly can be dulled and with the use of addictive habits a complete complacency to change can begin, and it is that that is a demon's most effective tool to use to keep itself or themselves in control. Doing that keeps the home and the food supply intact so that they can feed as often as they like by causing reactions within the individual that lead them to specific actions and choices, which can tie him or her ever more tightly to the negative entities that live upon the individual, and this is also the reason it can be quite challenging to free oneself from their influence.

In the end it always comes down to the individual's way of seeing the world, other people, and certain actions or habits that they could take that puts them in the greatest danger of moving into any level of the progression of gaining riders to full on possession. The same ability to choose is exactly what also has the greatest effect to protect the aware individual from having such things occur to them at all. Rightful thoughts, choices and actions prevent it just as wrongful, lustful, desirous and selfish thoughts, feelings, actions and choices will bring them assuredly. The burden is on the individual as to what they will choose to bring into existence in their life. The positive or the negative, and each choice made has an effect, even if it is not easily noticeable right away. It exists and will certainly come to pass.

Choose wisely

Portal

Rachel "Raven" Rose

When I was growing up, our house had a large antique mirror in the front hall that was said to be haunted and that acted as a gateway or portal for spirits. Everyone in the house had to walk past that mirror to get into the main house and my siblings and I always had a creepy feeling we were being watched by some unseen menacing eyes.

From the first day it was brought into the house, strange things happened to the members of my family. Most were minor at first like things going missing and found in odd places and footsteps late at night followed by kitchen cabinet doors opening and closing on their own. Later, things got worse.

At night my older sister and I would wake up feeling there was something in our room watching us. We would turn on the light and check the room which appeared to be normal and empty of anything that goes bump in the night. On several occasions the closet door (which was always tightly closed) opened of its own volition. My sister would get up and check the closet but, of course, nothing was there. Sometimes, upon waking in the morning, we would find things moved in the room – things we never would have done like place shoes on top of the dresser or our clothes inside the dressers swapped – my dresser would have my sister's clothes and she would have mine in her dresser. Often we would hear various voices late at night – many times calling us by our names. It's not that no one else in the house disbelieved us but it was felt it was harmless or friendly and there was no need to do anything about it.

The mirror was not removed from the house until my older sister was attacked in her bed by a specter whose reflection she swears she saw in the mirror a few hours before. It was not at all "friendly." She was held down and slapped several times. I was horrified yelling for our dad who stood frozen in the doorway helpless to move or help. The only thing I could think to do was pray and it was after that the attack abated.

I do remember that the mirror was removed by a team of paranormal specialists that my mother had called after my sister's incident. The house was blessed by our parish priest but an uneasy feeling remained. Within a year our family moved from the house and we heard that no one else moved in. Six months after we moved away we heard that the house had mysteriously burned to the ground.

What became of whatever was in that mirror and house I do not know and I do not care. What I do remember was that as the mirror was being covered and removed I heard a voice whisper to me, "goodbye."

The Devil's Hour

Holbrook PSI

"It's always wise to heed the signs." - Anonymous

I have always protected myself whenever I go on an investigation and there was once that I think that I was protected from going on an investigation. The story begins with an investigation that was planned for a Saturday afternoon that was several hours away by location. I did not set up the investigation but was invited to take part in the investigation by another paranormal investigator. The background story that I was told was that the site used to be a plantation that housed many slaves most of who were killed on the property during the Civil War. The investigator who invited me to assist on the investigation also said that the client was being very pesky about having the location investigated.

We made all the arrangements to meet at a local restaurant that was on the way to the investigation site. We had planned to meet up there and all ride in the same car to the site. I was the farthest one away from the meeting place and the site of the investigation and was going to have to leave at 10 am to get to the meeting place by 12 pm. So I set my alarm for 8 am and had all my equipment ready and in my vehicle before bed. I went to bed early because it was going to be a long day and I did not think that I would be home before 2 or 3 am.

It was around 6 am when I was awakened with the need to go to the bathroom and after I finished I went back to bed. Then at 7 am I was suddenly awakened feeling very sick. It was hard to sit up or even get to the bathroom. So for the next three hours I was so sick that I decided that I was not going to be able to go on the investigation. I called the investigator and cancelled and went back to bed. Then around 12 pm I woke up feeling really good like I had not been sick at all, no ill effects or fever. I knew that I could not get to the meeting point as I did not have the directions to the site of the investigation. I did not have any clue to why I had been so sick and then was suddenly feeling better. I did some work around the house, I had my meals and felt really good, now when I say I felt really good that includes not feeling depressed or guilty about missing out on the investigation. I was also in a very upbeat mood. On Sunday I contacted the investigator and was invited to look over photos taken on the site. I was also told that it was a 'really weird place' and that everyone who was on the team agreed on the way home that the place gave them the creeps.

The very next Saturday I met up with the team and they all had some interesting pictures - lots of orbs some of which were red. I did look at all the pictures and listened to each person's story of the investigation (most of the people that went on the investigation were hobby hunters and were not very objective).

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So when the rest of the group left, I sat down with the lead investigator and went over the pictures while asking questions. I noticed that most of the orbs were dust but there were some shadows that were out of place. From what I could tell the orbs that were red were from the redeye light that some cameras have or from a laser thermometer that they were using to take temperature readings. Then I saw something that caught my eye - there were red spots on some of the pictures that were taken outside/outdoors. The lead investigator took several pictures that had these spots. They were not orbs and always appeared in twos. I asked questions about the area outside and could find no natural or manmade reason for the red dots. The investigator did not even notice the dots until I pointed them out. There were other pictures of the same area taken at a different time and the dots were not evident.

The lead investigator said that the lady (client) that had originally contacted her was calling her every day for information asking when the team would come back out to the site. We discussed the psychology of the lady and decided that she was not mentally 'stable' and that it would not be a good idea to go back out there. The lead investigator received a call from the lady before I left and I did hear the lead investigator say that she would send a copy of the pictures but that the team would not be coming back out to the site. The lead investigator had a hard time getting off the phone and said the lady did go a little 'psycho.' We called it a night and I went home.

The next day the investigator called me and said that she had a tough night with bad dreams about the lady and that lady had called an additional two times. I advised the investigator to tell the lady that if necessary a harassment complaint would be filed if she did not quit calling the agency. The investigator said that she did ask the lady if she had seen the red dots before. She said that the lady got upset again and then asked who in the group had seen them. The investigator advised her that she had shown me the pictures but that I had not visited the site. The lady wanted to talk to me but the investigator advised her that she was the contact person for the group and it would not be OK to call me.

That night after we had talked, I had some bad dreams about the area that I had seen in the pictures. The red dots were not dots but eyes and they followed me everywhere I went and I felt very threatened. I awoke from the dream with the feeling that someone was in my room at the foot of my bed. I tried to turn and look to see who it was but I could not move - I could move eyes but I could not move my body. Then I felt a pressure like something was on top of me trying to push me through the bed. I could not speak but I was still breathing and could only scream in my mind. The pressure changed from holding me down - it seemed to get colder and smaller and was trying to get inside me. I could tell that I could not stop this by myself; it was like I could tell by the way it was starting to feel that my willpower was not enough. Just my telling it to stop was not going to work so I started to pray and ask for Divine help.

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As soon as I started doing this, the feeling of cold stopped and turned into a feeling of pressure and then it was off me and I could move again. I sat up looking around my room and could see a shadow that was in the corner of the room where there was nothing to make the shadow. So I continued to pray and called for it to leave and to never return but now that I could move I said it out loud. I got out of bed and again in prayer demanded it to leave and never return. Then the shadow just faded away and the feeling in the room became more angelic. I turned on some light and looked at the clock and it was 3:05 am,* so I then got out my sage and smudged the room before I went back to bed. I did not turn off all the lights and did not go to sleep right away. I did not wake up till late morning feeling sore and drained.

I called the lead investigator later that day to see how the team was doing; they said that they all had a tough night with nightmares. I told them of my experience and said they should do a clearing also just like I was going to do and that any equipment that they had used on the site should be cleared also. I did my clearing and did not have any other problems but the lead investigator had many different problems even after the clearing. I think that they were still having problems because the lady from the site continued to call the investigator.

Sometime later that year, I was talking to one of my personal spiritual mentors about the incident. My mentor believed that one of my guides or Angels kept me from going on the investigation because of what was there. My mentor thought that there were evil entities on the site and that because of the nature of the clearings that I had to do that it would have been bad to have gone there with the team. It would have caused more problems than actually happened and that the investigator's problems continued because of the contact with the lady. After talking with my mentor and doing some reading I came to believe that my mystery illness that morning before the investigation was to keep me at home. So my guides or Angel were trying to protect me from whatever was out at the site. It was my own continued involvement in the investigation after the fact that caused the attack. It is important to have protection when dealing with the supernatural and it is important to remember that the paranormal is not always 'Casper the friendly ghost' but something that may want to cause harm."



Out of the Closet

Thibault McEnnery

Back in 1998, I was attending a college down south and like most students looked forward to partying on the weekend usually off campus. A member of our crowd had a slightly older friend who had finished school and was about ready to move on to grad school after a year of working hard in order to save up money for tuition. This friend lived in an old apartment building that had a notorious reputation because of some unsavory things that had happened there. I mention this up front because to this day I am not sure if this contributed to what took place in his apartment.

One weekend it was suggested that we visit this friend.

To say this guy was weird would be an understatement and his apartment matched his personality. The whole place was dark and dreary and he was very jittery bordering on manic. His words were full of expletives and he was excited to tell us he had been experimenting with spells and actually had conjured something up from the 'other side.' He claimed he had successfully videoed taped a 'devil' which had made its entrance from his bedroom closet.

We were all skeptical figuring this guy had used some bad drugs until he showed us the video. Despite the fact that it had been filmed in the darkened bedroom, it clearly showed a satyr like being with horns and cloven hooves emerge from the closet and then disappear. To this day we all believe the video while "unexplained" to be absolutely authentic and very scary having left a profound psychological effect on the guy and on us.

I believe that having that experience even though we did not participate had a lasting effect that didn't end with this particular situation. Being that we were at an experimental age and had a tendency to do crazy things, later on that year in the spring we decided to visit a graveyard and chug a few brews and see what kind of mischief we could procure. After we were satisfactorily under the influence we decided it might be fun to challenge spirits to come out and 'play.' One of us took a dare and decided to lay on top of one of the graves. Nothing happened so we stumbled out of the location and went back to our dorm rooms joking that the occult was a bunch of BS.

The next day, the guy who had rested on top of the grave began experiencing strange occurrences in his bedroom in the middle of the night between midnight and 3:00 am. Books and personal objects flew off a dresser while he lie frozen in bed praying for relief. He found scratches on the wall behind his bed which could not be explained and he was actually tossed from his bed on one occasion. The activity diminished and ceased after a week.

Did it teach us a lesson? You bet it did.

The Cursed Mirror

New England Scriber

I grew up in a neighborhood that was richly ‘old country’ in its ways. It was always curious to me how oddly yet seamlessly the past worked side by side with the modern society that was emerging.

Most neighborhoods had their own unique brands of superstitious ways regarding healing, protection and ‘getting things done’ most of which would be laughed at in today’s society. Having seen firsthand that more often than not these things worked beyond a doubt, generally for good, there were times when situations happened that would have been best left alone.

In my mother’s group of lady friends there was *the mirror*. The origin of the mirror was unknown and was in the possession of the mother of one of the gals – a very pleasant and happy going Italian woman. It was never divulged how it worked and the woman had never used it herself but she was aware that it worked. She kept it wrapped in a white cloth in a special drawer. It was believed that if you wished for what you wanted via the mirror you would get it and this turned out to be true. What was not realized until hindsight set in in every case was that the prize did not come without consequences.

There was nothing special about the mirror. It was a plain glass, rectangular in shape about 4 inches by 8 inches. Its only unique feature was a crack that ran from a corner up and across the middle. What would be known later was that the old superstition about seven years bad luck regarding a broken mirror did not apply here. The mirror had a seemingly vicious nature that moved much more quickly.

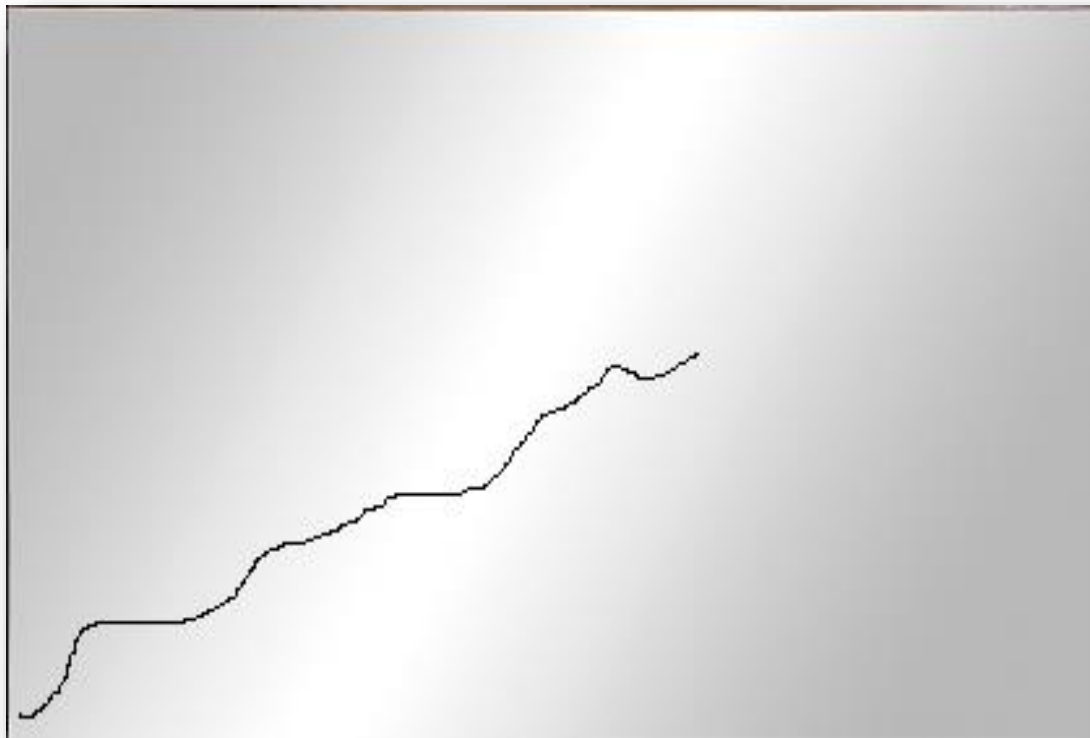
The first person to use the mirror was the woman’s daughter who back in those days was considered to be verging on old maid-dom. Of course she wished for a husband and sure enough she was happily married within one year. They were not married very long until he was killed in a car accident. She did remarry several years later but without any help from the mirror which she had handed on to another friend in the group. This person was a gorgeous single woman who could have snatched any man on the planet but she was not interested in marriage per se. She was interested in money. She had a good job working in securities and banking and was making a good living but it was not enough. She wished upon the mirror and about six months later she was actually married to a much older gentleman who was quite wealthy. She was given everything she wanted and when he passed which was six months later she inherited a fortune. Unfortunately for her and unknown to her, her husband had run up great debt and owed taxes. In the end she was left with nothing and was in worse shape than before she married because her reputation was ruined and she could not get hired in her former capacity. She was forced to live with relatives and work a store job until she was able to get on her feet which took several years.

