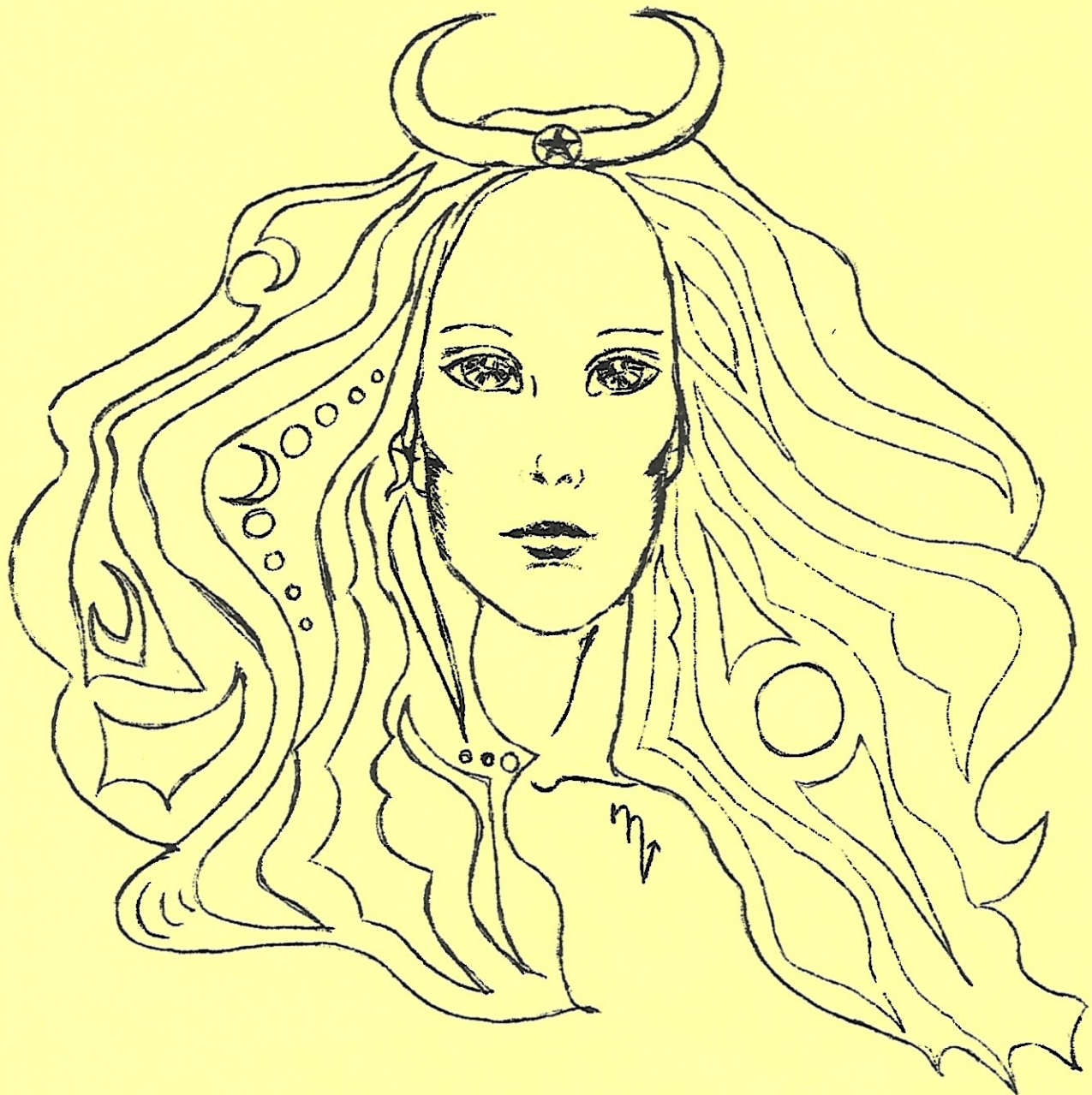
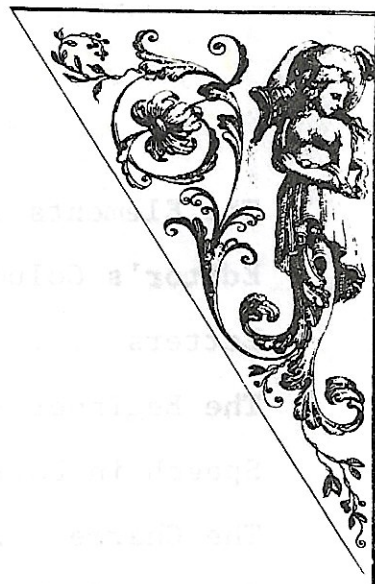
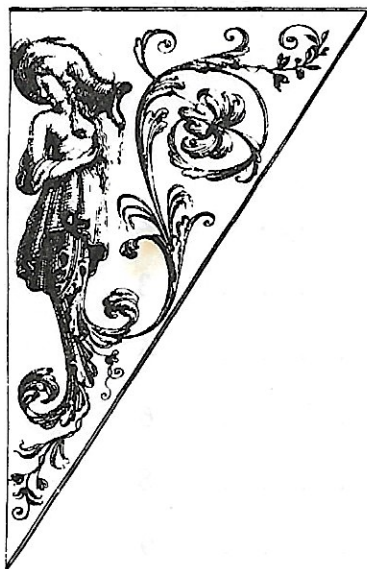


VOL. III, NO. 1

Midsummer, 1979





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K A M.
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Newsletter

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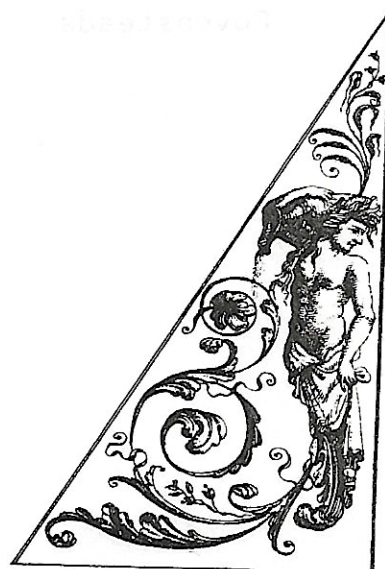
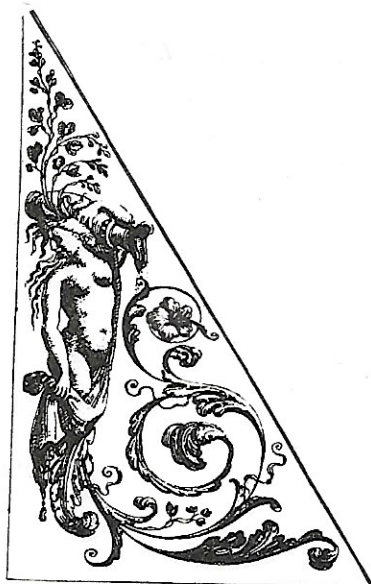