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Another woman in the group wished for a husband and ended up with several none lasting more than two years.

A stable and married woman of the group used the mirror to get a house. She worked for several years part-time to make extra cash that could supplement her husband's wages and with some help from the mirror they were able to get a house sooner than expected. Within a year, her husband nearly died of a heart attack and there was an odd sense of depression that hung over the house like a black cloud. Finances were tough for many years. She was the last person to have possession of the mirror. She revoked use of it and would not pass it on to anyone else.

The mirror was wrapped in a cloth and kept out of sight ... and of mind.



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AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES



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Matt Sharpe (*The First Time*, pg. 52)

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.

Rachel 'Raven' Rose (*Portal*, pg. 55)

Rachel considers herself a proud pagan who loves nature and spends a good deal of time outdoors camping and communing. She has an avid interest in the paranormal and feels her experiences with the mirror made her a stronger human being. Rachel lives in New Hampshire.

Holbrook PSI (*The Devil's Hour*, pg.56)

John Holbrook has been a paranormal investigator for over 25 years. He owns and operates Holbrook PSI (Holbrook Paranormal Site Investigations) in the state of Georgia. John 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. His friends tend to think of him as the "earth bound Michael" because he is always willing to help others overcome their fear of the darkness by showing them how to discern the truth of a matter.

Thibault McEnnery (*Out of the Closet*, pg. 59)

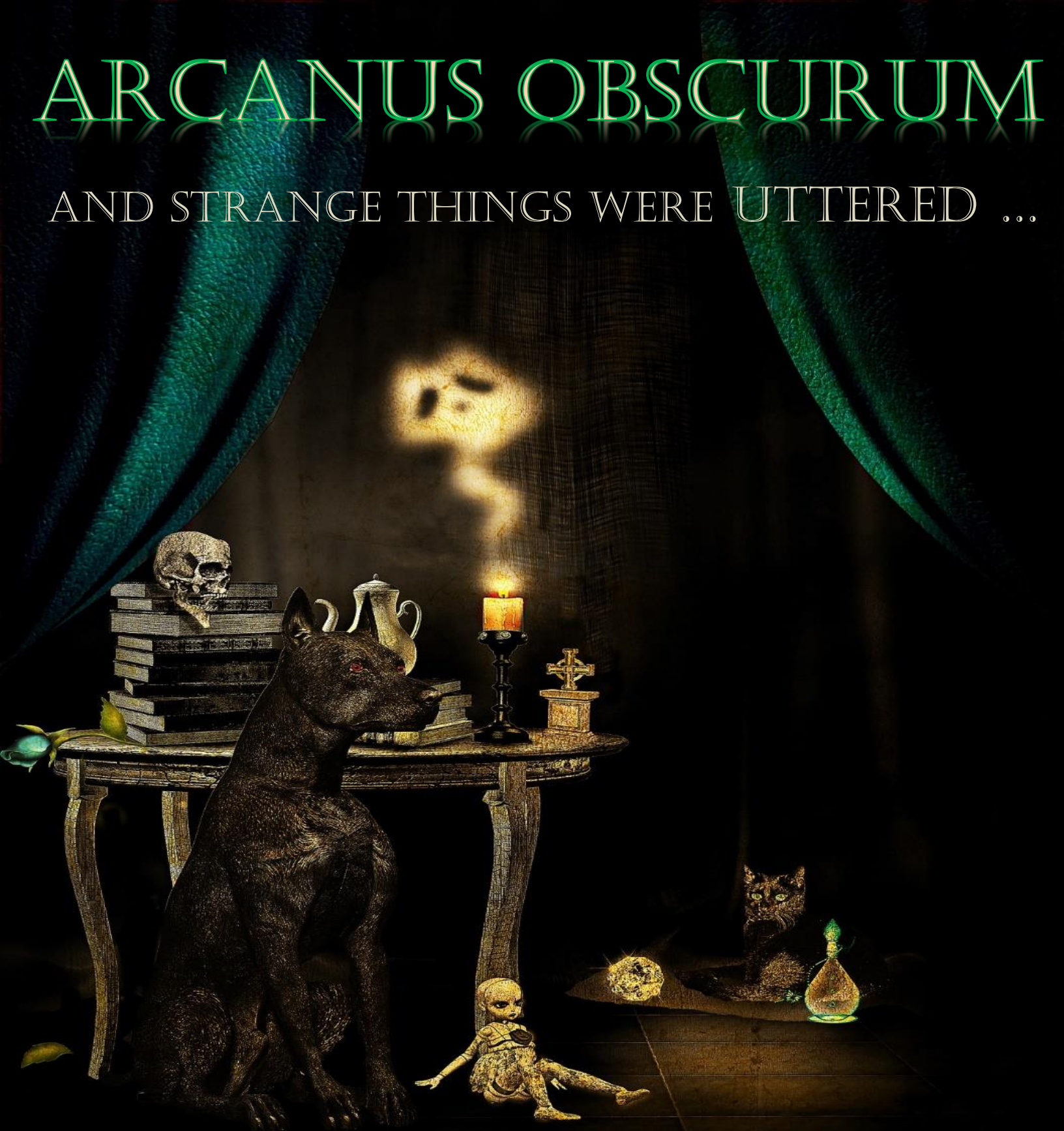
Ti McEnnery is an investment broker with a penchant for the supernatural and unknown. He is happily married with two young children and loves to go fishing and hiking. Ti lives in upstate NY in what he feels is a house occupied by a friendly ghost who makes mischief once in a while. He still ponders about the thing that emerged from the closet in that infamous video and while deep down he thinks something real was captured, he remains skeptical that the film may have been possibly doctored. It remains as mystery as does the whereabouts of elusive friend who filmed it.

New England Scriber (*The Cursed Mirror*, pg. 60)

The New England Scriber prefers to remain anonymous because of the nature of the story which is a true account and the because of the capacity of the mirror. Some things are best left alone.

ARCANUS OBSCURUM

AND STRANGE THINGS WERE UTTERED ...



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Voudo

Telma Adowa

Voudo more readily recognized as Voodoo, is an African rooted religion. Its context varies from place to place and often includes other facets such as Catholic and American Indigenous traditions. It has no overruling body but is rather a community support system conducted to buoy individual experience and empowerment. It is also a survival focused belief system emphasizing healing and social accord with an ethical focus on combating greed and promoting honor. Types include Louisiana Voodoo (or New Orleans Voodoo), Haitian Vodou, Brazilian Vodum, West African Vodum, Cuban Vodú and Dominican Vudú. Despite the bad hype surrounding Voudo, it is a legal religion with very old roots.

Voudo is ancestor oriented so to the voodooist the transition from life to death simply means that those who have passed over from the visible world to the invisible world are still with us. In spirit form the ancestors are thought of as guardians and protectors who can inspire the living. In addition to ancestors there are also other supernatural beings known as Lwa or Loa with whom a practitioner will strike a relationship in order to get advice and counsel to assist with problems in the mundane world. Depending upon locale the personality of the Lwa will vary accordingly to the needs of the area. For example, the Yoruba 'Ogun' will carry the archetype of 'warrior' so a practitioner will adopt the warrior energy in order to get messages. Papa Legba is a popular and important Lwa as he is considered the gatekeeper between the worlds of the mortal and the Divine (similar to St. Peter at the Gates of Heaven). The Lwa are depended upon because the Supreme Being known as Bondye is considered unknowable and uninvolved by nature.

Like other religions, Voudo has an ordained clergy which includes both men known as Hougan (Doctor) and women known as Mambo (Queen). The community thinks of them as responsible people who can offer good advice.

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On a higher spiritual level, it is believed that they can also be capable of self-actualization which means they can reach full potential through creativity, independence, spontaneity, and a grasp of the real world. Priests and Priestesses undergo long and serious training since some ritual includes possession of a Lwa. The ti bon ange (little good angel) is the container for the spirit of priest or priestess which protects it while the Lwa message is being revealed. The gros bon ange (great good angel) is considered the spirit that is shared with the living.

In general Voudo has been misunderstood throughout history starting with the racism connected to slavery. Voodoo came to the Americas a little over 250 years ago with the raids on the African Slave Coast began about 1720. It originated in the West Indies country of Haiti during the French Colonial Period.

In early America, when the country was undergoing much growth upheaval and political and social evolution, slaves were always held 'suspect' and what first was passed off as mere 'superstition' could end up with dire circumstances for followers and practitioners. Clergy was referred to as 'witchdoctors' and all practices deemed evil and sinful. In other places like Haiti, Voudo was successful and to this day is still highly involved in the culture and in politics. The success of Voudo in Haiti caused consternation in America and with European rulers who relied on slavery to make their enterprises successful so to denigrate it to the point of instilling fear in the populace served their purposes.

Most of the dire imagery connected to Voudo is courtesy of Hollywood and the media which took it to levels of debauchery and evil and only used to hurt others. In reality, even Pope John Paul II spoke of Voudo in the context of its fundamental goodness. He attended a Voudo ceremony in 1993. The intention behind Voudo is no different than the intention behind any other act. It depends upon the frame of mind behind the person who is wielding the energy.

Voudo dolls, snakes, magic and animal sacrifices also have much hype surrounding them. Good or bad (white or black) magic holds no distinction in Voudo.

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Anything to do with the conjuring of evil is known as red magic. An evil Lwa possessing an individual who has conjured it will often display red eyes. It is the job of the Hougan and Mambo to stop any of this before it even happens. A Voudo doll in itself is neither a good or evil object. Its uses are complicated but for the most part benevolent. Items attached to the doll via pins are meant as an appeal to the spirits to bring good to the individual. In movies, pins are often shown to bring pain and distress to a 'victim' when in actuality that is not why they are used. The snake is a representative of the Damballa or Danballa a god of the Voudo pantheon. It represents old wisdom and not evil. The concept behind animal sacrifice such as the slaying of a chicken is meant as a way of combining the life force of the animal with the life force of the Lwa. It is not all blood and guts as Hollywood would have you believe. What most people do not know is that animal is cooked and consumed as part of the ritual. While this may still be offensive to some it needs to be put into the proper context away from the preconceived notion of evil.

Like other religions, Voudo has public ceremonies and fetes and well as private rituals.

MANJE YANM is a harvest celebration. It has no fixed date and depends upon the harvesting of yams.

FETE FOR A LWA is celebration to serve the Lwas and call upon them to help the community.

PRIVATE RITUALS include divinations and readings, spiritual baths to help the individual reach a goal or remove negativity, wanga which has multi uses for such requests as love, money, work or even revenge (against an evil perpetrator), Anvwa Mo used to send away enemies, Pwen Cho used to acquire a working spirit (this ritual is not practiced by all practitioners since it is considered dangerous), Mariaj Lwa – a marriage ceremony where an individual is married to a Lwa and takes on obligation to that Lwa, Lave Tet which is a head washing to increase psychic ability and magical power, Kanzo which is an initiation ceremony. It belongs to Haitian Vodou Tradition of the Asson lineage where secrets of the lineage are taught.

→ Ever wish upon the moon?

Black Moon

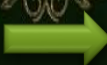
Thomas Selinas-Cross

Nearly everyone has heard of the *Blue Moon*, a rare astronomical occurrence that happens when two Full Moons occur in the same calendar month. A lesser known astronomical rarity is the *Black Moon* which occurs when there are two New Moons in the same calendar month.

The Black Moon is considered a highly occult entity that has always been recognized and honored by Ceremonial Magicians and Wiccans. Rituals and spells conducted during the Black Moon are believed to be in effect from one Black Moon cycle to the next. The cycle generally runs for approximately three years.

The influence of this Moon is believed to be “other worldly” and practitioners can tap into portals which open into other dimensions including everything from the Faerie Realm to the planes of the Ascended Masters. Paranormal investigators would find the energy of this Moon conducive to supernatural events, ghosts and haunting whereby actual communication with “spirits” could be easily achieved. All of this is possible because the dual New Moons are associated with altered states of awareness, higher consciousness and collective wisdom. Try making a “Wish Lists” during the next Black Moon. Simply write down ten wishes during the eight hours after a Black Moon and keep it in a handy place where you can easily access it and read it at random times over the ensuing year. Many of the wishes should come true.





What is real magic?

Magic of the Elements

Angelina 'Hecate' Debeyez

Here is an induction into the magic of the elements.

Let's start with Earth element since it represents our home. Earth is stable, receptive, and feminine sustaining all life upon which the other three elements rely. It represents abundance and prosperity and allows all to use creativity in a practical and physical manner. It encompasses all of nature – mankind, animals, rocks, crystals, trees, and vegetation. The energy of Earth houses great strength, common sense, and practical wisdom that can be tapped for success. In magickal practices, Earth element is the grounding force keeping the Root chakra chord connected to Mother Earth. The elemental spirits of Earth are the Gnomes and Dwarfs.

Earth element rules the direction of North, the time of Midnight, and the season of winter. It governs the Zodiac signs of Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn and the planets Venus, Mercury, and Saturn. Earth Elemental Magic includes garden magic, image magic, stone magic, tree magic, knot magic, and bind magic. Magical tools include the pentacle, salt, stones, cords, and images. All self-respecting Earth spirits carry pieces of emerald, jet, tourmaline, quartz (rutilated and tourmalated), peridot, onyx, jasper, azurite, amethyst, and salt in their magickal bags. When invoking Earth magic your arms should be extended with your palms facing downward. It would also be appropriate to wear Earth colors such as brown, green, and black/white in a check pattern. The goddess energies corresponding to Earth are Hathor, Ceres, Cerridwyn, Demeter, Gaia, Persephone and Rhiannon and the god energies are Adonis, Athos, Arawyn, Cernunnos, Dionysus, Herne, Marduk, Pan, and Tammu. These deities can be fun folk except for Demeter and Cernunnos who tend to be a bit bossy at times. Revered animals under the Earth element are the ant, bear, bison, bull, cow, deer, dog, gopher, horse, snake, stag, and wolf. Revered plants are cedar, cypress, comfrey, honeysuckle, ivy, grain, magnolia, patchouli, all kinds of nuts, and the mighty oak (favored by the Druids).

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Fire magic can be pretty tricky since it manifests so quickly. It is highly masculine energy that is very projective and filled with hot primal urgency. The Fire elemental purifies, illuminates, and grants vision and self-knowledge to those who seek it. It amplifies one's personal Will and bestows a new sense of authority. Fire is physical and sexual tied to the blood of life yet also strongly linked to the Divine. It can be very healing or very destructive. Fire is connected to the Solar Plexus Chakra, the season of summer, the time of High Noon, and the direction of South. When invoking Fire magic, your arms should be over your head forming a triangle. You should be dressed in the colors of Fire, which are all the colors of a flame, reds, oranges, yellows, hot blues, and hot whites. You should also be wearing or carrying items made of gold or brass. The Fire magic processes include candle magic, storm magick, and time magic. The magical tools of Fire are the athame, candle, censer, herbs for burning, written requests on paper for burning, and the wand.

The elemental spirit of Fire is the Salamander and a magical bag should hold pieces of agate, bloodstone, carnelian, garnet, quartz, red jasper, ruby, and rhodochrosite. The Zodiac signs of Fire element are Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius. The planets are Mars, the Sun, and Jupiter. The goddess energies connected to the Fire elemental are Aradia, Ameratsu, Brigit, Freya, Hestia, Lucina, Pele, Sekhmet, and Vesta and the god energies are Agni, Hephaestus, Horus, Ra, and Vulcan. This is a lively bunch, especially at celebrations. Most tend to have hot tempers so it is never boring. Vesta is the most conscientious of the group since it is her job to keep the Eternal Flame fueled and glowing. Revered animals under the Fire element are the bee, coyote, fox, horse, ladybug, lion, lizard, phoenix, praying mantis, salamander, scorpion, and snake. The revered plants are allspice, basil, cinnamon, garlic, hibiscus, juniper, lime, nettle, onion, orange, peppers, red poppies, and thistle.

Always remember that the fertile Earth is warmed by the Fire elemental and aerated by Air, which aids plant growth.

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That said, the Air elemental also produces projective energies like the element of Fire since it is also masculine. It is tied to communication and the intellectual mind and brings clarity, discernment, Truth, creativity, and higher consciousness to abstract thinking and the written and spoken word. It aids the memory, governs intuition, psychic works, telepathy, and meditation, and is connected to the Third Eye chakra. Air magic can be useful in finding lost objects usually by employing the help of the fairies who probably snatched the items in the first place.

The direction connected to Air is east, the time is dawn, and the season is spring. When invoking Air magic, your arms should be raised and your palms should be held parallel. If you would like to dress accordingly you may wear clothing of light hues that reflect the colors of Dawn such as lavender, white, pale yellow, light blue, pale pink, and shades of gray. The various forms of Air elemental magic are divination, concentrative techniques, prophecy seeking, visualization, and written spells. The tools of Air magic are the athame, censer, incense, and the sword. Ever hear the expression, “the Air was so thick you could cut it with a knife” spoken with reference to a tense situation? It takes proper communication and the appropriate use of words to modify these situations or to cut through them. When you communicate clearly and properly, you are using Air elemental magic to its best advantage by cutting through misunderstanding with your magical sword of skill!

The Zodiac signs of Air are Gemini, Libra, and Aquarius and the coordinating planets are Mercury, Venus, and Uranus. What’s that you say...? Mercury and Venus are also Earth planets? Well that just goes to show you how well the Universe works with the elements supporting one another! If you want to create an Air elemental magic bag, be sure it contains amber, amethyst, citrine, fluorite, mica, and topaz. The goddess energies associated with Air are Aradia, Arianrhod, Iris, Nuit, Ostara, and Urania. If you are a writer experiencing writer’s block, try calling on Urania to help you. She is a great muse! Ancient god energies associated with Air are Hermes, Mercury, Shu, and Thoth. Those of you who are paying attention are saying that Mercury and Hermes are one and the same. Well, you’re right, it just depends upon whether you prefer the Greek or Roman definition.

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The revered animals of Air are all birds, particularly the eagle and hawk, insects and spiders. If you fancy nature walks, learn how to pay attention to these animals, especially the spider, because some like to leave silken messages in their webs for you to read. The revered plants of Air are acacia, anise, aspen, benzoin, clover, frankincense, lavender, lemongrass, vervain, and yarrow.

The Water element governs emotions and our deepest feelings. It is receptive feminine energy and is tied to the Heart chakra. It is secondarily tied to the Third Eye chakra so it is easy to see why the Water elemental is connected to love, self-healing, sorrow, reflection, intuition, the unconscious, fertility, and regeneration. Along with Fire that warms and Air that aerates, the Water elemental nourishes the Earth with life giving fluids. The direction connected to Air is west, the time is twilight, and the season is autumn. When invoking Water magic, your arms should be extended with your palms held in an upward position.

The spirits of Water are the undines and mermaids. Water magic is often connected with the phases of the Moon and with the ebb and flow of the Earth's tides. Magical invocations are often conducted near the ocean or other bodies of water. Ceremonies may also involve snow, ice, or rain. If these natural settings are not available, mirror and magnet magic may be performed. The magickal tools of choice are a cauldron, chalice, or mirror. Magical clothing should represent the colors of water such as blue, blue greens, indigo, aquamarine, 'crests of the waves' white, and the shadowy depth hues of black and gray. The metals of Water are mercury (quicksilver), silver and copper. A magical bag should contain pieces of aquamarine, amethyst, beryl, blue topaz, blue tourmaline, coral, lapis, opal, pearl, and sodalite.

The goddess energies connected to water element are Aphrodite or Venus, Isis, Kupala, Mari, Ran, Tiamat, and Yemaya and the god energies are Dylan, Ea, Manannan, Neptune or Poseidon, Osiris, and Varuna. The revered animals are all the creatures of water including fish, sea lions, sea mammals, and sea serpents including the leviathan, shellfish, frogs, and turtles. Also included are cats, dragons, and sea birds. Revered plants are aloe, apple, catnip, chamomile, fern, gardenia, lemon, lettuce, lilac, lily of the valley, lotus, moss, orris, passionflower, rose, seaweed, thyme, valerian, water lily, and the willow tree.

Black + White = Whole Not Gray – Personal Alchemy of Soul

Alva Lennox

The return to Wholeness is a reabsorption of dark into light. It is a decision that must be consciously entered into by each individual. To provide the soul with necessary information for growth, you must experiment with both the light and dark expressions of your character throughout many incarnations. That is the personal alchemy of the Soul. After numerous adventures testing each side out, you and only you will decide which path to follow.

Judgmental criteria are human constructs that have no relationship to Universal Truth. Prejudices and accusations are illusions that humans create to separate and elevate themselves. If you compare yourself with a serial killer, you might feel self-righteous that you are a better person. That is ... until you realize that you have taken on a similar dark role for your self-expression in another lifetime.

Most of us have grown accustomed to giving “love” or “caring” based on deservedness. When someone is nice or has been kind to us we consider them to be a good person and in some cases maybe even a stupid person for being that way. But, what about the people who have hurt us or who have appeared despicable in some way? Are they less deserving of kindness? In reality, they probably need it more than those who we have deemed worthy. If we harbor resentment towards others for whatever reasons and invent false ideas or lies about them to satisfy our sense of self-righteousness or hurt pride, we cannot really see them. We have given them up to the abyss of convenient labels.

Resentful, hurtful behavior is a distortion of Universal Law. Emotions are the most terrifying aspect of the unknown facet of selfdom. Underneath the carefully manicured persona is a demon waiting to wreak havoc. But the soul learns through experiences. The purpose of the darkness or anything black in us is to help us delve into undiscovered territory. In the process we will get banged around and lash out with negativity. This may be undesirable or repugnant. However, it is part of the process of duality that must be experienced before the natural return to wholeness.

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Although it may not seem so on the surface, the abusive or neglectful behavior of others is evidence of their souls being under siege. They have lost their true selves and are stumbling and flailing away in the wilderness to find them. Even though we may intellectually understand this, we still react emotionally when we are the subject or target of their insensitivity, cruelty or even hatred. We feel that these others have failed us in some way. They have failed to meet some standard or some pre-specified goal of ours and fall short. It must be remembered that they are worthy. They are worthy because they exist. Period. They are worthy for that reason alone and not because they meet with the standards we have set for them.

We all have many “sides.” Emotions are actually neutral being neither good nor bad. They are simply teaching tools. The journey here is not a fall from Grace as many religions would have us think. To be human is not a curse. It is a blessing. To be only human is a Universal miracle. Emotions are meant to be experienced and contemplated and not condemned. For example, when the selfish side of the self rears its head in a situation it is because we have a fear that we will not be provided for adequately. Insecurity is fostered by poverty consciousness and can make us experience difficulty in feeling generous. We all know, with no exceptions, on the deepest levels why we act the way we do – lie, cheat, bear false witness, seek vengeance, hurt and act in most cases like a horse’s ass – we just need to stop and examine.

No one said this would be easy. It all becomes a difficult human trial for all involved. It is a process of grief. All must let the pain, anger, bitterness and hatred surface in the heart. We must grieve for ourselves and for all others involved. This is how the soul is purged of the darkness that has possessed it for such a long time. It is an imprisonment that holds the selfhood tight and bound. It has become time to set the self and all perpetrators free. Lift the oppressive mantle of bitterness and blame and remember you are never really alone.

Do the work and turn what is base into spiritual gold.

➔ If an evil entity can possess someone can a good entity do the same?

Possessed by a Good Spirit

Thomas V. Carroll

Are people only possessed by negative or evil spirits? If the devil can possess people then can God or an angel? The story of Mary Jobson has been the subject of a book or two or at least a chapter in an anthology. Her story is fascinating.

In November of 1839, at the age of 12 years, Mary contracted a most peculiar illness. In the beginning she complained of severe pain at the back of the head, her eyes were sensitive to light, she had a slight temperature, constipation and an irregular heartbeat. Her symptoms quickly grew worse eventually leading to convulsions that would ease up and then return. Mary was not able to swallow food. Her doctor and parents did what they could for the girl but all of this marked the beginning of strange occurrences that would last for almost 11 weeks. She was attended by several physicians during that course. Several physicians, family members and others who witnessed the events wrote their accounts of the happenings which can be found in *The Miraculous Case of Mary Jobson* by W. Reid Clanny M.D.

At first the family would hear rapping emanating from Mary's room but upon inspection, each time they found the child merely laying in bed with her hands at her sides. These knockings grew into poundings and finally what sounded like fierce explosions. This was accompanied by phantom footsteps, closet doors that opened and closed by themselves, water falling from the ceiling and melodious music coming from an organ that did not exist.

Then came the voice. It claimed it was using her voice as a "trumpet" and was the voice of God that should not be mocked. It further claimed it was a good spirit who would be lending advice to all who came to hear it and that Mary's possession was only temporary. It insisted that Mary was not harmed and that her spirit was not there and had left its physical form for a time.

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Mary's father was not accepting this story and demanded proof. He asked for water to be dumped at his feet. It was and continued to be dumped until the room was soaked more than twenty times.

The human trumpet met with visitors giving out advice and at times summoned people to come to get messages that were important to their lives. They were subject to celestial music via organ and hymns and a disembodied choir. Often the voices of departed loved ones came through. According to author Brad Steiger in *Real Ghosts, Restless Spirits and Haunted Places*, who wrote a rendition of this story the voice said:

"Look up, and you shall see the sun and moon on the ceiling." Before the bewildered eyes of a roomful of witnesses, the planets appeared above them as celestial orbs of yellow and orange. John Jobson immediately set about whitewashing the figures, but he soon learned that the voice had intended its artwork to be permanent ... after several coats of whitewash the figures still remained visible.

Despite what the spirit voice had been saying, Mary's condition appeared to be diminishing and the attending doctor told her parents to prepare for her death. The voice however announced that on June 22, a miracle would take place and Mary would be restored. Mary's mother had laid out clothing as instructed and at 5:00, the voice told everyone to leave the room with the exception of Mary's two year old brother. Approximately 15 minutes later the voice instructed everyone to re-enter the room. They found Mary sitting in a chair smiling with her brother on her lap. All was well as if nothing had ever happened.

It is said that Mary grew up into a fine educated woman who was highly respected. There were signs or scars from the "good spirit" who never returned and it was said she very rarely got ill.



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Telma Adowa (*Scrying*, pg. 69)

Telma is a Yoruba shaman and psychic who can look forward and backward at one's life story. She also teaches traditional African dance at both adult and youth levels. She enjoys crafting, sewing and basket weaving which is a skill that is handed down in her family from generation to generation.

Thomas Selinas-Cross (*Black Moon*, pg.67)

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.

Angelina 'Hecate' Abayez (*Magic of the Elements*, pg. 68)

Angelina is a Pagan practitioner of healing and natural arts. She recently began to study astrology and the complexities of the Enneagram. Angelina enjoys candle making and oil painting in her spare time. One of her favorite subjects to paint is the moon and her paintings have been featured in local art shows in her hometown.

Alva Lennox (*Black + White = Whole Not Gray – Personal Alchemy*, pg. 72)

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.

Thomas V. Carroll (*Possessed by a Good Spirit*, pg. 74)

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.

Sacred Sciences

“The Truth is rarely pure and never simple.”

Oscar Wilde

Section Managing Editor – Anna Drake Sydney

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An Astro Look at Master of Horror Stephen King

Peaches McCullough

Everyone knows at least one book or movie that was written by Stephen King. Among some of the more popular cult favorites are “Carrie,” a 1976 film about a teenage girl misfit with telekinetic powers who gets revenge on those classmates who torment her daily, by setting the whole town and school ablaze.

The 1978 novel “The Stand,” which also became a television movie series, is about a post-apocalyptic battle between good versus evil, after a government experiment for a cure to the flu kills off almost all living people and animals, bringing forth national disaster and mayhem. There is also “The Dead Zone,” a 1983 horror/thriller about a school teacher who after awakening from a seven year coma finds that he also has psychic abilities.

All of these books and movies mentioned above and many more are the product of King's dark and prolific imagination, as well as a testament to his many hours of hard work and dedication to his writings over the past 40 years.

He seems to be a fairly normal, intellectual, middle aged gentleman. He has been married for over 30 years to his college sweetheart and dedicated, loyal spouse, Tabitha Spruce King (also a successful novelist in her own right), and together, they have reared three very talented grown children , as well as being the proud grandparents of several grandchildren.