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THE ELEMENTS

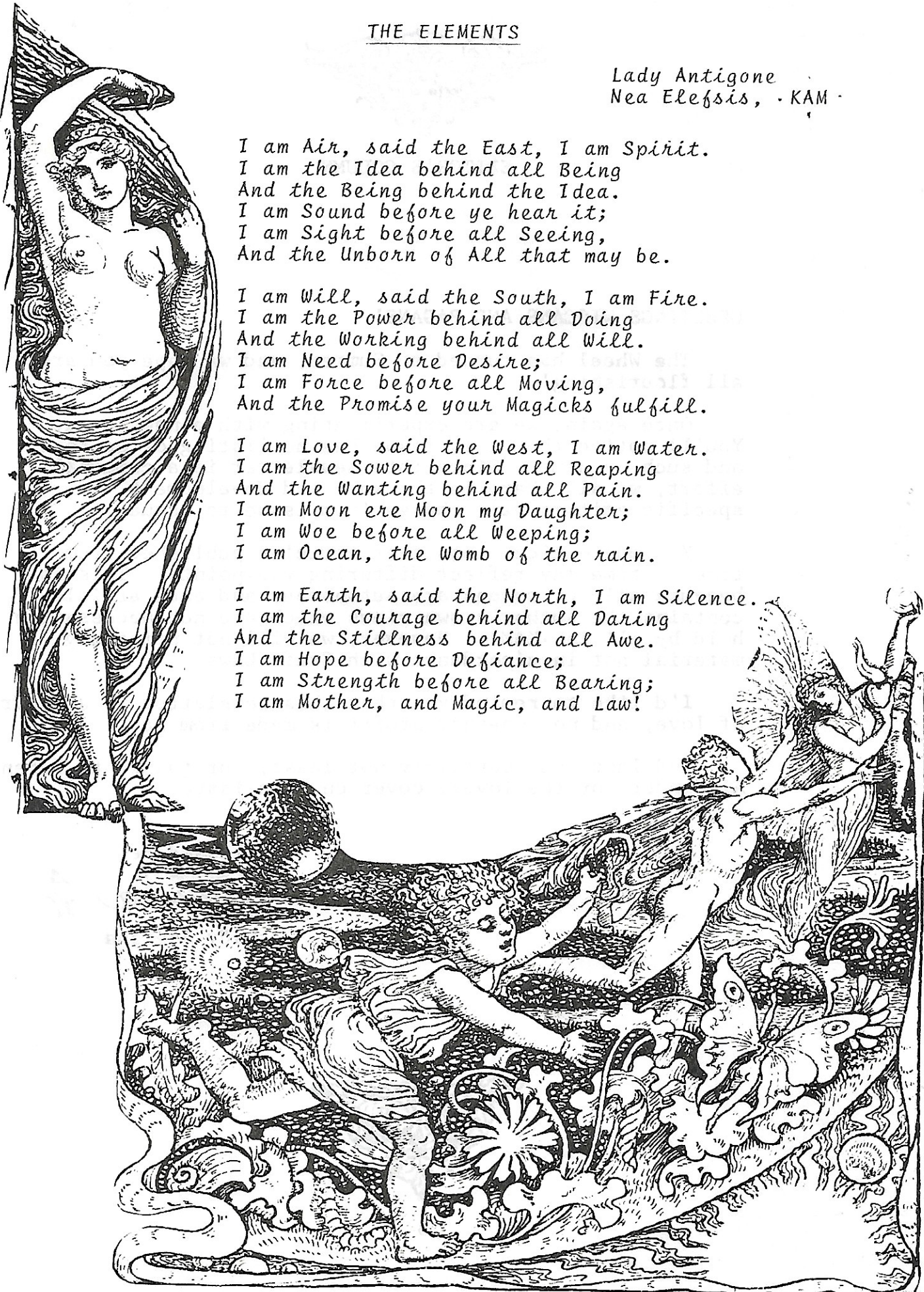
Lady Antigone
Nea Elefsis, . KAM .

I am Air, said the East, I am Spirit.
I am the Idea behind all Being
And the Being behind the Idea.
I am Sound before ye hear it;
I am Sight before all Seeing,
And the Unborn of All that may be.

I am Will, said the South, I am Fire.
I am the Power behind all Doing
And the Working behind all Will.
I am Need before Desire;
I am Force before all Moving,
And the Promise your Magicks fulfill.

I am Love, said the West, I am Water.
I am the Sower behind all Reaping
And the Wanting behind all Pain.
I am Moon ere Moon my Daughter;
I am Woe before all Weeping;
I am Ocean, the Womb of the rain.

I am Earth, said the North, I am Silence.
I am the Courage behind all Daring
And the Stillness behind all Awe.
I am Hope before Defiance;
I am Strength before all Bearing;
I am Mother, and Magic, and Law!





EDITOR'S COLUMN

GREETINGS WICCANS AND PAGANS!

The Wheel has turned to Summer, and we hope you are all flourishing!


Once again, we are experimenting with a new format. You'll notice that this issue has no listing of editors and such by name. Since this newsletter is a communal effort, we all share in the work and development, so specific editors will change from issue to issue.

You may notice, too, that articles published from time to time may reflect differing viewpoints. This is because all our covens are autonomous and each article contains the author's own views which are not necessarily held by all in 'KAM'. However, we will not print any material not in accordance with Craft Laws.

I'd like to remind you that this newsletter is a labor of love, and no monetary profit is made from it.

And last, but certainly not least, our thanks to Karen Alexander for the lovely cover on this issue.

Blessed Be,

Ayeisha 

Lady Ayeisha



LETTERS

Editor:

As a student of the Bible, I found your article very interesting, but I can't understand why you say that Moses never died, when the Book of Deuteronomy describes his death in detail.

Aaron Engelmann, N.Y.

Dear Aaron:

The Book of Deuteronomy, in which the death of Moses is recounted (Deut. 34.5-6), was "discovered" in a wall of the Temple in the year 622 BCE, during the reign of King Josiah. In the main, it is a recapitulation of material from Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers, presented in the form of a long farewell speech by Moses. Aside from the account of Moses' death, the major contributions of Deuteronomy are the insistence that God is One and that the cult should be centralized in the Temple in Jerusalem. The author's purpose appears to have been to strengthen the position of the priests.

That he could not have witnessed the death of Moses is clear, not only from the date of Deuteronomy, but from his own words: "No man knows the place of his burial to this day" (Deut. 34:6). This is not surprising, considering the circumstances of the burial, for Deuteronomy says, "So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord, and he buried him in the valley..." In other words, it is God himself who buries Moses. This circumstance is curious enough to inspire some commentary, and the aggadic Midrash on the Book of Deuteronomy, Deuteronomy Rabbah, (XI, 6), tells us that the spirit of Moses was separated from his body, not by the intervention of the angel of death, but by a kiss of Jahweh.

Thus, although according to the Bible, Moses dies, the circumstances of his death are so peculiar that both the rabbinic and the Qabalistic traditions have doubted it. The most obvious explanation of these enigmatic passages is that the account of Moses' death was written into the Book of Deuteronomy because its priestly author realized the advantages of eradicating any remaining memory of Moses the God.

Lady A.



To All My Sisters and Brothers in .KAM.:

I just want to tell you there are no words to express the gratitude that I feel for your thoughtfulness while I was in the hospital.

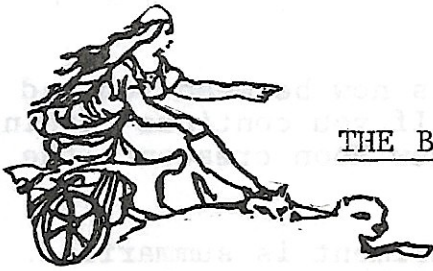
Believe me, the love and energy was really felt. And how wonderful it is to know that we have the Goddess and a great group of friends going for us. How can we lose!

Again, thanks to you all and

Blessed Be,

Cassandra, .KAM.

(Ed. note: We welcome your comments and questions and will print letters of general interest as space permits.)