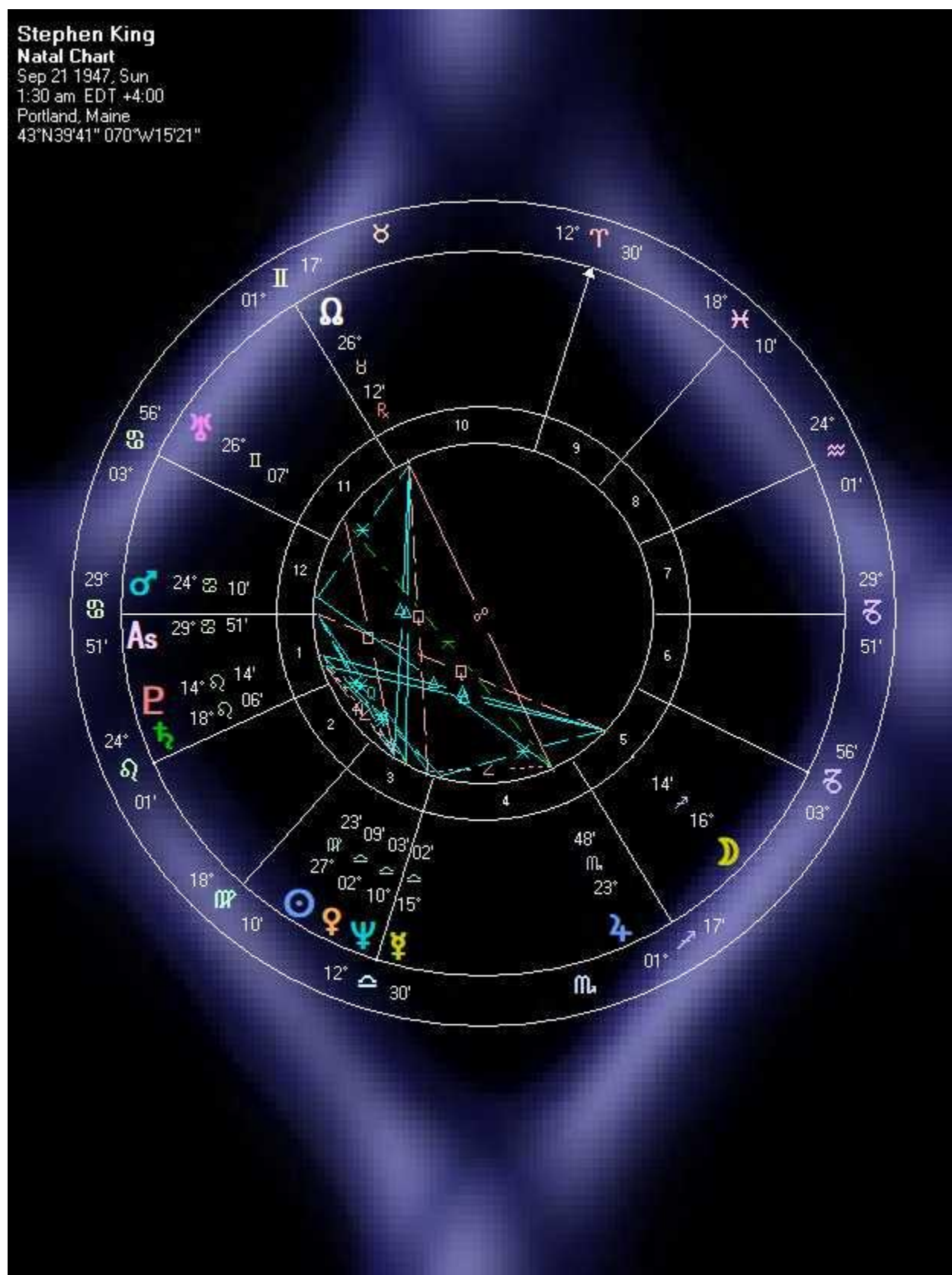
But what about the author himself-who is Stephen King really, beneath the successful author and family man image?

As an astrologer looking at his natal birth chart, this is where we will begin to explore the hidden forces deep within him and in his early childhood and young adulthood environment that helped to shape him into the highly regarded, award winning, prolific author of horror, science fiction, and suspense.

Stephen Edwin King was born at 1:30 AM E.D.T. on September 21st, 1947 in Portland, Maine, the second son to parents, Nellie and Donald King. According to this information, he is a Sun Sign Virgo, with a Sagittarius Moon sign and Cancer Rising sign on the Ascendant. When a person has their Sun placed in the sign of Virgo, this can indicate that their life path is one of some sort of service or healing to others. Stephen came in with a life purpose of healing through writing, educating, teaching and communication with others (Mercury ruled Virgo Sun placed in the 3rd House). He will tend to do this in a manner where he shines behind the scenes, away from the spotlight (Sun in Virgo, 3rd House cadent).

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Stephen's 3rd house Sun is part of a stellium or group of planets that form a series of conjunctions to each other, augmenting the 3rd house focus on learning, teaching and writing. This grouping starts with the Sun placed at 27 degrees of Virgo, conjunct Venus at 2 degrees Libra, combining forces with Neptune at 10 degrees Libra, which also happens to be conjunct with Mercury, ruler of the 3rd house, placed at 15 degrees Libra, just minutes from the cusp of the 3rd house, but technically Mercury is placed in the 4th house.

With Mercury so closely placed to the 3rd house group, though, Mercury's energy is being pulled into that stellium and the group of planets together are acting as a concentration of his energy into the house of the conscious mind and every day routine. Simply put, if you want to know what someone is thinking a lot about and the quality of their mind, a good place to start is with the 3rd house and Mercury placements by sign and house. With this kind of configuration, you can be sure Stephen has a fine intellect and razor sharp mind that is quickly able to form perceptive impressions at lightning speed. He constantly reads and writes on a daily basis. These impressions form the basic core of his character and identity of whom and what he is in this lifetime. Stephen's mind tends to be very busy place, concerned with the creative expression of something artistic, beautiful, and balanced in shape and form.

This stellium will tend to influence how he expresses himself with others through writing and teaching. He is always focusing on new techniques of writing and communicating as well. Mercury is also favoring, through a sextile aspect, his 1st house conjunction of both Pluto at 15 degrees Leo and Saturn at 18 degrees Leo. Sextiles always represent some sort of beneficial applied opportunity in the natal chart. In this case, the 1st house conjunct of two of the most powerful planets in the zodiac gives a major clue that he will be influenced by fate and destiny (1st house can represent destiny and Pluto represents hidden, unavoidable forces at work, that shape his destiny). When we take a closer look at Stephen's Cancer Ascendant, and the 1st House Pluto/Saturn conjunction, much more is revealed about the circumstances and forces at work in his early years that has also contributed to who King is as a person today.

Stephen has the family oriented sign of Cancer placed at 29 degrees (Anaretic or karmic degree) on the horizon when he was born. Cancer is an intuitive, perceptive sign by nature. Cancer, the Crab is also a protective sign, with a tough outer shell, protecting the sensitive, tender skin beneath. Those with Cancer rising usually are very protective of themselves and family, can be very patriotic, and approach life somewhat sideways to get to a goal or purpose-but this sign is also noted for being quite tenacious when focused and will never give up or give in-a very determined sign indeed. Cancer rules the stomach and chest (breasts for a woman) and Cancer is not noted as being a very vital sign on the Ascendant, especially in childhood.

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With Cancer as his rising sign, as well as Stephen's natal Sun in Virgo cadent, indicates his vitality is not all that it could be and that throughout his life time he must always be vigilant through healthy habits and routines. The Sun in Virgo indicates one of his weak spots could be his solar plexus/intestinal area and the Cancer Ascendant indicates the stomach or chest area in addition needs to be looked after carefully. His Ascendant is receiving a nice sextile from his Venus in Libra in the 3rd House, along with that same natal Virgo Sun in the 3rd-this probably helps to not only strengthen his vitality somewhat, but also indicates he is blessed with a certain kind of refinement and charming manner that most people would respond well to in his personal everyday contacts.

When we look into the 1st House conjunction between Pluto in Leo (sign of royalty, show business, children and creativity), where Pluto is considered at its strength, and Saturn in Leo, which is in its detriment, we see that most of what King has come in to learn about as far as life lessons go, is how to handle internal issues of self-control, transformation and empowerment through right use of power (Pluto) and lessons in self-responsibility, hard work, dedication and planning (Saturn). Pluto in Leo in the 1st House suggests that hidden circumstances around his birth and early years were intense, and that an issue regarding the abandonment of one of the parents early in life (Pluto also rules the intercepted Scorpio 4th house of a parent) would play a big role in how he saw authority figures and handled self-control issues. Pluto's influence over 4th house matters also hints at a lot of family secrets as well.

In 1950, shortly after Stephen's second birthday, his father, a merchant seaman, abandoned his wife and family. Steven's mother then assumed the role of supporting King and his brother through a series of menial, low paying jobs afterward, in addition to some support received through his mother's extended family. King learned great deal about the right and wrong use of power through this parental situation, as the 4th and 10th houses in a person's natal chart also forms what is called in astrology the family and parental axis, and Pluto rules over his intercepted sign of Scorpio in the 4th house. The 4th house rules over one of the parents as well as end of life circumstances, among other things.

King's mother, Nellie King, seems to have been dealt with more than her fair share of hardships. After her husband's abandonment, she became the sole means of support for King and his brother during the 1950's, a difficult position for a woman in that day and era. Nellie relocated often in Stephen's early childhood years in order to find work to support her children. She eventually relocated back to Maine when King was 11 years old, in order to take care of her own parents until their deaths. Afterwards, Nellie became a caregiver in a local residential facility for the mentally challenged for many years. She passed away in 1973 at the age of 59 in a hospice in Maine from uterine cancer.

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This event likely occurred under the shadow influence of King's 1st natal Saturn Return, since King was 26 years old at the time. He also had gotten his first major breakthrough book with the publication of "Carrie." His actual Saturn Return date was three years later, in the fall of 1976.

Steven's mother, a very self-sacrificing figure in King's life, was born under the sign of Pisces; the planet of self-sacrifice, Neptune, is at 10 degrees Libra in King's natal chart; Neptune is conjunct within 2 degrees of his 4th house cusp at 12 degrees Libra. Neptune in King's chart also opposes his Aries M/C and rules his Pisces 9th house of higher education and publishing. This aspect alone speaks volumes about his mother's influence through her stoic sufferings and hardships on his financial and educational goals, in addition to his writing career. Often, when Neptune is found in a natal chart connected to or in the 4th house of a parent, one of the parents could have a health issue; usually some sort of a wasting disease can be indicated from this aspect.

A person with this aspect in their natal chart could also be losing a connection with the parent due to a health or mental issue as well. It could have been difficult for Stephen to see his mother in an objective light in addition, because Neptune's energy is more about confusion than clarity. The 4th house also represents the soul, so Stephen is likely to develop his compassion for all of humanity through some sort of personal sacrifice and service that he is uniquely able to offer through his own life experiences.

The patron planet of those that write, teach and communicate, Mercury, is also placed in Libra in his 4th house, conjunct Neptune in the 4th- this aspect is what indicates Stephen's ability to tap into his imagination on a soul level and communicate that back to the masses. Stephen, simply put, is gifted in "telling a good tale". Mercury rules both Stephen's Virgo 3rd house of writing and communication, as well as his 11th house of goals, wishes and dreams.

The planet Uranus, planet of genius and the unexpected, is placed in Gemini, the sign of communication and writing, in the 11th house of goals, hopes, wishes and dreams, is also inconjunct Jupiter in King's natal chart, which rules both the 5th house of creativity and children and co-rules his 9th house of higher education, higher consciousness and long distance goals. Uranus itself rules his 8th house of other's resources, and endings, and co-rules his Capricorn 6th house of work and health, and the Capricorn 7th house of partnerships and marriage. This means that he is prone to having sudden financial changes, in particular in the arena of other people's money. These changes also affect his health and career. Uranus' influence was likely an issue when he first began receiving book advances for contracts for publishing his books. This means that he is prone to having sudden financial changes, in particular in the arena of other people's money.

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These changes also affect his health and career. Uranus' influence was likely an issue when he first began receiving book advances for contracts for publishing his books.

In 1973, for example, Stephen received an advance of \$2500 for the book manuscript of "Carrie" which even by those monetary standards in the 1970's was not considered that much of a monetary gain. Later on though, when the paperback rights to "Carrie" were sold, he received \$200,000 dollars, half of the \$400,000 that was split with the original publishers. He had actually thrown the first few pages of the manuscript for "Carrie" in the garbage pail; he thought that the script was "too childish"; his wife fished it back out and encouraged him to complete it and "Carrie" became over time one of his best-selling stories, eventually becoming a best-selling movie.

At that point in time, the notice of this book advance was sent via telegraph, as Stephen, due to financial hardships, did not have a telephone at his place of residence, in a mobile home trailer park at the time.

The struggling writer was working at a local school as an English teacher at the time, as well as working odd jobs and selling short stories to various mystery magazines to help support his wife and small growing family of three small children. The inconjunct aspect between Uranus in the 11th house and Jupiter in the 4th house seems to indicate a need for an adjustment between his family (4th house) and his career goals (the 11th house). The planet Uranus, which also represents our urge to be an individual, is also receiving another harsh aspect, a square from the Sun in Virgo in the 3rd house. Sun square Uranus usually means there is a tendency to have issues with the father or authority figures, as well as foreshadowing sudden separations in his life from important males.

Since the Sun also rules his Leo second house of finances, he had a decision resolve the conflict about his finances (2nd House) and his goals and wishes (11th house). This inner conflict about his personal self-worth (second house) would have also affected his income, at times in a negative way. This inner conflict affects his sense of self or self-esteem, again causing him to likely alternate between being overly willful and prone to being abrupt and a decided coolness and detachment to others. The mounting pressures of struggling with finances, writing and balancing a career and family, began to take a personal internal toll on King during this time- in addition to dealing with a lot of insecurity, rejection and self-criticism. Virgos can be unduly harsh on themselves.

During this time, Stephen began to have a hidden drinking and substance abuse issues that lasted well over a decade. Stephen has admitted that he didn't feel he deserved to be successful in his career-he even went as far as to publish a series of books under a pseudonym of Richard Bachman in the late 1970's just to prove to himself that his success was not just a fluke of chance or fate.

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This same aspect also means that the issues with nurturing would have also influenced his selection of a mate or partnership, and that he would seek a mate that was steadfast, supportive and endowed with down to earth qualities (Capricorn 7th house). Tabitha Spruce King, his wife of over 30 years seems to be match for those sterling qualities, and she herself is also a successful author and mother in her own right.

Pluto's influence in the natal chart of King is very strong, because not only is Pluto strengthened by being prominent by angle, maximizing the influence of Pluto and making it more obvious for the world to see, Pluto is also exalted by cosmic state, increasing its power to produce those things related to Pluto and the meanings related to those of the 1st house. In astrology, Pluto is the planet mainly known for horrible or terrible things, like filth, sewers, murder, violence, torment, and hell. Pluto derives these types of meanings because in Greek Mythology, Pluto was the god that ruled Hades or hell, the underworld. Pluto is known to represent hidden forces at work in the human psyche, like those that are involved in volcanic activity. Usually, wherever Pluto is placed in the natal chart, its influence is usually doing something hidden and subversive. This planet intensifies the qualities of Stephen's Cancer ascendant, and Pluto here also represents his need to be in total control of his destiny and life's purpose.

The first house of a natal chart reveals your outlook on life, as well as how you view the world. This house also shows how you may appear to others. With Pluto in this house, it makes him seem more intense, secretive and charismatic, like a Scorpio. His natal Pluto is also well supported by mostly positive aspects from it to his 3rd house of siblings and the mind. So, he is likely to have channeled this intense inner drive in a positive way, through his imagination and writing. Pluto can also represent compulsive tendencies and obsessive behaviors. King is the self-proclaimed "Grandmaster of Horror" and seems to have a fascination with fear, death and horrible things that terrify and go bump in the night. Stephen mentions in one of his interviews that he is compulsive about his writing, literally obsessed by it to the point where he would not sleep or eat that his wife has had to suggest to him to "give it a rest already, Stephen".

The influence of Saturn in his 1st house would also be a major factor in his early life. Often, Saturn in the 1st house denotes a difficult beginning, early in life. His early years were certainly reflective of that. Between the many moves and difficult financial circumstances that forced his mother to accept help from her family, it could not have been a very easy childhood at all for Stephen or family.

The 1st house of the chart also refers to the physical body. In Stephen's case, this seemed to show up as issues with frequent throat and inner ear infections, leading up to perforated eardrums and a loss of his hearing (Saturn in detriment conjunct Pluto in the 1st house).

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Saturn rules the skin, teeth and bones, as well as the physical sense of hearing. Pluto references the immune system-Saturn conjunct Pluto probably indicates the suppression of his immune system to fight off colds leading up to the throat and ear infections.

Stephen's advice to aspiring future writers reflects the wisdom he has gained over the years with the passage of time. He says you must be disciplined, work hard and preserve through dedication. He himself sets a daily goal of 4-6hrs of writing time, as well as 2000 words a day minimum. Saturn also represents one's fears; he has a list of phobias from bees to enclosed places. One of his biggest fears is that he would fail at being a successful writer. During his lifetime, Stephen would want to watch his skin, bones, teeth, as well as his back and heart, and take good care of himself through nutrition and frequent physical checkups.

One aspect in particular that stands out in King's natal chart is his Mars placement in the 12th house in the sign of Cancer (Mars in detriment or bad cosmic state). One way this could play out is since the 12th house can represent your unconscious behavior from past lives and the 12th house represents your Achilles heel or weak spot, and Mars represents how well you use your energy; Stephen could unconsciously exhibit tendencies that do not benefit his best interests. He could literally be his own worst enemy. He could also have a tendency to put up a lot of protective barriers, especially about how he handles his anger or irritation (Mars). The 12th house is also a house of chronic health issues, so it could mean he needs to watch his stomach (ulcers or easily irritated stomach) or chest area (Cancer) carefully.

Mars co-rules his 4th house of a parent (Scorpio) as well as his Aries M/C. The Aries M/C also represents one of the parents or an authority figure, so his parental issues of abandonment by a parent affects his destiny and how he earns his livelihood. Aries on the M/C cusp also indicates he wants to be a pioneer in his profession. He likely feels that he has to go it alone in the world (that message is also being repeated by the lone wolf placement of Pluto in the 1st house). This also can indicate he only feels safe if he is in control, because of the damage done to his ability to trust at such an early age. Because Mars is so well aspected though, he is able to mitigate this circumstance and to put it to good use, through healing and writing in particular (Natal Mars in Cancer in the 12th house of hidden matters sextile the natal Virgo Sun in 3rd house).

When looking at his chart, it should be strongly noted that he does have extremely positive, helpful influences in his natal chart that are protecting him from some of the more negative aspects.

He has 7 trines in his natal chart; 3 of which form a major Grand Fire Trine to the M/C-both Pluto and Saturn in Leo in the 1st house of self and destiny trine his 5th House Moon in Sagittarius-this trine completes the circuit to the life path and world at large, represented by the Aries M/C.

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The Sagittarius Moon helped him with his popularity with the public (the Moon influences the public and rules his Cancer Ascendant, how he comes across to others). This Moon is very nicely aspected in his chart-he has a great deal of sensitivity and in this case the Moon reflects the light of his soul (the Virgo Sun) in a philosophical and insightful way (Moon in Sagittarius). This Grand Fire trine means that he has a gift of inspiring and encouraging others to challenge themselves to be their personal best. His natal Sun in Virgo is also trine his North Node in Taurus. This means that his life purpose (North Node) is all about building financial security and what he values in life (Taurus North Node).

Stephen also has 7 sextiles, which show that he has still had a life complete with more opportunities, more than the average person. He still had to exert the effort and hard work to receive the benefit of those sextiles; the difficult aspects and life circumstances he encountered helped him to see their worth. A good natal chart usually is a blend of challenging and difficult aspects; together these forces help to develop character in a person and bring wisdom and knowledge, because one is able to go within themselves to correct their mistakes.

Stephen has Jupiter, the planet of happiness, prosperity and bounty ruling the Sagittarius 5th house of enjoyment, creativity and children, placed in the 4th house of home, family and the later years. He has now found happiness through his family and children and grandchildren, and is better able to enjoy sweet success in life in his golden years. Though he officially retired in 2002 from writing, he still continues to write and has passed this legacy on to his own family (two of his grown children also write successful novels in their own right).

When asked by an interviewer why he writes, he responded “The answer to that is fairly simple- there was nothing else I was made to do. I love writing and I was made to write stories and I love to write stories. That's why I do it. I can't imagine doing anything else and I can't imagine not doing what I do.” He is also asked often why he writes such terrifying stories and he answered with another question “Why do you assume that I have a choice?” His natal chart shows very clearly that his destiny was to write, for his muse of inspiration was both terror and fear. And now he doesn't have anything to fear anymore.



The Ecstasy and the Reality

Syd Alrruhi

In some esoteric circles it is believed that what mystics see and feel while in their ecstasies is so disengaged from everyday reality there are no words to describe them. What of the everyday Joe? Is a person who experiences episodes that defy nature in fact truly being shown another reality or realm or are they merely being tricked by their senses?

The human mind is a powerful agent. The annals of psychiatry hold numerous cases of seemingly normal people who have experienced ‘tactile’ hallucinations. They have seen, touched, heard and smelled and communicated with solid forms which acted as solid forms blocking out light and casting reflections. Science says if this happens outside of objective reality, how can any light travel from such forms to the eye to register an image the brain?

Dreams can be considered hallucinations so can OBE. Ever wake up from an intense dream or nightmare that for a minute or two you were so shaken that it was hard to believe it was not real? Did fragments of it stick with you throughout the day yet you could not make rational sense of why your mind kept returning to those seemingly real segments? What of those dreams which ended up bearing physical marks upon the body? This is nothing new. Psychiatrists today consider these incidences as serious phenomena ... i.e. a woman relays to a doctor what she calls a spectral rape complete with horrific details and marks, scratches and bite marks that could not have possibly been self-inflicted despite any medical writing off of these things being a result of sexual repression.

According to various sleep studies, there are two twilight times in everyone's day when people are most open to these tactile events. The scientific term for these are hypnagogic and hypnopompic – basically when wakefulness is merging into sleep and when sleep is merging into wakefulness – the in-between times. The images and events produced at these times are so real even hardened sceptics find it impossible to believe they did not happen.

Today, esotericists use the term Out Of Body. It is not anything new and very akin to the Somnambules that are written about in ancient texts who had all sorts of experiences talking to angels, the Christ and even a devil or too depending upon cultural conditioning and expectation.

“Tripping” via drugs is also included as well as hypnosis. All these things can make a person see all those ‘real things’ that are not really there – or are they?

Continued ...

Name Pulsing – Numerology

Eleannor Tighe

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | 9 |
| 2 | 5 | 8 |
| 1 | 4 | 7 |

D O N A L D

4 6 5 1 3 4

J O H N

1 6 8 5

T R U M P

2 9 3 4 7

NAME PULSE

- 1
Ego/Being
Leadership
Resources
Identity
- 2
Duality
Feelings/Caring
Imbalance
Conscious mind
- 3
Creativity
Action
Forcefulness/Initiative
Service
- 4
Logic Thought
Practicality
Instincts
Material World
- 5
The Senses
Expansion
Flexibility/Tolerance
Learning
- 6
Intellectual Creativity
Imagination/Fantasy
Abstract Thinking
Theory
- 7
Limits
Time
Achievement
Attachments
Spiritual World
- 8
Unconscious Mind
Material Transformation
Balance
Dharma
- 9
Divine Love
Innate Talent
Karmic Reward
Completion

In Numerology a name may be seen as a whole but it can also be seen in its parts. Energy pulses of a number connected to a letter are placed on a grid as depicted. Each time a number/letter appears in a name it receives a pulse. The more pulses, the more the awareness in an area as stated in the illustration. Here is the name pulse for President Donald Trump.

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The lines are read horizontal, vertical and diagonal.

The Material World Line consists of 1-4-7

The Creativity Line consists of 3-6-9

The Emotions Line consists of 2-5-8

The Physical Body Line consists of 1-2-3

The Intellectual Line consists of 4-5-6

The Spiritual Line consists of 7-8-9

The Effectiveness Line consists of 3-5-7

The Communications Line consists of 1-5-9

Material World Line (1-4-7): Very Strong. Is very aware of own identity. Strong awareness of material world and how far it can be stretched. Creativity Line (3-6-9): Strong. Creative resources available. Physical Body Line (1-2-3) Strong. Pride in appearance. Intellectual Line (4-5-6) Very Strong. Uses intellectual process to high extent. Spiritual Line (7-8-9) Average. More interested in intellect and projection than spirituality. Emotions Line (2-5-8) Average. One who may inhibit or repress feelings for one reason or another on various occasions. Effectiveness Line (3-5-7) relatively strong pulse. Has administrative resources but should set limits. Communication Line (1-5-9) relatively strong. Has trouble communicating with the SELF.

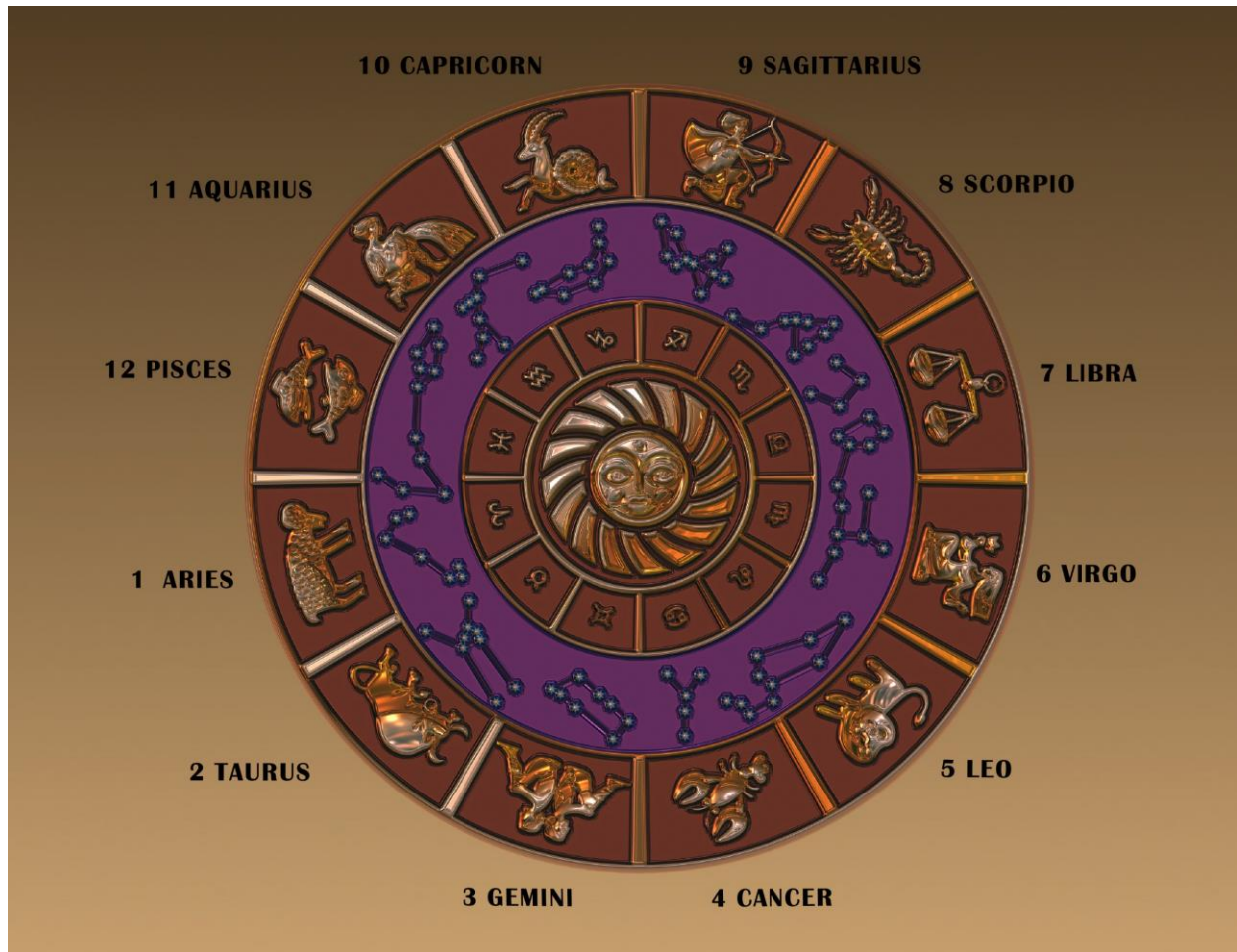
Missing number pulses indicate areas of energy of which an individual was unconscious of when given their name after birth. President Trump has no missing number pulses.



Astro-Tarot: How to do an Annual Reading

Donna Bedetto

I always like to get a yearly forecast astrological chart done for my birthday but I love an annual Tarot reading as well. Since it is very difficult to be unbiased about your own reading I find it helpful to have a reading done for me but in addition to that I like to do the Tarot Wheel layout. I lay twelve cards around in a circle and they represent the houses of the zodiac, after I liken the card to the energy of that house I may want more information so I throw another card on top to expand on that first card. Some cards may not draw you in and so it is not necessary to explore them. This is a good thing since we don't need that much drama in the course of a year. Here is the Astro-Tarot model in case you want to do a reading for yourself.



Continued ...

Continued ...

This is very basic and if you like you can use a good astrological book to expand on the meanings of the houses.

First House - Aries, the house of the self, the physical body and how you are viewed

Second House - Taurus, the house of possessions

Third House - Gemini, house of communication

Fourth House - Cancer, house of foundations and home

Fifth House - Leo, house of creativity and sex

Sixth House - Virgo, house of service and health

Seventh House – Libra, house of marriage and partnership

Eighth House - Scorpio, house of death, legacy and taxes and regeneration

Ninth House - Sagittarius, mental exploration, adventure

Tenth House - Capricorn, house of career

Eleventh House - Aquarius, house of hopes, wishes and friends

Twelfth House - Pisces, house of secrets, spirituality, self-undoing

Start on the left hand side with the First House and Aries and lay the first card there continuing around the wheel until you come to the Twelfth House and Pisces. Combine the meaning of the Tarot card with that of the Zodiacal house meaning. For more clarity on a particular house position just lay another card across the original card. This will give you more insight to the information gleaned or even show you an obstacle that you can work through for that month of the year. I like to record the cards that I have chosen and reflect back on them through the year. The card would speak to that particular month but say you are working through health issues or financial issues they can be very similar (that is where the crossing card can be useful.)

Continued ...

Continued ...

Last year I did this reading and even though the cards were all very different they had a medical feel to them. Sure enough it was one of those years I spent dealing with small things that could have been big things if I had ignored them.

The cards and my astrologer were saying, "step up and deal with this or you will really pay for it later." It feels so good to take care of these personal things so we don't have to spend time worrying about them later. That is what the Tarot does for me. It not only gives me a heads up, it's like a kind mother supporting me in taking care of myself.

How many people do we know that don't take care of personal business either because of cost of service or just not wanting to deal with it? As the old saying goes, "to be forewarned is to be forearmed." It couldn't be truer.

The Tarot will make you see what you would rather not see but show you a way into the Sphinx ... and the way out.

There are so many decks out now, they speak to every race, religion, and even sexuality so grab a deck and a close friend or a bunch of friends and settle in to do some readings. Budding readers can share information and see different decks and deep connections are formed in a close group. In most instances readers are into other things they can share at these events like numerology, color therapy, astrology, energetic healing, Reiki, Emotional Tapping for Freedom. It's not all about divining what is going to happen it is about showing that person a way out of the problem. Emotional issues take some training and people with severe problems should be advised to consult a physician.

I have heard it all over the years and I can tell you if you hang out your shingle you will too.