THE BEGINNER'S CORNER

Aurora
Baltimore, KAM

Ours is a religion of Nature. Our spiritual and physical ancestors worshipped the Sun and the Moon and, in addition, studied the motions and natures of these bodies. If science and religion were not the same, they were at least related. The Chaldeans were noted especially for their observatory-temples. Stonehenge, acknowledged by archeologists to be a temple, is an elaborate calendar, or computer, of the motions of the Sun and Moon. Science and religion were born as twins.

Since then they have been torn apart, but we can benefit by bringing the discoveries of science back into our religion. If the scientists don't acknowledge us, at least we can unite their discoveries with our knowledge. Someday, science and religion will be one again, and all things will be seen as part of a great Unity.

To this end, we should strive to understand the physical nature of the heavenly bodies, especially of the Sun and the Moon. One can regard this study as if the Universe were a tree. The roots are the physical realm. The trunk, branches and leaves form the higher planes. One's attention is naturally focused on the higher realms, but a true understanding of the tree is not complete without knowledge of the roots, the physical.

Our ancestors were very familiar with the physical phases of the Moon and Her relationship with the tides. We have lost much of the feeling for the material realm of the Moon, especially those of us who live in cities, but to regain that familiarity requires only a few simple facts and concepts now confirmed by science. The exercise that follows should be of help to you.

The phases of the Moon are easy to visualize if you light a candle in a darkened room. It should be placed at shoulder height for best results. The candle represents the Sun. You are the Earth, for the moment. Stand about six feet away from the candle. Take a tennis ball and hold it at arm's length at shoulder height. You should see that only part of it is lit by the candle and the rest in shadow. This is what happens when the Sun shines on the Moon, as it does twenty-four hours a day. If you turn widdershins showly away from the candle, holding the ball out as before, you will see that more and more of it becomes "sunlit". As you back is toward the candle, and you stand between it and the ball, the ball is completely lit. It is Full Moon. If your shadow falls on it you have created an eclipse! Raise the ball, if necessary, to avoid your shadow. (In a natural Lunar Eclipse it is indeed the Earth's shadow that has darkened the Moon.) Continue turning widdershins and you will see the "moon" begin to wane. The shadowed part of the ball seems to grow and the "sunlit" part of it will

shrink to a slim crescent. The ball is now between you and the candle. It is the Dark of the Moon. If you continue turning in the same direction you will see the New Moon crescent, the First Quarter, and go back to the Full Moon.

In the following table, this experiment is summarized. Remember to hold the ball at shoulder height and to slowly turn widdershins.

	Your Position	Light on Ball	Phase of Moon
1.	Ball between you and "Sun"	Not at all lit	Dark of Moon (New Moon)
2.	You turned 1/4 to left	1/2 of ball lit	First Quarter Moon
3.	You are between ball and "Sun"	All of ball (or in your shadow)	Full Moon (or Eclipse)
4.	You turned 3/4 turn	1/2 of ball lit	Third Quarter Moon

Now visualize yourself in space as you repeat this simple experiment. You are the Earth, the darkness is the clear void of space. The ball is the Moon with sunlight pouring on it all the time. Take this perception outside and look up at the real Moon. See it as an immense ball, 6,000 miles across. Know that the lighted part is incredibly hot with Sunlight. The shadowed part is there even though you can't see it well and it's very cold. Try to feel the incredible distance between the Earth and Moon (256,000 miles!). Try to feel the motion of the Moon as it moves, just like the ball but with infinitely greater majesty and serenity, around the Earth beneath your feet. Feel the shadow moving over its surface to produce the changing phases.

A good pair of binoculars will bring out the features of the Moon's landscape. You will see that it is brilliant with shadows and lights. Craters have been carved out by an unknown process. Mountain ranges seem to sparkle along the shadow's edge. Mysterious "rays", plumes of dust hundreds of miles long, lie like veils over ranges of hills. The Moon is as beautiful as a rare jewel and as full of mysteries in the physical realm as She is in the higher planes.





SPEECH IN LORING PARK, MINNESOTA

Carol Wisewoomon
Coven of Aradia, . KAM .

(Ed. note: The following speech was delivered in Loring Park in support of the ERA the evening before the referendum.)

I'm deeply moved with the solidarity and strength of the people here tonight. I'm very proud to be here tonight, for this is the company of giants and an army of lovers.

And not only am I moved, but I'm ready to move. I can feel it in my soul, race through my blood and down into my feet.

I know where I'm going. I knew where I was going when I came here tonight. I'm going to the Hennipin County Government Center and I'm going with you.

I'm going with you. I'm working with you. I'm risking with you and I'm struggling with you. And all of us intimately know that we need each other, or I'll probably die with you. Tonight I've got something to share with you:

"This Witch is not for burning!"

Across the nation, no matter what the vote may show, the message is that "Nobody's next"! The fires of hate and death are going to be put out, and together we will rise as a new Phoenix of Human Rights.

We will rise out of the ashes of Salem and we will tell this California legislative "Jack the Ripper" that:

"This Witch won't burn!"

We will rise boldly from the ashes of Alabama lynchings and Miami initiatives and tell this new breed of hate mongers and racists that:

"This Witch won't burn!"

And from the smoldering coals of Boston school busses and Seattle referendums we will tell them:

"This Witch won't burn!"

So they all hear us, racist, sexist, homophobic, klansman and nazi:

"This Witch won't burn!"

So they see us we rise up tonight as surely as the Moon.
Together we rise; socialist and separatist, farmer and femin-
ist, artist and anarchist; together we rise. Together we rise;
healer and heathen, typist, teacher, preacher and politician;
together we rise.

I know where you're going, and I want to go with you. Take
your sister's hand. Hold your brother's hand. It's time to go
and we'll go together. Tonight we're going to watch them and
they will know deep within that:

"This Witch will not burn!"

THE CHARME

From the Lavendar Dragon

Under the sky, when a star shoots
Beneath an oak, when owl hoots
Gather ye herbs, dig ye roots
To build - to build the charme

A shining silver goblet bring
And dip the moonlight from a spring
Round about dancing
To fortify the charme

This much, we know, a child might do
Yet all must fail if unhaply you
Lack a child's faith, so trusting, true
To feed - to feed the charme

Many the spellles of high degree
And fruitful happiness we see
All lost for faith to set them free
And work - and work the charme.

STONES OF THE FIRST RAY

Artemis
Baltimore · KAM ·

All things are one with the Universal Energy. All that exists physically is an external manifestation of either an energy form or a combination of energy forms. Since the mineral kingdom manifests the lowest vibratory rate, it becomes the foundational substance of which all things are made. We are one with the Earth and we are of the Earth, and of the elements...minerals. Each mineral crystal has, as does each human being, its own peculiar influence, function and vibration. These energy forms, whether in combination or individual rates, heal, energize, stabilize, balance, attune, inspire and/or uplift the flow of energies within our inner beings. The frequency and magnetic field of the mineral crystals can and does affect our physical bodies. This is accomplished by the body picking up the vibrations of the gem and pulling them into the vortex of the chakras. However, some frequencies or wave lengths work from the non-physical plane to the physical plane, while others have influence from the physical plane upward.

The Seven Rays are the major seven life stream energies utilized by each individual as each experiences the understandings of the purpose of each ray in the evolution toward perfection. All seven rays are used in the essences of the soul as well as by the different personalities of an individual. The mineral kingdom is also subject to the seven life stream energies and, therefore, a particular gem having a specific vibrational level can attend to the needs of the life stream energies.