Stage Dialog

The Unknown Actor

Some Esoteric Schools of Thought believe the present is a compilation of ‘many pasts’ and so ...

“All the world’s a stage,” so the man said.

Blithely he asked, “Have you mastered it yet?”

“No,” I answered, “It’s experimental theater.”

“Ah!” said the man, “It’s all in the interpretation ...”

“Arrogance will enter stage right to show you how it’s done.”

“What of stage left?” I queried.

“We boo the has-beens off stage left,” he replied.

“But every seat is taken, even the balcony is filled.” I retorted.

“Yes,” the man said as he smiled. “They laugh at the comedy of errors.”

“It doesn’t matter,” I said, “It’s only an audition.”

“No,” said the man, “It’s a screen test that no one has passed yet.”

“Why?” I asked.

“Because the new genre plagiarizes the acts of old,” said the man.

“No one has made it through the seventh act,” he continued, “because no one submits a new screenplay.”

“We just need to wait for some new talent,” he sighs.

The stage lights go dark.

The man hangs a sign on the theater door ...

<CLOSED FOR REFURBISHMENT>



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Peaches McCullough (*An Astro Look at Master of Horror Stephen King, pg.78*)

Peaches McCullough is an Intuitive, a Tarot Reader and an Astrologer. She can help guide you on your life path by connecting and receiving messages from your Angels/Guardians through use of empathy combined with Psychometry (reading your energy pattern while holding your hand). She is also an astrologer who can read your Divine Blueprint to let you know about your life path. Her article presentation was the topic of a recent lecture she gave to the Metro-Atlanta Astrological Society which is the Georgia affiliate of the American Federation of Astrologers.

Syd Alrruhi (*The Ecstasy and the Reality, pg. 87*)

Syd Alrruhi is the favorite pseudonym of Gerome Cass. If you ask him what the name means he won't tell you! Gerome considers himself a human dichotomy who has a foot in the mundane world and a foot in the other worldly realms. He believes all humans should confront the realms of transformative power that lie just outside of everyday consciousness without fear and trepidation and go for it. Gerome has several degrees including Ph.Ds. in psychology and physics which he refers to as being "piled higher and deeper" since there is so much more to be discovered outside of human designed constructs.

Eleannor Tighe (*Name Pulsing, pg. 89*)

Eleannor Tighe is a retired high school teacher and has been a metaphysician for 40 years. She is a professional Tarotist who does readings part time. She does use a pendulum for dowsing outdoors to detect problems with the environment. As a numerologist, she enjoys helping others discover the secrets within their names. She stays away from the darkside but has had many paranormal experiences.

Donna Bedetto (*Astro-Tarot – How to do an Annual Reading, pg. 91*)

Donna is an Atlanta based professional Tarot Reader with over 25 years of experience and a high success rate in counseling. Her no nonsense, straight from the cuff approach helps her clients find real answers to their problems.

The Unknown Actor (*Stage Dialog, pg. 94*)

The Unknown Actor is an active participant in local theater in Stratford, CT and prefers to remain otherwise anonymous except to reveal a strong belief in Karma and reincarnation.



Creative Musings

Creativity lives in the soul

Section Managing Editor – Marique Quinn

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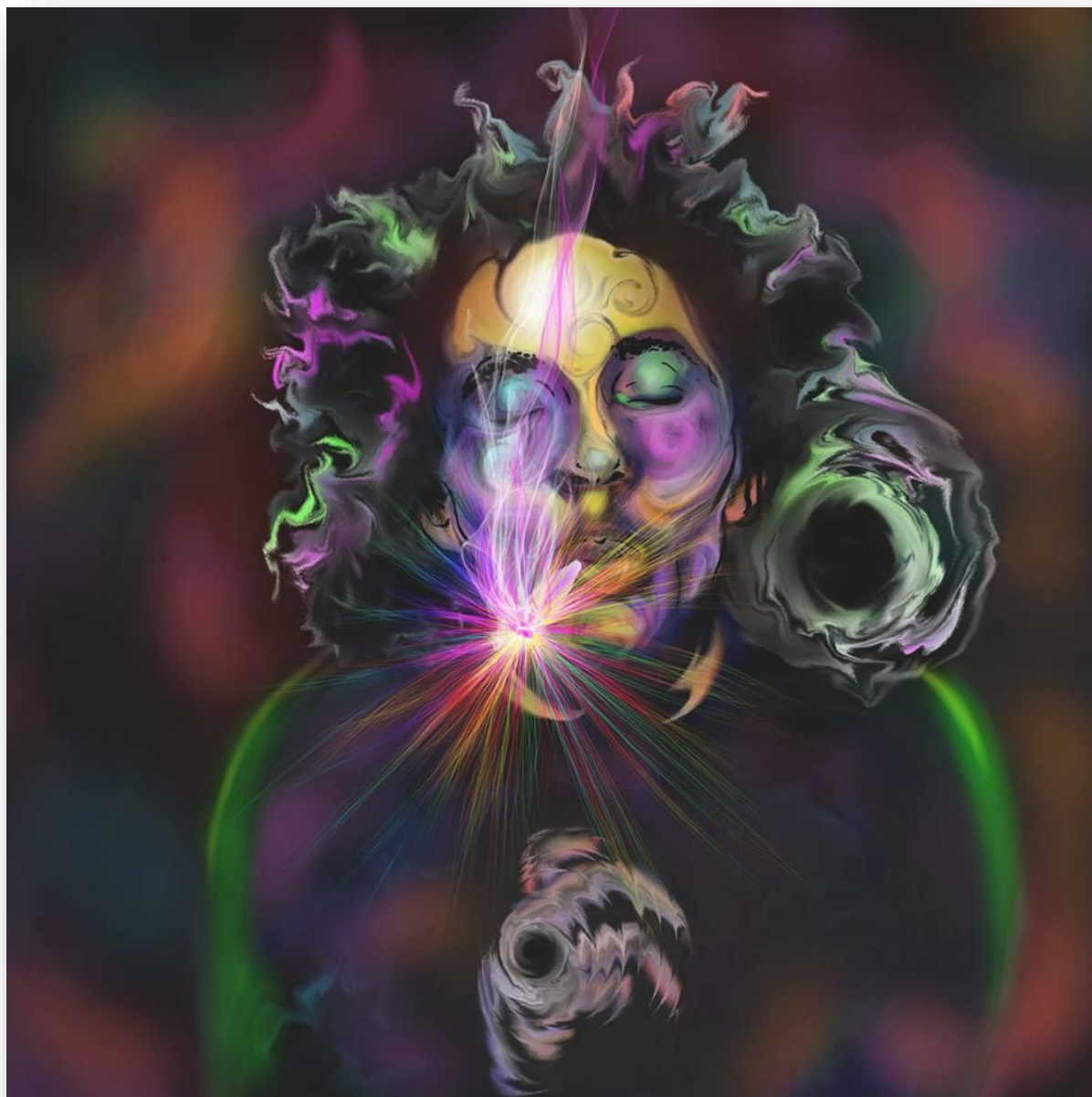


The Time of Seamless Black

Marie Exilis

The dread cloaked figure slithers in from the edges of the shadows of my room -
It spreads out its bony fingers as its embrace sends chills through my body -
I experience intense consciousness knowing my hour is limited to minutes -
Its sunken eyes inspect my pallid vesture as I lie growing ever still.
 I am falling in love with the expectation;
 Its caress is the last I will feel.
 I smile, seemingly content with my fate -
 It smiles, content with its prize -
 Its hand swallows up my trembling hand -
My vestments are ghostly white catching the wind;
 I am lifted upward lighter than air -
 The sky becomes the earth, the earth hell.
I close my eyes and cross my limp hands over my chest -
 I am content with my grave,
 The time of seamless black.

Art Gallery 1 – Aslinn Smith



Supernova Bob Marley

I did this portrait of him this way because he blew my mind with his music and spirituality. Bob Marley reminds me of colors and movement. His music pulls me into a different reality, moving fluidly into a different state of being.

Continued ...

Art Gallery 1

Art Gallery 1 – Aslinn Smith



Children Portrait

I love doing portraits for people of the people who are so special in their lives. This was one of those photos you find going through all the old boxes of clutter and photographs that brought back all the joyful memories. It was an honor to recreate a pencil drawing for them.

Art Gallery 1 – Aslinn Smith



Dog Portrait

Animal portraits are another one of my favorites to do, and I recently discovered this new way to do them that's a cross between reality and cartoon drawing. It's a wonderful sentiment to do up a memorial drawing of our beloved pets for our friends and family. This style seems to capture the playfulness of their animals and I create many of these portraits with animals and people as well.

Art Gallery 2 – John Wheat



A Castle for All Time

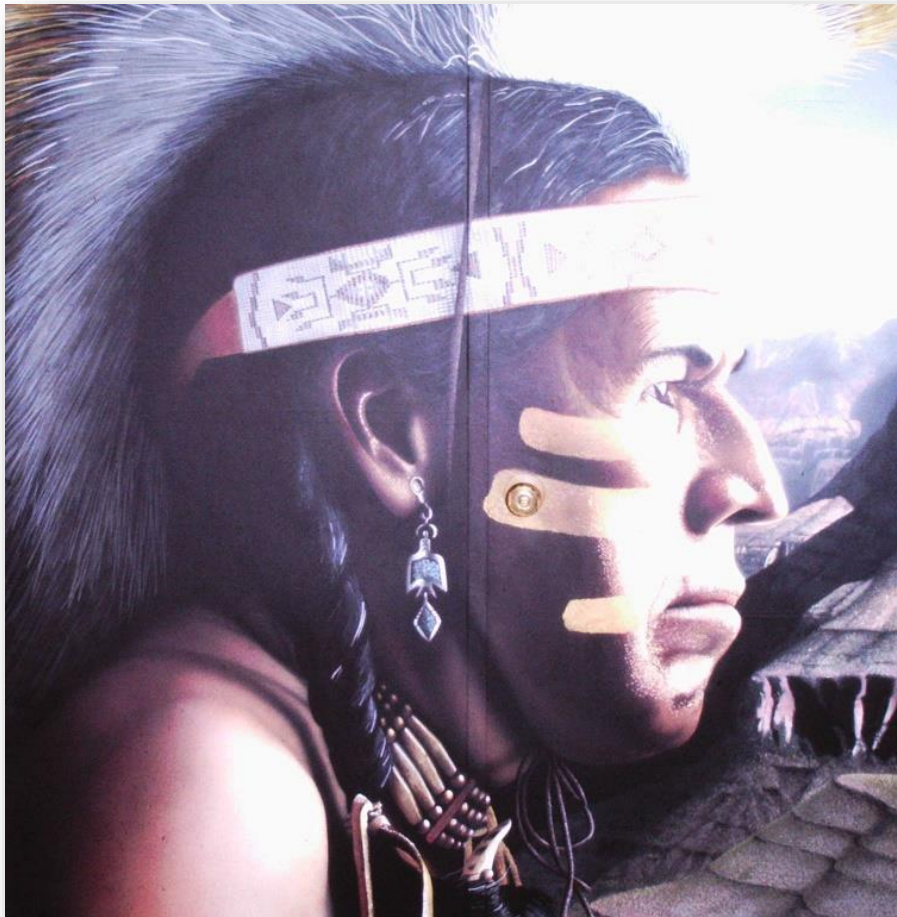
This is Neuschwanstein Castle in Germany. When I was in Germany I got a 3” x 5” postcard from a guy who had been to the castle. Using a magnifying glass and metric ruler I scaled the image up to fit a 4 ft. by 6 ft. piece of plywood. I used acrylic house paint because latex paint dries too slowly, so while waiting a few minutes for one area to dry, I was able to jump to another area and keep painting.

Continued ...

Art Gallery 2

Continued ...

The post card had sky, mountains, trees, water, and a ton of architecture so having had a three year course in architectural drafting gave me the background for perspective and scaling. I had a couple of courses in photography and that helped me with mixing the colors and blending. I paint what I see, not what I think. I paint using photo realism. I am not an impressionist – impressionist painting can be done in just a half an hour. Detail and realism takes weeks, months and years. The Castle painting took every bit of 8 months to finish, one stroke at a time, 6 hours a day.



True Spiritual Awakening over the Grand Canyon

My inspiration for *True Spiritual Awakening over the Grand Canyon* was a photograph depicting the pride of the southwest – the way his face was lit up. It made me think of the southwest Grand Canyon and a sunrise over the canyon. I painted it on interior double doors which were not removable.

Continued ...

Art Gallery 2

Continued ...

I painted lying down on the floor, painting sideways for more than a couple of weeks, then sitting in a chair painting the shoulder and face using airbrush and single brush strokes. The paint was interior latex wall paint. I used the five basics – black, white, red, yellow and blue. I taught myself through trial and error – mix and remix until I got the color I needed. In approximately six weeks (I never really kept track of time) I was totally immersed in trying to figure out what to do next and learned as I went along – “on the job training” as the military puts it. Since the doors were in constant use, the paint on the door knob kept wearing off otherwise you would never know it was hidden in the cheek of my subject.



Flying over Crater Lake

This is a painting I did from a photo and it is rendered on canvas. Instead of using a camera to capture something, I paint it instead. I had painted an almost identical painting on plywood years before with ducks flying overhead and a seaplane landing.

Art Gallery 3 – Marc Mailhot



Fireworks over Niagara...August 2013

Having been born in western New York (Batavia), I used to trek to Niagara Falls many times as a tourist. On my most recent visit I decided to go as a photographer and spend 3 days there and in the area including the Power Project and Old Fort Niagara where the British and the Americans fought in the War of 1812.

Fireworks are set off on the weekend and this photo was taken after I first arrived there on the 1st night during my visit. The colors on Niagara Falls are beautiful and the fireworks make for a compelling photo with their colors in the sky.

Art Gallery 3 - Photography

Continued ...



Near Sunset on Lake Auburn...December 2013

This photo was taken shortly after our Christmas Ice Storm here in Maine. The wait was worth it even though it was very cold out and you can clearly see the arctic sea smoke rising from the lake...clearly showing how cold it was!

Continued ...

Art Gallery 3 - Photography

Continued ...



Portland Headlight from Falmouth...July 2014

The actual July 4 Fireworks were rained out so I got a bonus day to shoot them. While waiting, I decided to get some other photos too including this zoomed-in photo of world-famous Portland (Maine) Headlight from Falmouth...some distance away. I lucked out timing the shot and got the headlight shining in the picture along with a tourist boat cruising the harbor. President George Washington commissioned the construction of this Headlight and it remains one of the most Iconic in the United States.



Magus

Nila Shoa



His reflected presence -
Hurls grotesque shadows upon the walls -
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.



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Marie Exilis (*The Time of Seamless Black*, pg. 97)

Marie Exilis is a pseudonym for Marie Tiagera. The word exilis in Latin has dark and cheerless meanings and the author feels it is well suited to her dark poetry. Marie hails from the US southwest and likes to spend her spare time riding horses and communing with nature.

Aslinn Smith (*Art Gallery 1*, pg.98)

Aslinn is a 29 year old mother, artist, healer and mystic. She says, "I've always known art was the main way I would express myself, my ideas, theories, spirituality and other people through portraiture and abstract creations. My mediums are digital, graphite, markers, paint and pyrography. I stay open to the new possibilities of art and find most of my art making is a perpetual state of experiments, not all are successful but how else do we learn what works? One of things that make my art unique is the variety of materials I use to create and allowing my intuition to take over the process. I never stick to one medium and style and this is how I find inspiration. I get a commission or project and I play around with the work in different styles until the energy of the piece to be created chooses the medium for me. The more I create now, the more meditative art making becomes for me. I can look back on my work and see the difference now from the forced art and the ones I allowed my senses to take over. Using my intuition and senses with art is why portraits are my favorite to create. I may not know the people, but the energy is always good and rejuvenating for me. These are the creations that bring so much awe and happiness from my clients and what makes the artist life so rewarding for me."

John Wheat (*Art Gallery 2*, pg. 101)

According to John, "I am a native of Toledo, Ohio, where I developed a fine respect and extreme love for nature and the great outdoors particularly while advancing in the ranks of the Boy Scouts. My father worked for the Toledo Art Museum where I was inspired by the Masters in realism and quest for visual perfection and exactness of detail. A field trip to Washington D.C. and seeing how the Smithsonian documented nature even under a microscope to its exact size, color and texture really gave me a thirst to know how to draw. As I grew up learning Architectural drafting and color photography it gave me insight into what I was looking at and how to draw and paint. If you are looking to have a mural done, painting, portrait, or drawing, of a favorite picture you have, I am available. Instead of learning how to paint yourself, I give free estimates on local commissions in the Cape Coral, Ft. Myers, and Naples, Florida area or will travel outside of Florida. You can contact me at my website: ljwheat@mindspring.com. I can also teach you how to paint and draw and you will get a big discount and learn to paint and draw. I am working on a down loadable version of my class that I give in person, with text, photos in full detail on how it's done to be a self-taught Artist.

Continued ...



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Continued from Pg. 108

Marc Mailhot (*Art Gallery 3 - Photography, pg. 104*)

Marc was born on April 5, 1951 in Batavia, NY, moved to Westbrook, Maine in 1954, and has lived there ever since. He began his musical career in September 1957 at age 6 formally studying the piano under the late renowned Maine teacher Louis Sirois for 11 years and played his first formal public performance in a piano recital in May 1960. He began playing drums in 1964 inspired by his father playing drums before him and the British Invasion beginning with The Beatles. Marc continues playing and performing on both instruments today. In 1967 Marc was chosen to represent Westbrook High School as a Tenor in the All-State Concert and in 1968 sang Edelweiss from The Sound of Music as a solo with the Westbrook High School Chorus in the All-City Concert. During his career he has performed thousands of gigs with pioneering Maine Bands Love, Inc. and Pegasus in the 1960's and 1970's...performed with The Chapparals and currently performs with Get Back...Beatles/60's Tribute Band and as a Solo Pianist and Singer. Marc has also written, recorded, toured extensively, and produced. As a member of Love, Inc. in 1968 he opened for well-known Boston groups The Orphans and Ultimate Spinach and with Pegasus in the 1970's he opened for national artists Bob Seger and Edgar Winter. Love, Inc. was the 1st Maine Pop Band to record an LP in 1970 and chart 3 Singles in 1969, 1970 and 1971. Pegasus recorded their only single at Record Plant East in New York City in the same studio where Don McLean recorded American Pie and their Producer was Dan Turbeville who co-produced the 1st Woodstock LP and Engineer Dennis Ferrante who engineered George Harrison's Concert for Bangladesh LP. Marc taught keyboard and drums at Starbird Music in Portland, Maine in the 1960's and early 1970's and continues teaching privately. He is a proud member of the Maine Arts Commission and the New England Songwriters Guild. Marc continues a series of solo performances begun in 2010 featuring his piano playing and singing many of the songs spanning his 57 year career including recital pieces, popular songs, classical pieces, and some of his original songs along with stories from his career entertaining his audiences. Please <http://marcopolomusic.biz/gigs.html> for upcoming shows. At Marc's Theater Benefit at his Alma Mater Lyndon State College on September 29, 2012 he received a standing ovation at the conclusion of his performance. Marc also attended the University of Southern Maine, and was a Judge in the 2009, 2010 and 2011 Guitar Center Drum-Offs in their South Portland, Maine store. He is also the drummer for Get Back...Beatles/60's Tribute Band...and was for the St. Anthony's Parish Choir in Westbrook until it disbanded in August 2015. A newer gig Marc has now is drumming for the Connie Francis Tribute Show..."Among My Souvenirs...A Tribute to America's Sweetheart"... which has performed for several Standing Ovations since debuting in 2015. He is the Founder and CEO of Marco Polo Music, has 3 grown children and 6 grandchildren and married Betty Ann Lebrun on May 23, 2015.

Nila Shoa (*Magus, pg. 107*)

Nila says the inspiration for her poem was the Final Fantasy series video games she played back in the day. She is currently perusing various metaphysical studies and hopes to hang out a Numerology shingle in the near future. Nila currently lives in New England.

Odd Vant GuardE

It's Just a Game



Section Managing Editor – Oscar 'Trashman' Corelli

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The Shape of Things to come have Always Been What Is

Elliott Y. Sims

Most people associate writer H.G. Wells with stories of the fantastic and futuristic but during the years 1918-1919, Wells wrote the *Outline of History*, a serious and accurate account of the world. The book is an immense epic which augmented itself, “as Wells contemplated it.” The *Outline* was destined to undergo many revisions that spanned 50 years through the continued efforts of Wells son G.P. Wells and colleague Raymond Postgate.

The *Outline* begins with the beginning...Earth as we know her from a scientific perspective. In the first chapter, Wells discusses the process by which the Earth came to be – a solid mass forming five thousand million years ago that took another thousand million years to cool off enough for water to emerge. Wells believed that the destruction of life on Earth would come about due to the ever expanding Sun which would eventually burn everything up. He said, “As for the future it will be several thousand million years before the expanding Sun destroys life on our planet. Since man has existed as a self-conscious social creature only for a few tens of thousands of years, this gives him illimitable opportunity for the attainment of knowledge and power.”

The Earth and all of its inhabitants have undergone many natural disturbances and periods of destruction since the beginning of time. Loss of human life is the most tragic consequence of the overpowering forces of nature. In the wake of the extreme weather disasters that a select group who blame Global Warming and Climate Change, the shocking and disturbing question still remains, WHY? The internet has been flooded with spiritual messages and channelings some aimed to soothe our weary souls and ease our minds while others berate and barrage us with even more evidence of the End Times. In a passage from the Record of the Rocks in an early chapter of the *Outline*, Wells the objective scientist lends an unintentional spiritual message in his explanation of climate...

“It must be borne in the mind that great changes of climate have always been in progress, sometimes stimulating and sometimes checking life. Every species of living things is always adapting itself more and more closely to its conditions which are always changing. There is no finality in adaption. There is a continuing urgency towards change.

Continued ...

Continued ...

And in accordance, we find from the Record of the Rocks that there have been long periods of expansion and multiplication where life flowed and abounded and varied, and harsh ages when there was great weeding out and disappearance of species, genera, and classes and the stern lessons by all that survived.”

One may merely shrug his or her shoulders and argue that Wells was only talking about the ancient history of the Earth leading up to the present time but, Wells the visionary, also mused about an *Outline of History* that branched out to 2031 AD. What impact would it have on the reader who pulled it off some long forgotten dusty bookshelf? What would be written in the records about war, changes of climate, expansions, depletions, and all who survived by that future date? Mother Earth and Mother Nature are close sisters who work together in unpredictable and unknown ways according to a higher plan. We all chose to be in Earth School at this time. We learn from all that has transpired and will transpire on both the earthbound and collective levels. We adapt to the changes and continue to adapt until our Earth experience is finished. The changes that have underscored our lives become another recorded chapter in the Record of the Rocks that will serve as prehistoric information for others to read in future times. Those in the future will continue to physically adjust and spiritually accept ad continuum for there is no finality to adaption ... just a continuing urgency towards change.

*All quotes from The Outline of History by H.G. Wells



Written in the Clouds

Cadet Cyndy

I was born to fly ... literally.

When I was a child I would spend a good deal of time sky-watching and cloud- gazing. From my perspective of a blanket spread out on the lawn, I would be entertained for hours watching cloud pictures transform and change. There was just something magical about lying on your back on a soft blanket on a clear day observing the clouds and the simulacra they provided in the endless array of fluffy white characters and objects.

When I was around 12 years old, a visiting aunt (who was deemed eccentric by the rest of the family although she had proven herself psychic on many occasions) told me that you could actually use the clouds to scry. She claimed it wasn't anything new and had been done since times long ago further back than the ancient Druids who cloud watched frequently in order to gain insight about battles and other spiritual matters.

Cloud divination takes time and patience. It's always best to settle down and work at removing any stimulating external distractions prior to reading the sky. I always have my phone turned off. Of course I have a pad and pencil nearby to jot down impressions.

Finding the best spot is important. You might be driving along and spot a perfect formation you want to study so, pull over and make sure you have brought along a blanket to lie on although I have always found convenient stumps or rocks to sit on. On days when I am working as an airline attendant I have noticed passengers studying clouds from window seats and even saw someone taking notes once. When I inquired the passenger said they were cloud scrying!

Most times, I pick a fair weather day where big clouds are moving about but sometimes a cloudy day that is not too overcast works as well. It's your choice.

I have literally spent a whole day watching clouds. I will change my location often to get the most impressions. I also talk to the clouds and ask questions especially about something I want to know. I simply close my eyes, formulate my question and ask. Eventually the clouds will take a form and then it is up to me to discern what that formation means.

Continued ...

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For example, if I see a cloud dragon I will make note of what kind of dragon it is.

Is it:

- An Asian dragon?
- A medieval dragon?
- Is it breathing fire?
- Is it calm?
- How is it adjusting its shape during my observance?

I allow my psyche to make spontaneous connections.

It might sound silly but I did see a cloud dragon once when I asked a question about my job. It was a fire-breathing dragon! I came to access that this was something tumultuous about to happen. The dragon changed form during my observance and shifted into a butterfly shape. My intuition told me something would most likely change in my job – and it did. My first day back at work, my boss was literally blowing up at the attendants. She was fired later that day for conduct and all of our schedules were changed by the interim boss. I ended up with a great schedule that was as light as a butterfly!

What can I say? Try it out and see how it works for you!



Black Bart

Waden Jensen

Human beings are a funny lot - at best unpredictable and at the worst inscrutable. This is my re-tell of one of my favorite childhood stories as told to me by an uncle.

Charles E. Boles (or Bowles) was a teacher in California's northern mine country. His claim to fame historically is his infamous persona known as Black Bart, the scourge of stagecoach drivers. How did this dapper, educated man turn to such a career?

All rather innocently it seems - he was riding home one evening and heard a stagecoach approaching. Since he knew the driver, he decided to play a practical joke by tying a scarf over his face and holding a stick that was about the size of a pistol. As the stagecoach approached, he hailed it down to a halt. The driver had no weapon and fearing for his life he willingly threw out a strongbox and laid down his whip on the horses. As the stagecoach sped off out of site, a surprised Boles was left with the strongbox full of gold coins and bullion. This, he thought, was a good way to make big money and certainly beat his meager teacher's salary.

Boles moved to San Francisco and took on the persona of being in the mining business. He deposited the money in a bank and proceeded to live high on the hog. He took a few days a week to roam the countryside listening for new of a stagecoach shipment. He upped his accoutrement by adding an unloaded shotgun and a sack which he wore over his head. He also decided to add a cultural touch by leaving behind a bit of poetic verse in every strongbox with the signature, "Black Bart, Po-8."

For eight years, Black Bart robbed a total of 28 stagecoaches. For the most part, folks loved this scalawag and his verses but the Wells Fargo was not amused and he acquired agents who were hot on Bart's trail, particularly one J. B. Hume.

Of course as fate would have it, Bart's luck ran out when he left behind a handkerchief whose laundry mark was easily traceable to a San Francisco laundry and one C.E. Boulton which was Boles bank account name.

Continued ...

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Black Bart was caught and spent four years in San Quentin.

The catch is a few weeks after Boles' release the robberies started up again. This time there was no Po-8-try but the Wells Fargo agents recognized the style. According to my uncle's rendition (other accounts may say something different) they ended up contacting Boles and striking a deal with him - if he gave up robbery he would get a life-long pension of \$200 a month.

Not bad.

The name *Black Bart* became associated with a 'dastardly' unacceptable person over time. Someone who robs you of your property and your spirit and walks away whistling a happy tune for the joke they allegedly played on you or how they stuck it to you.

I know a few - do you?

“Here I lay me down to Sleep
To wait the coming morrow
Perhaps Success perhaps defeat
And everlasting Sorrow
Let come what will I'll try it on
My condition can't be worse
And if there's money in that Box
'Tis munny (money) in my purse.”

Black Bart -The PO8

Poem from http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/22491/files/black_barts_poetry.pdf

I Was WHO?

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas

I've always been interested in people as far back as I can remember. I feel very fortunate to have met such dynamic Souls during my walk on this plane especially since I found my spiritual path. I never met a single person that I did not find interesting in some way and the knowledge I have gleaned from each meeting and connection has been truly a blessing. I always look forward to who I am yet to meet.

One of my fondest memories was participating in a round table discussion about *absolutely nothing* with a few psychics, a numerologist, a Knight Templar commander, a Mason, a Rosicrucian and a paranormal investigator. I guess I represented the cosmobiological view in that tea party. We laughed more than anything else and poked fun at one another mercilessly. It was totally cathartic.

When you hang around in 'that' gang of people some mighty mind boggling things can come up. Some of my fav peeps are psychic folks who say they can channel. Anyone who knows me knows that I am very on the fence when it comes to channeling. I do not discount it but you'll always hear me harping about using the big D word "discernment." I practice what I preach and apply discernment fore and aft of a situation but that doesn't mean I'll refuse to walk down the road called "What-If."

Most of my work is done in the field of reincarnation so suffice to say "I believe." I've sought out opinions and at other times just had things told to me about who I was in past lifetimes via 'psychic impression' for lack of a better generalized statement and descriptive terminology. I'm sure many of you have had the same experience and have either had it resonate with you on some level OR thought of it as just some passing fun. Well, I am going to share some of my "stuff" and I hope you find it fun and enlightening (even just a little).

To date I have been told:

- I am an Arcturian called Lir-Lir.
- Conversely, I have been told I am an alien from Sirius.
- I was one of the Magi at the birth of Christ (to which I replied, "Holy Sh*t! ... Which one?"