Therefore, at the end of the Great Cycle for each individual, all seven rays merge into the Cosmic Unity of the Universal Energy. However, the spiritual essence of each individual responds to a basic ray type. The First Ray reflects the Power and Will aspects of Life and, therefore, becomes the ray of the born warrior and ruler - Jove's Thunderbolt. The prime characteristic of this ray is directness in methodology or one might say the distinguishing and supreme quality in Will. Other qualities lying within the realm of human consciousness that can be attributed to the First Ray are strength, courage, inflexibility and appreciation of the value of an individual.

Chart 1: Qualities of the First Ray (Vol.II, #1)

Human Con- sciousness	Gem	Color	Fluids or Secretion	Arch Column	Musical Sounds	Materials for Plastic Art
Will Strength Courage Warrior Ruler Power w/ honor	Diamond	Electric Blue	Water	Doric	Cymbals Gongs Explos- ions	Granite: Com- municate strength, mass, nobility, reserve of power

Appropriately then, the Diamond, the hardest, most brilliant, and highest developed of all gems, reflects the special qualities belonging to the First Ray. It has blended within it all of the attributes collected during its slow progressive movement toward the state of perfection. A second member of the First Ray is the Rock Crystal. Tentative additions include White Quartz (Chalcedony), Zircon (Jargon, Jacinth, Hyacinth), Magnetite (Loadstone) and Opal (Hyalite).

Chart 2: Characteristics of the Diamond and Rock Crystal

Characteristics	Diamond	Rock Crystal
Chemical composition	Carbon	Silicon 46.7%; Oxygen 53.3%
Specific gravity	3.4 - 3.6	2.5 - 2.8
Hardness	10	7
Crystal System	Cubic (Isometric tetrahedral)	Hexagonal (trigonal)
Colors	Yellow, yellow-green, pink, white, blue, blue-green, brown, black	White, clear, pink, yellow, black
Sacred to	Sun, Mars, Saturn	Moon
Attuned to and affinity with	Libra, Leo, Aries	Scorpio, Aquarius
Ruled by	Aries, Saturn	Cancer
Symbol	Innocence, constancy, fearlessness, modesty, invincibility, purity	Purity, patience, perseverance, infinity of space
Chakra	Crown	Crown

The Diamond is a transparent crystal of pure carbon commonly found in alluvial deposits and derived from a dark plutonic rock known as Kimberlite. In its rough form, the Diamond is covered with a thick hard crust that can only be removed by a Diamond. Approximately 20% of all diamonds found are suitable for gem use. The Diamond could be obtained from subjecting a piece of carbon to extremes of pressure and temperature. If the pressure is low and temperature high, carbon vapor or graphite results. Likewise, if the temperature is extreme but there is insufficient pressure, hot liquid carbon is the end product. In other words, only under conditions of tremendous pressure and extreme temperatures will liquid carbon solidify into the crystalline form. Meteorites attest to the pressure and temperature states for they contain diamonds.

Phosphorescent properties of the Diamond can be demonstrated, when after exposure to sunlight or friction, it will be luminous in a dark room. Further, it will shine with a vivid green light if

subjected to electron bombardment. High priests wore the diamond in order to determine the guilt or innocence of their parishioners. If the gem was dim the individual was guilty; if innocent the gem would shine. Due to the ability to irradiate light of pure quality, the Diamond has a great history of healing (clearing out covert dangers and averting diseases) and is suggested to ward off or to protect against satanism, evil and negative forces. (If a negative spell is cast, the sorrow shall return to the sender.)

Ancient gemologists, believing the Diamond impervious to external influences, assigned the name Adamus (Indomitable) to this crystal. Adamus is Hebrew for hammer and is an appropriate name, for the Diamond can crush and grind all other gems. The belief that the wearer of the Diamond would achieve victory can be traced directly to the Diamond's unconquerable hardness or to its transparency. Whereas Crusaders used the Diamond as a barrier against cowardiceness, the Roman soldiers affixed the gem to the flesh of the left arm so that they might be endowed with superior strength, courage and fortitude.

Having reached the outermost limits of the evolutionary arc within the Earth's planetary cycle, the Diamond represents the pure focus of energy. Both on a spiritual and physical level, the Diamond has had a magnetic, powerful, and stabilizing effect on humanity. In order to determine the purpose of the Diamond, one must look to the development of human consciousness - especially concerning lust for greed, power or possession. The Diamond can be viewed as a catalyst. In other words, the Diamond can be the trigger to which man is the weapon. Depending on its use, it can either create or destroy negative forces. If sufficiently large, i.e., above average in size and with clarity - the use of the Diamond would be unlimited. However, in the hands of an inept, the high and intense vibrations of this powerful force field could burn body tissues or have such psychological ramifications as severe neurotic manifestations in persons of certain astrological signs.




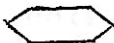
If one can bear the responsibility that the radiations of the Diamonds give off into one's auric field, then tremendous charges of brilliant energy flows unimpeded and unobstructed into the dense and the finest particles of man's bodies creating a protective field that nothing can undermine...Negative thinking and activity warps energy flow and creates symptoms - while positive and non-possessive attitudes create its polar opposite conferring untapped resources within the Self that can be drawn upon and magnified by the mind and feelings of man so as to cause growth, upheaval and an enormous vortex of activity on the inner levels of the ethers.¹

Therefore, the owner of a Diamond can be guaranteed to be rooted firmly into what she/he already is.

As stated above, the Diamond has always had a rich, exotic and magnetic effect on humanity. The Hindu system had its own classification of diamonds.²

Diamond	Color	Significance
Brahmin	White as shell or rock crystal	Riches, good luck, power, friends
Kshatriya	Brown as the eye of a hare	Prevents approach of old age
Vaisya	Shade of a petal from Kadali flower	Brings success
Sudra	Sheen of a polished blade	All manner of good fortune

According to ancient folklore, the cut of a Diamond was also significant:

Cut	Significance
Triangular 	Quarrels
Square 	Inspire wearer with vague terrors
5 Cornered 	Worst effect to death
6 Cornered 	Productive of good - Luckiest shape

To the Arabians, Persians and Egyptians, the Diamond brought good fortune. However, the talismanic powers of good fortune and invincibility are lost when the Diamond is stolen. Also, a Diamond should be given freely for it to be an efficacious talisman. If a Diamond is lost, it is an omen of mishaps. When given as a gift, it strengthens emotional bonds and promotes success. Worn as a pendant, the wearer is endowed with honor and friendship. A Diamond ring can insure a lasting marriage and/or financial success. Diamonds worn in combination with other gems not only enhance but also assist the action of the gem. The Diamond is under Saturn's rulership but is subruled by all planets and is in close conjunction with Venus.

Planet	Color of Diamond
Mercury	Yellow
Neptune	Yellow-green
Mars, Pluto	Pink
Saturn, Uranus	White, blue-white, blue
Saturn	Brown

Indigo or indigo-violet is the color-impression communicated by the life of the Diamond. It has been said that the whitest and clearest Diamonds belong to humanity but yet owned by no one individual.

Today in India, a common ceremonial practice is for wealthy natives to sprinkle tiny Diamonds from a white cloth over an infant's head during the naming rite in order to keep the child pure and virtuous.