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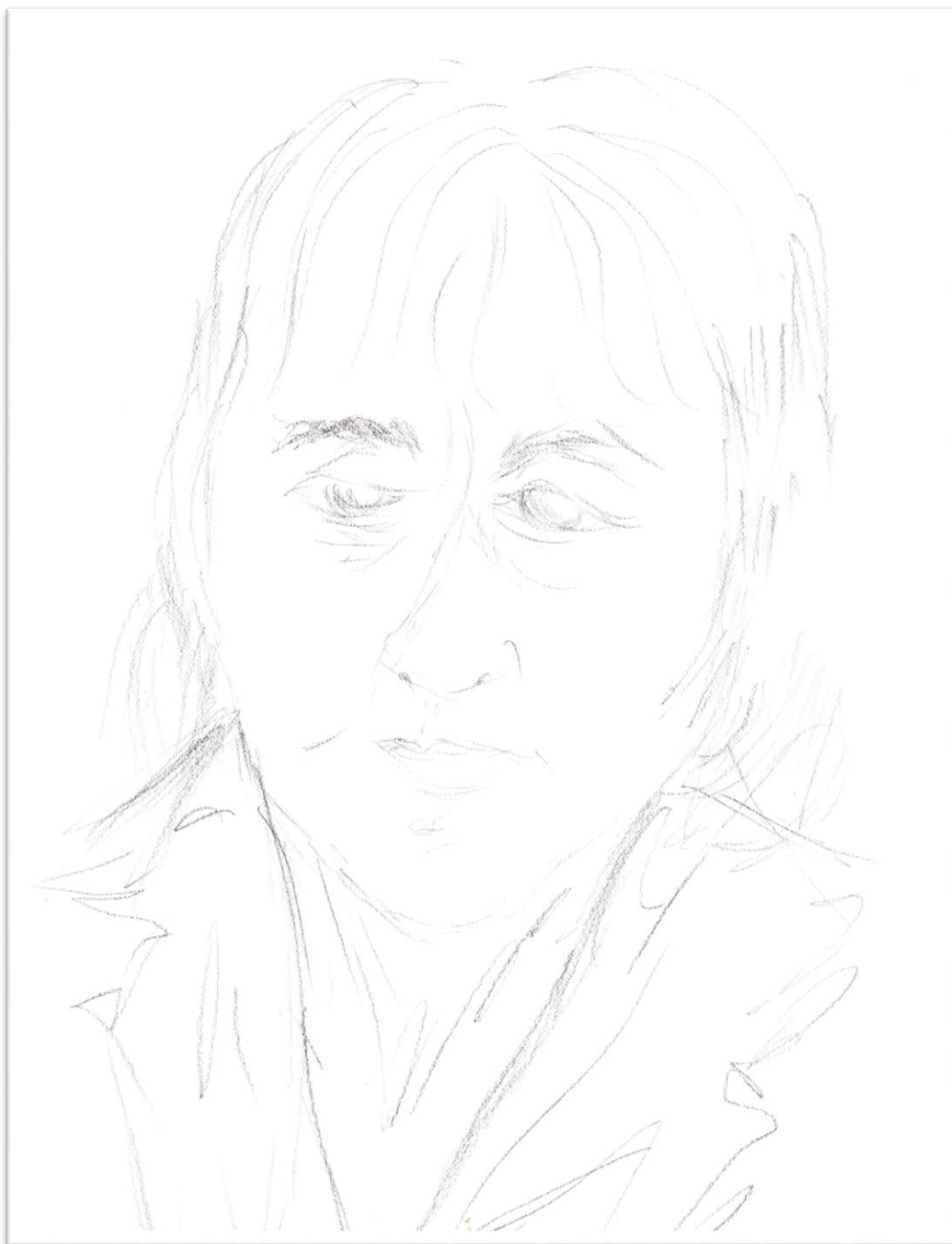
- I was an Egyptian priest in the order of Set who was responsible for putting the treasures in the tombs. I was 'bad' and stole and pilfered some of the treasures when I could. To this psychic I replied, "Well if it was bling-bling you're damn right I did!" Nothing worse than a bad Egyptian priest who can't get his hands on enough jewels!
- An alchemist who specialized in poisons and potions. One of my clients was an assassin (a current life friend) who used the poisons for 'political contracts' (via yet another current life friend). Cool huh? Want to come over for dinner?
- The flirtatious daughter of a Spanish Duke who loved to dance and was in constant competition with a sister (currently a cousin) over men. Go ahead and laugh and when you're done you can explain to me why I have two pair of castanets and love Flamenco dancing and took to Spanish like a duck to water.
- A female Celtic warrior who kicked butt (one of my favs).
- A German doctor at the beginning of WWII who was shot in the head by Nazis because I wouldn't comply with falsifying medical records for Jewish patients. Years later, in this lifetime I met an 'alleged patient', a nice lady from Brazil, who insisted I knew what happened to her boy child in that lifetime. Turns out the child was indoctrinated into Nazi Youth.
- A Tibetan novice who left the monastery and froze in the Himalayas.
- A city dweller with a big mouth (gee there's a surprise) who was killed by the ancient Romans (dragged behind a horse until dead) after speaking out in favor of a local politician (a current life friend).
- An Atlantean. (Damn - why can't I remember that one and draw a map?)

Another amusing event is when I sat down with a "psychic artist." She would just sit and talk with you and start to sketch out the faces from assorted past lives she picked up. She gave me a bit of a hard time at first but proceeded to converse with me as she picked up "impressions." Her first sketch was rendered on regular art paper and any impressions after the initial drawing were done on transparencies that were overlaid one on top of the other. Now to be honest I questioned this tactic but went along with it as my curiosity had taken over. The results were quite fascinating.

Here are some of her drawings:

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Tribal Leader - Unable to save the Clan

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Female Asian Nomad - Midwife who traveled from village to village.

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Otherworldly Being stationed in Ancient Africa.

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The Day I ‘Became’ a Giant Cockroach

Jonathan H. Corelli

WARNING: This study is for mature audiences. Risqué language.

It has been a long time observation of mine that ... People are funny. They are just plain funny. This has started out as a month of seemingly ‘calling things out’ for me so I will continue on in a rather facetious vein knowing full well that that a few toes will be obliterated and a few egos shall tilt out past 100% on the self-righteousness meter ... but what can I say? I have been inspired.

I have spent many years on spiritual forums/boards/sites watching ‘meta-trends’ come and go like soup du jour at the local eatery. Metaphysics being no different than any other “-osophy” is subject to the latest media influences and life trends. In chatrooms, I’ve sat through the ‘pompous war’ stage where folks were caught up in the continuous loop of trying to best one another regarding traditional concepts which they clearly did not understand. The Harmonic Concordance/Ascension stage where everyone was allegedly lifted up to God knows where (if you know drop me a line). And of course the 5d through 12d stage Quantum Kabbalah Gematria Sacred Geometry stage. What? You don’t know what that is? Take heart, neither did any of the chatters. But it was a *hot* topic.

It is now quite chic to “chatter” not as yourself or God forbid even as the half way decent ‘spiritual’ avatar you have chosen to represent yourself but rather as the chief high mucky muck grand hoo-ha 100% evolved and ascended defender of the Universe and general all around supreme indestructible never-ending I AM GOD being (hope I did not leave anything out). I’ve sat in many a chatroom and watched folks start convos that for the most part started out fairly decent but then mutated into a completely different genre of blubbering ridiculousness. But hey, I like fun just as well as the next guy so I decided to jump in.

If I was to get along in chat, I gave much thought to what sort of a creature I should personify that fit such an illustrious criteria. I was living in an old apartment in NY – not the best accommodations - and was fixing lunch when it occurred to me. A nasty roach suddenly made its appearance but quickly scurried out of sight (hey, it was NY for cripes sake).

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This triggered a response somewhere in the deep recesses of my mind where I remembered a reference to the Bible saying the “meek” shall inherit the Earth as applying to the cockroach. I believe what I was remembering was an old science show about what would be left after the human race had blown itself up into oblivion. Yes people, after we humans blow it all up there will be nothing left but the roaches that will proliferate, gnaw on our remains and crap on whatever is left. Roaches were virtually indestructible. All right! That was it! Henceforth I was to adapt the traits and habits of a cockroach to my very own persona complete with an avatar of a roach with neon green laser eyes (strictly for the ‘garner respect’ factor).

Now for a name. Something simple yet psychologically effective. Let’s see --- scientific name **Blattaria**. Possible – folks might think it was some sort of alien form, “I am Blattaria from the planet Blato,” which could be very effective but perhaps that was not user friendly enough. I could call myself just “**Roach**” but some might think I was referencing pot which again might be possible but hardly anything I cared to project at the time for fear of leading a conversation into a drug induced dialog. Perhaps **Roachelasian** which had a nice medieval flair reminiscent of Game of Thrones but still not what I was looking for. Maybe a more spiritual connotation like **Roachiji** or **Sri Roachondo**. Still no good and most likely would be over the heads of the chat crowd. Oh, what would the boys in the local hood think? What would they say about a roach?

Well, I asked ... a neighbor who said, “Man da roach is one badass mutha f*cker **BLEEP** ... it will f*ck you up **BLEEP** ... annoying pieces of sh*t **BLEEP**.”

So it was settled. My username would be **DA Roach**. Short for **Damn Annoying Roach**. Brilliant.

Now off to the chatroom.

I settled in and just waited knowing full well it wouldn’t take long to be noticed and hailed into the convo which as best as I recall in my very best George Carlin-ian (including misspells and grammatical errors) went something like this:

(Note: Names, except mine, have been somewhat changed to protect the innocent. No name used here implies the name of any actual user anywhere but does reflect a similarity.)

Continued ...

Lucifer Satana Magix: hey da roach r u from hell? Stupid Name

DA Roach: worse

Lucifer Satana Magix: what you mean? I rule hell and have slaves and demons and I created roaches

DA Roach: impressive, I have minions and reproduce eternally, and sorry, but you did not create me

Lucifer Satana Magix: u r nothing but a bug I could destroy you easy

DA Roach: sure but I would just rejuvenate and come back

Lucifer Satana Magix: then what would u do? U can't do anything worth while

DA Roach: I could bite off your head and sh*t it out and then start all over again (inserted smiley face)

Elusive Butterfly: I had a bad dream

DA Roach: that's called a nightmare

Elusive Butterfly: yeah, why are you talking to me I was talking to Lucifer

DA Roach: oh sorry, he might not be able to talk, I bit his head off

Lucifer Satana Magix: F*CK U MAN

DA Roach: no thanks

Elusive Butterfly: Lucifer can kick your ass roach

DA Roach: he's been telling me that but I bit his head off anyway

Lucifer Satana Magix: F*UCK U man I grew it back I grew back ten more heads

DA Roach: oh goodie more to bite off

Continued ...

Elusive Butterfly: shup roach

#ADMIN#: watch the language

Lucifer Satana Magix: F*ck u too (referencing admin)

#ADMIN#: once more and I will ban you from chat

Lucifer Satana Magix: bring what u got roach (ignores #ADMIN#)

DA Roach: what part of what I've got are you referring to? Think you can spell it?

Lucifer Satana Magix: u can't beat me or win I am infinity

DA Roach: that's a bit egotistical

Elusive Butterfly: you're the one who's egotistical - you act like you know it all

DA Roach: I do, I've been on the earth since it was created and before that I was on the planet Blato and before that I was around before time as you know it began

Elusive Butterfly: what's that never heard of it Blato and what you say is dumb

DA Roach: of course not only the evolved know about it

Elusive Butterfly: shup - throws fireball at roach

DA Roach: not impressed

Lucifer Satana Magix: do u know who I am? I am your worst nightmare

DA Roach: do I care? To me you are just a human – I eat humans for snacks

Elusive Butterfly: shup roach

DA Roach: you already said that

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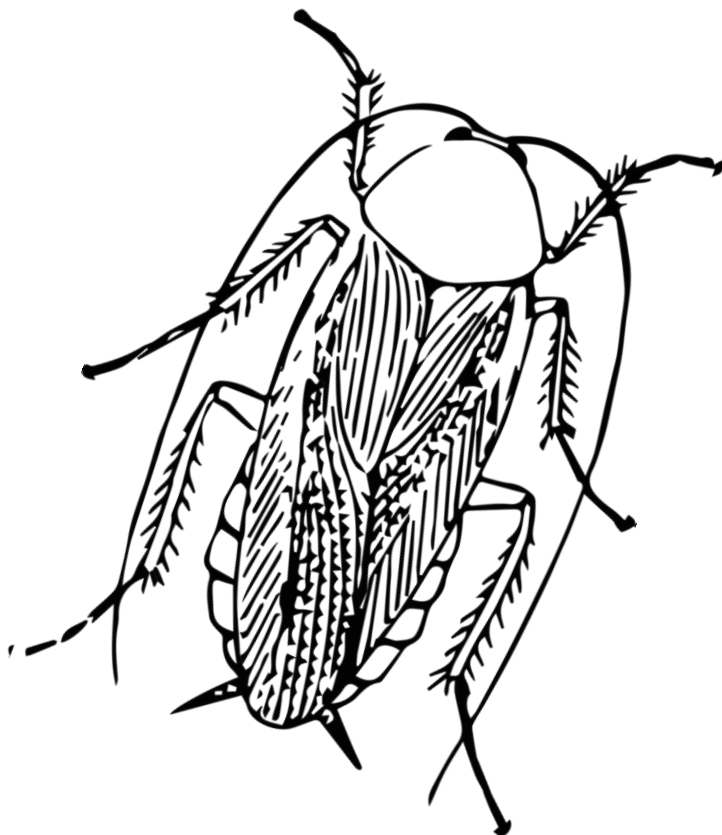
Lucifer Satana Magix: F*CK U Roach

ADMIN BANS Lucifer and warns DA Roach - Elusive Butterfly received no warning or ban. Apparently she was the ADMIN'S girlfriend.

Oh yeah – the meek shall indeed inherit the earth!

Mazel tov Lucifer

Post script: As I have seen over the years, trends like this come and go. I wait with baited breath to see the next one unfold. I still have hope for the intelligence of the human race and the integrity of chatrooms which eventually should transcend all this currently popular trite and promote the sharing of good knowledge. I figure the psychologists should have an office boon soon. Haven't seen this many whacked out folks in quite a while.





AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES



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Elliott Y. Sims Ph.D. (*The Shape of Things to come have Always Been What Is, Pg. 111*)

Dr. Sims is a retired independent art historian and scholar who still lectures and writes about a wide range of European and American art. He has a penchant for the writings of H.G. Wells. He enjoys traveling and never staying in any place too long. Dr. Sims is temporarily residing in the Boston area and plans to move before Thanksgiving of this year to Europe.

Cadet Cyndy (*Written in the Clouds, Pg. 113*)

Cadet Cyndy is the pseudonym of Cyndy Armistad who is 'a fly girl' IRL and of the spiritual realm. She enjoys dream analysis and the link between dream travel and out of body experiences. In her spare time she likes to paint and collage, her artwork often reflecting some of her astral travels. She enjoys studying the sky both day and night for "answers." Cyndy plans on being married to her "dream man" next spring.

Waden Jensen (*Black Bart, Pg. 115*)

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.

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas (*I Was WHO?, Pg. 117*)

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.

Jonathan H. Corelli (*The Day I Became a Giant Cockroach, Pg.*)

Jonathan lives in New York and in Montana during the summer months. He is a freelance writer and part time comedian who loves to travel as much as possible (have pen, will travel!). He likes to say, "Writing is not perfection unless it has a humor injection" so even the most serious of topics are infused with a dose of the literary giggles. According to Jonathan it all makes "perfect sense in every sense of the term sense."



*The Staff Of Discerning Minds wishes
you a wonderful Autumn Holiday
season. Whether you are planning
Thanksgiving dinner or something
spiritually special, may you find joy in
your labors and the company you
keep.*