In order for a Diamond to be used properly and to its fullest potential, it should be "purified" or cleansed of negative vibrations. A Diamond can be cleansed simply by soaking it overnight in an ionic solution of:

1 dram NaCl
1 dram soda
8 ounces H₂O

followed by a thorough rinsing



For a more elaborate cleansing: "On some day regarded as auspicious for the operation", the stone was to be dipped in the juice of the Kantakara (solanum jaquiri) and subjected for a whole night to the heat of a fire made by direct pieces of the dung of cow or buffalo. In the morning it was to be immersed in cow's urine and again subjected to fire. These processes were to be repeated for seven days, at the end of which term the Diamond could be regarded as purified. After this the stone was to be buried in a paste of certain leguminous seeds mixed with afoetida and rock salt. Herein it was to be heated twenty-one successive times, when it would be reduced to ashes. If these ashes were then dissolved in some liquid, the potion would "conduce to longevity, general development of the body, strength, energy, beauty of complexion and happiness, "giving an adamantine strength to the limbs."

The Greeks would steep the Diamond in wine or water and then prescribe the liquid for gout. If the "Koh-I-Noor" Diamond was steeped in water, the liquid administered orally or topically - had the reputation of a panacea. To calm thoughts, mind or tempers, the stone was to be bound around or placed on the brow. Other uses of the Diamond included injecting it into the bladder to break up urinary calculi, placing it in the mouth for a fractured tooth or swallowing the gem for ruptured intestines. However, there was the concern that Diamonds or Diamond dust when ingested would poison the individual. In order to understand this belief one must turn to the land of its origin where venomous creatures were abundant. Venom saturated the gems so that when the gems were ingested the sharp points on the crystals cut into the mucous membranes and thus injected the venom and caused death. So, can an individual

die of Diamond poisoning? In reality it is the poison held within the thoughts that cause the catalytic reaction to take place.

The Rock Crystal has an affinity with the planetary consciousness of Uranus and works in harmony with water and air elements. Rock Crystal, or Quartz, is derived from a Greek word meaning frozen water or clear ice. Ancient gemologists believed the Crystal to be a form of petrified ice. Pliny wrote that the Crystal could be found in the dark caverns of mountains where the temperatures were so cold that the congelation of water occurred.

Found chiefly in older crystalline and granite rocks, the Rock Crystal is a pure, transparent crystalline form of silica which plays a role in rock building, coloring matter, and is an essential ingredient to other stones. Like the Diamond, the Rock Crystal also radiates light. Two Crystals rubbed together yield a pale yellow light. When clashed together, faint flashes of phosphorescent light are emitted.

The Arkansas Rock Crystals possess tremendous currents of energy vibrations. Like the Diamond, the size of the Quartz does have a specific influence in that:

Each has its parallel and corresponding tone with which it can be aligned. A symphony of tonal sounds within the inner planes can set the energy patterns to vibrating especially if a healing exercise is in progress. The really huge specimens of clear Quartz are of themselves a force field of light or energy which can be used as a sonic protection against negativity.⁴

Symbolic and/or religious significance of the Rock Crystal varies. For the early Christian it was a symbol of the Immaculate Conception. In the Christian Church it indicated that individuals within the church be free from stain and pure in faith. To the Buddhists, the Quartz is one of seven precious substances. To the Tibetans, the eastern heavens are built from the white Quartz. The Akshamala, a 24 Crystal rosary symbolic of the 24 Tattoos, is an attribute of certain gods in the Hindu system. The Greek and Roman cultures worked this beautifully transparent and hard substance into cups and vases.

Historically, the Rock Crystal has served as a vehicle for divinations, i.e., Crystal gazing or scrying - in that it serves as a strong stimulating effect to a clairvoyant due to its elemental essence qualities providing the necessary clear depth perception.

The points of light reflected from the polished surface serve to attract the attention of the gazer and to fix the eye until, gradually, the optic nerve becomes so fatigued that it finally ceases to transmit to the sensorium the impression made from without and begins to respond to the

reflex action proceeding from the brain of the gazer. In this way the impression received from within is apparently projected and seems to come from without... In many cases the effect of prolonged gazing upon the brilliant surface will simply produce a loss of sight... In other cases, the nerve will be only deadened as regards external impressions.⁵

When one is performing divinations, it should be remembered that the image is actually in the gazer's eye and not on the Crystal surface. There is no doubt but that the Rock Crystal's psychic atmosphere provides the First Ray's characteristic stability note. However, instead of being focused, it is more unintelligent and lethargic. Even though the Crystal works in harmony with water and air elements, there is also a quality of fire about it. Whereas the Diamond's fire quality is electrical, the Crystal's is a glow of wood embers.

As with the Diamond, color is also significant to the Crystal:

Color	Significance
White	Elevate thoughts
Red	Positive action
Pink	Reduces wrinkles, softens complexion
Yellow-citrine	Stimulates openness, accelerates mind awakening

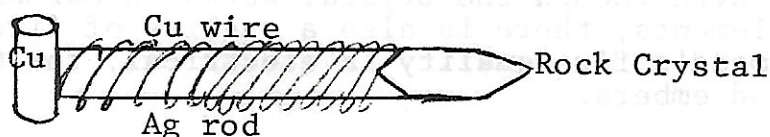
Either alone or in combination with other gems, the Rock Crystal can bring one back into astral or mental harmony and heal the aura of aberrations of a mental or emotional nature, psychic attacks, etc. Further, the Crystal can aid in decongesting various chakras - working especially well on the root chakra "in cooling off prematurely stirred up and erratically moving Kundalini forces that so many misguided spiritual aspirants think is the doorway to inner and outer power."⁶ Due to the refraction of this gem the Crystal becomes an active healer for the body, for its focus is "directly with the separations of the layers of disconnected mind, attempting to re-integrate the levels of consciousness."⁷ The Rock Crystal remains an undeveloped part of our Mother Earth. It can, if allowed to, accentuate clairvoyancy, bring back into balance an emotional or mental state, yield complete freedom of intellect, etc.

For those who are interested in using the Rock Crystal for healing there is a Rock Crystal Wand⁸ that can be constructed for healing projection.

Materials needed: Ag solder
Cu wire and tubing
Ag rod and holder
Pb solder
Rock Crystal

Steps:

1. Ag solder Cu tubing to Ag rod.
2. Ag solder Ag rod to Ag holder.
3. Wind Cu wire around Ag rod.
4. Pb solder ends of Cu wire.
5. Place Crystal in Ag holder



A field of stabilized electromagnetic energy is created as a result of the Cu wire being wound around the Ag rod. This energy field assists and enhances the energy radiations emitting from the Crystal. Since the Quartz absorbs negativity, it aids in the elimination of negativity in and around an individual. Also the Crystal can aid in decongesting the various chakras - especially root - and thereby assist in realigning or bringing back the aura into balance.

The Diamond, as well as the Rock Crystal, being one of the twelve gems of highest responsibility can be used therapeutically to alleviate human suffering. If the vibratory level of the gem can be raised to penetrate the human aura, the mineral Crystals will then begin to neutralize, realign or absorb to whatever degree the individual will permit. Raising the gem's frequency can be accomplished via the power of the sun's rays or solar prisms, visualizations, meditation, etc. For application of the gem's vibratory frequencies refer back to Vol. II, #2.

- To be continued -

Footnotes:

1. Joel Glick and J. Lorusso. Healing Stoned. Mineral Perspectives: Miami, 1976, p.32.
2. George Kunz. The Curious Lore of Precious Stones. Dover: N.Y. 1913, p.71.
3. Ibid. p. 378
4. Glick, 54
5. Kunz, 176
6. Glick, 54
7. Ibid
8. Ibid, 90-91

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CRYSTAL, THE UNIVERSAL GEM

Lady Etidorhpa
The Crystal Coven

Crystal, revered by the ancients and held in high esteem by today's scientists, goes highly unnoticed by the average person. What is it about this mineral that has figured so prominently not only in ancient occultism, but is found in today's advanced technology in the solar cells of spacecraft computer circuits for missiles, lasers for medical research, and in countless devices now being tested in military, industrial and pharmaceutical labs?

The arrangement of the three dimensional atomic patterns in crystalline matter (called "lattices") is still not entirely understood. But it is because of the crystal's structure that some scientists believe they exert strange forces on light and electricity.

In 1963, IBM physicist J.B. Gunn discovered that a speck of the man-made crystal gallium arsenide gives off microwave radiations when an electrical current passes through it. The vibrations pulse at the rate of one to ten billion a second, a range overlapping that of radar. Industry hopes that this breakthrough will bring about radar sets inexpensive and light enough for the blind to carry as well as a host of other proposed applications.

Aside from the technological race now underway, Gunn's discovery may well explain the mystical secrets surrounding the use of crystal through the ages and the cryptic prophecies of oracles and sages. It is recognized that the human brain gives off measurable electrical currents. Thus the possibility exists that in the region of a time anomaly or "node", a crystal's unique structure triggered by electrical emissions from the human mind (more greatly amplified by those with ESP) may bend light (time) to part the veil to other dimensions.

There are many noted and learned UFO experts who believe the flying saucer, known for its astounding swift disappearances in front of eyewitnesses, to be vanishing into another time rather than utilizing lightning quick accelerations. What is their secret? According to Charles L. Moody, who was abducted by a UFO outside Alamogordo, New Mexico in 1975, the UFO seemed to be propelled by large crystals.

A number of years ago, I was fortunate enough to be put in touch with an old woman who had once deciphered some very old Egyptian scrolls. She was under the impression that one of the stones placed behind the breastplate of Aaron (see Old Testament) was none other than the quartz crystal. I wrote to her about this

since the identity of the Urim and Thummin behind Aaron's breastplate have long been sought after, and her reply was as follows:

"Crystal quartz is a transmitter and receiver. The ancients used it all the time and it is written about in all the old texts.

There were two instruments, the OREK (crystal, etc.) and the KHEMET (magnetite, etc.). The crystal ball is just a reminder of the OREK and is of no use unless it is truly crystal, but the charletons use glass balls and don't even know the power of real crystal to pull in information carried by the Khefer threads (like ether waves).

Quartz itself will help one become psychic if you keep it nearby, especially when you sleep. I believe the URIM and THUMMIN had quartz in them. I think quartz has an as yet undiscovered element which would make 105 known in our world.

UFO's may use it as they are seen so often near mountains containing quartz deposits. It is a source of great power, like the ruby runs the laser. Who knows what it can eventually do!"

I might add that Frank Dorland, the man who studied the Crystal Skull for six years in his own home, told me that he also believes that quartz crystal was one of the stones in the URIM and THUMMIN. For those of you who aren't familiar with the Crystal Skull, it is a life-sized and very deathlike skull carved from a single magnificent piece of rock crystal, the "granddaddy" of all crystal balls! (See the book "The Crystal Skull" by Garvin.)

Another item of interest in my files is a 19 page manuscript that came through automatic typing in 1975. It tells of a time warp, "node", or anomaly in the El Paso Mountain Range in California. The 19 page message used the word "node" frequently in attempting to explain strange things or phenomena such as "ultra-fields", "time folds", and "control of vibration". In my dictionary, one definition of "node" gave itself well to the context of the manuscript: "A point at which a curve cuts or crosses itself". The interesting thing in this manuscript is that the "node" is to be found on a mountain that was once called "Crystal Mountain" and the only way to tap into this time warp is by way of a natural quartz crystal held in the hand: "The crystal should be held close to the body and you should face the node. Turn the crystal so that a flat edge is toward the Sun. If at night, hold the crystal toward the Moon. Let light strike the crystal. Wait. Soon 'field' will develop." The manuscript goes on to say how the OLD ONES enter through this particular time warp.

And so the search goes on, each new piece of information adding to the puzzle that is ours to solve. But perhaps the crystal will help you solve it.....



THE ART OF CRYSTAL GAZING

Karen Alexander
Pictish Tradition

There has not been much written on the subject of crystal gazing that is clearly written with practical application in mind. The reason for this is that crystal gazing, as well as the other multitudes of methods of psychometry related ways of divination, is primarily in the mind of the seeker, hence the difficulty of putting into words the most practical way to become proficient in this ancient art. Crystal gazing serves to focus the concentrated desire, will and thought. I will attempt to outline in easily understood terms the most effective methods to prepare your sub-mind for this art.

The crystal is an instrument or focal point for astral vision just as the telescope, microscope and other optical instruments are instruments employed in the phenomena of physical visions. It is true that the atomic and molecular characteristics of glass, crystal, etc. (which tend to promote the manifestation of psychic power and faculties) are apt to produce the best results, but ink, water, blood, etc., have also been used with similar results. Crystal gazing may be traced back to one of the oldest forms of scrying--hydromancy. Since water and crystal blend opposing properties of solidity and transparency, they are perfect media for meditation. This duplicity is highly conducive to the initiation of the alpha state.

Various practitioners use different forms of the crystal, or substitutes for it. Some insist that pure crystal alone gives the best results. Others with less money to spend have obtained just as satisfactory results with a ball of plain glass, which is less expensive. The use of clock crystals laid over a piece of dark cloth (preferably velvet) has been advocated. Also used with good results have been polished steel or silver objects, a new silver coin for instance, a large drop of ink or blood dropped into a small dish, cups with their inner surfaces painted black and filled with water, the bright reflection of a precious stone --- the list goes on and on --- The point I am making here is that the individual may make the choice of any, or several of the above mentioned objects or substitute some other object of his/her choosing that possesses the requisite power of reflection. In this essay, for practical purposes, I will refer to the object being employed as a crystal.

Although one may go to all lengths of ritual to prepare the mind in becoming adept at channeling the symbology and images inherent in the process of assimilating the information received while gazing, it is not required unless one's psychological makeup dictates ritual to be necessary. Many people will prepare the

Triangle of Art complete with cabbalistic seals, letters, names, etc., in order to reach the depths of their sub-minds. As with the various systems of magick, the method of awakening the deep mind through ritual for gazing can easily be adapted to the personal religious or magickal discipline of the individual. For example, in my tradition of Wiccanraft, one of the rituals we use for both the initial charging and consecration is as follows:

On the night of the full moon (preferably when the moon is in Gemini, Cancer, or Virgo), gather together your crystal, Cup, water, salt, gum mastic, wormwood, cinnamon oil, and a dark cloth. A circle is not required, but if you prefer working in a circle it would not be out of order. In an outside, secluded place, bathed in the light of the full moon, place your crystal, etc., on a flat space. Consecrate your water and exorcise your cloth. Place a circle of salt around your crystal. Now drop a handful of gum mastic into the water in your Cup, charging the water with the mastic's psi-inducing properties. Next drop in the wormwood, again charging the water. Now drop seven drops of the cinnamon oil into the water. With each drop say your personal mantra. Gaze into the infusion in your Cup, releasing your psychic energy into the water, thereby magnetizing it.

Hold your crystal up to the moon and dedicate it to the Goddess. Begin bathing your crystal in your infusion, saying the appropriate personal words. Now set it on your newly exorcised dark cloth which is now centered in the ring of salt, and allow it to dry while you meditate on the crystal.

Let it sit out in the light of the moon until the moon sets.

The crystal is now ready for use; no further charging is necessary in future gazing. You may want to prepare a Square of Mercury to meditate on for future sittings with the crystal to help you tune in to your sub-mind before beginning to gaze.

Learning to effectively use the crystal is similar, if not identical to learning to psychometize. One must be able to still the mind and open up to impressions to be received. Practical points to consider are:

It is important to place your back to the source of light rather than facing the light. Practice by yourself at first, in a quiet room, with the crystal placed before you on a table, the crystal set on a dark piece of cloth. Gaze calmly at it. Do not be afraid to blink your eyes and do not strain or tire your eyes. Some people like to make funnels of their hands and gaze through them to shut out distracting light, as if their hands were binoculars.

If you fail to see anything the first time, don't be discouraged. Persevere. A number of sittings are necessary in some

cases, while in others results have been forthcoming at the first experiment. It is also recommended that beginners failing to get direct results can visualize something they've seen before --- a chair, an animal, a scene, a face, etc., --- then turn to the crystal and endeavor to reproduce it there. By practicing this, one will gradually learn to "see" in the crystal.

You will find that the crystal really does cloud over. I have experienced images in two ways --- the symbols or pictures will begin to appear in the center of the crystal and gradually become clearer, much like a picture print when processed or, the image will start to appear at the side of the crystal and drift over to the center. It is important to note here that if the image comes from the side, continue to gaze into the center of the crystal. If you turn your eyes to look at the incoming image, it will most likely disappear.

Foremost to remember when you are using the crystal (or any substitute), is that it is merely a focal point for your mind --- the crystal is not an end unto itself.

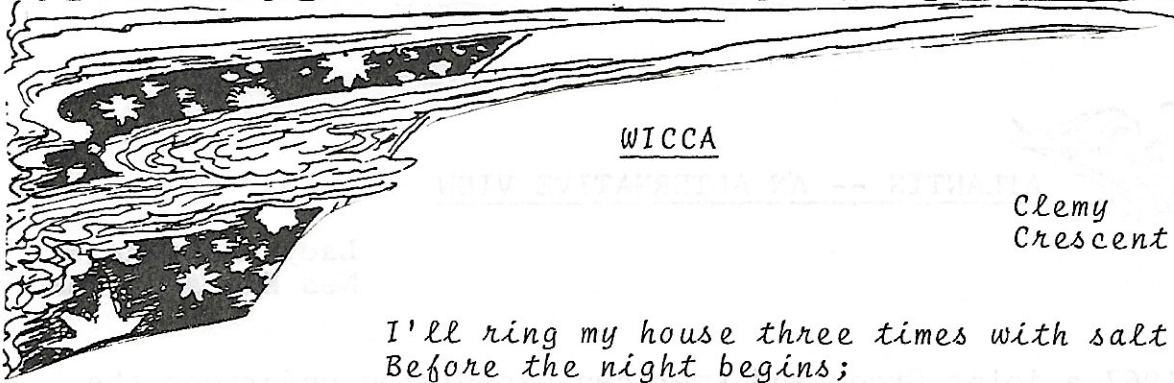
If you would like to utilize the art of crystal gazing in your divination repertoire, I would heartily recommend that you experiment with your abilities in using such a method by constructing an inexpensive speculum or any other less costly device to practice with, as crystals (whether pure crystal or glass) have to be planned into the budget for most of us. Not everyone will find this method effective enough for their requirements. You may find a more abstract technique such as the I Ching or Tarot to be more suitable to your needs and faculties.

REFLECTION

Lady Seshat, Sothistar



I am a mirror, made so by my skill
And by my right to claim to rule of three
Whatever harm is sent to conquer me
Can be reflected three-fold by my will.
I, mirror-like, reflect intended ill--
Yet, is that all I truly want to be,
A mirror that reflects but does not see?
Is that the way to grow--by standing still?
No, better far, if I could understand
That one who tries to harm me lives in night;
Reach to my enemy a loving hand,
And lift my friend upward toward the light!
Whatever punishment their thoughts may earn
Let love, three-fold be all that I return.



WICCA

Clemy
Crescent Coven, • KAM •

I'll ring my house three times with salt
Before the night begins;
Twice will be by deosil
And once by widdershins.

Vervain and rue will ring my bed
And I shall sleep in peace.
An orange candle by my head
Will make all worries cease.

A yellow candle at my feet
Will love and trust dispense;
And at its side will burn all night
My lovely frankencense.

I'll also burn a lump of myrrh
Beside my votive light;
Thus to insure a peaceful sleep
Throughout a peaceful night.

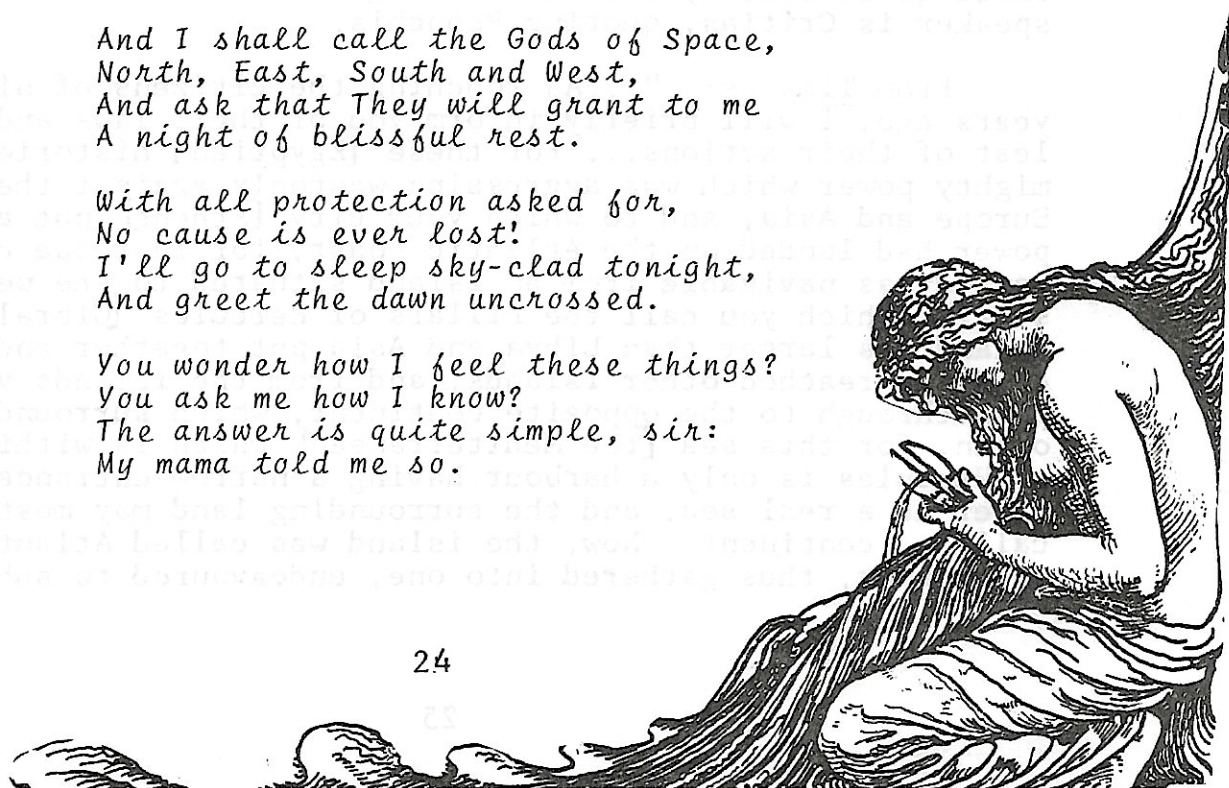
I'll throw some Pentagrams around
And many "Blessed Be's";
There is no evil force extant
That can compete with these!

I'll wing a prayer Diana's way ---
The Lunar Goddess, She:
And She will guard Her earthly child.
My prayer? "So mote it be!"

And I shall call the Gods of Space,
North, East, South and West,
And ask that They will grant to me
A night of blissful rest.

With all protection asked for,
No cause is ever lost!
I'll go to sleep sky-clad tonight,
And greet the dawn uncrossed.

You wonder how I feel these things?
You ask me how I know?
The answer is quite simple, sir:
My mama told me so.





ATLANTIS -- AN ALTERNATIVE VIEW

Lady Antigone
Nea Elefsis, KAM

In 1967 a joint Greek and American expedition undertook the intensive excavation of the island of Thera which was largely destroyed by a volcanic eruption in 1500 BCE. When the diggers turned up an extensive Bronze Age civilisation similar to that of Minoan Crete, they concluded that Thera was the site of Atlantis. Archaeologists generally concurred; as the article on Atlantis, signed by Edward Bacon, in the encyclopaedia Man, Myth & Magic (v.2, p.168-70) puts it, the identification of Thera with Atlantis became "virtually inevitable."

Inevitable or not, it is patently false, as anyone who reads Plato's accounts of Atlantis should immediately see. Plato is our sole source for the story of Atlantis, which he heard from his friend Critias, who heard it from his grandfather Critias, who had heard it from his father Dropidas, who had heard it from the great law-giver Solon, who learned it from Psonchis, a priest of Sais in Egypt. Plato wrote the two dialogues, Timaeus and Critias, which preserve the story of Atlantis, about 355 BCE. Solon lived from 640 to 560 BCE. Thus, there elapsed two and a half centuries between the first telling of the tale and its being written down. The people who passed it down to Plato were all historical persons of whose integrity there is no doubt, but we must remember when reading documents of this sort, that the salient points are apt to have been remembered accurately, while the details were probably forgotten and recreated more than once.

Since Plato is the only source for the Atlantis story, we shall quote briefly from the dialogues, in both of which the speaker is Critias, quoting Psonchis.

From Timaeus: "...As touching the citizens of nine thousand years ago, I will briefly inform you of their laws and of the noblest of their actions... For these [Egyptian] histories tell of a mighty power which was aggressing wantonly against the whole of Europe and Asia, and to which your city [Athens] put an end. This power had landed on the Atlantic coast, for in those days the Atlantic was navigable from an island situated to the west of the straits which you call the Pillars of Hercules [Gibraltar]. The island was larger than Libya and Asia put together and from it could be reached other islands, and from the islands you might pass through to the opposite continent, which surrounded the true ocean, for this sea [the Mediterranean] which is within the Columns of Hercules is only a harbour having a narrow entrance, but that other is a real sea, and the surrounding land may most truly be called a continent. Now, the island was called Atlantis. ...The vast power, thus gathered into one, endeavoured to subdue our

country and yours...and then, Solon, your country shone forth... She defeated and triumphed over the invaders... But afterward there occurred violent earthquakes and floods, and in a single day and night of rain...the island of Atlantis...disappeared beneath the sea..."

From Critias: "...Nine thousand was the sum of years which had elapsed since the war which was said to have taken place between all those who dwelt outside the Pillars of Hercules and those who dwelt within them. This war I am about to describe. Of the combatants on the one side the city of Athens was reported to have been the ruler... The combatants on the other side were led by the kings of the islands of Atlantis, which...once had an extent greater than that of Libya and Asia, and...afterward sunk by an earthquake..."

Plato goes on to describe at great length the Gods and temples of Atlantis, its kings and palaces, canals and ships, its agriculture, and even its plumbing.

If we gather together the salient points of these accounts, we shall see that the place referred to cannot possibly be the island of Thera.

First of all, in both accounts Plato says that Atlantis lay outside the Pillars of Hercules. But Thera is an island in the Mediterranean; it is the southernmost isle of the Cyclades and lies 110 km north of Crete. Plato may not have known the Atlantic well enough to know exactly where Atlantis was, but he surely knew his own Greek islands well enough to know where it was not, and it was not in the Mediterranean, that sea which "is only a harbour, having a narrow entrance."

Secondly, Plato tells us that the destruction of Atlantis occurred 9000 years before the time of Solon or approximately 9600 BCE. But the destruction of Thera occurred in 1500 BCE. Archaeologists explain that Plato was simply careless; he added an extra naught, which made his date off by a factor of 10. This is patent nonsense. Plato could hardly have added an extra zero when the zero had not yet been invented. The Greeks were not comfortable with large numbers; they had no good way of expressing them except to write them out as words. In any case, they did not know the zero, and Plato can therefore hardly be accused of adding one too many of them. Moreover, the expression "nine thousand years" occurs in both dialogues. If Plato was off by a factor of 10, he was consistent about it.

Thirdly, Plato tells us in both dialogues that Atlantis was "larger than Libya and Asia put together." At that time neither Libya nor Asia were countries; they were regions with rather ill-defined boundaries. It is therefore difficult to determine how

great an area is meant. We will therefore be as conservative as possible and allow to Libya and Asia no greater extent than the Roman provinces of those names had in the 2nd century, that is, for Asia 100,000 sq km and for Libya 150,000 sq km. Together, they thus would have had an area no greater than 250,000 sq km.

Thera is the eastern half of an exploded volcano; it has an area of 75.8 sq km. Its rim, together with two other small islands, Therasia and Aspronisi, forms a lagoon, which is the caldera of the old volcano. The lagoon is 60 km in circumference, hence has an area of 286.5 sq km. If we add the area of the lagoon to the area of Thera, we arrive at the area of ancient Thera, a total of 362 sq km. Into this area the archaeologists would have us fit an island which was, at the very minimum, 250,000 sq km, or 700 times greater than the area of Thera.

Finally, Plato tells us that from Atlantis "could be reached other islands, and from the islands you might pass through to the opposite continent, which surrounds the true ocean." How can one possibly reach the continent on the opposite side of the Atlantic by island-hopping in the Mediterranean?

If Atlantis was not Thera, where was it? To answer this question we must ask ourselves: 1) What happened around 9600 BCE that could give rise to the story of a drowned kingdom? and 2) Where outside the Strait of Gibraltar is or was there an island approximately 250,000 sq km in area from which it was possible to reach the opposite continent by travelling from island to island?

Between 10,000 and 8,000 years ago a great event gradually happened; the Pleistocene or Ice Age, which began two and a half million years ago, came to an end. The end of the Pleistocene meant the melting of the great ice sheets which had covered much of Europe and North America. When the glaciers melted, the water which had been locked up in the ice flowed into the oceans, raising the level of the sea and inundating areas which had been dry land during the Pleistocene period.

One such area to be flooded was the English Channel. During the Pleistocene England was connected to the continent of Europe by a land bridge, a broad isthmus, between southeastern England and northern France. At the end of the Pleistocene, this isthmus was submerged, becoming the Strait of Dover, a narrow, shallow body of water, 35 km at its narrowest point and nowhere more than 60 metres deep. The process of submersion was gradual. The isthmus was not finally submerged to its present depth until about 8,000 years ago. But to an observer in France at the time of Plato's Atlantis, once the waters had closed over the isthmus, it might very well have appeared that Britain had sunk into the sea.

Thus, the isolation of Britain from the continent occurred at the end of the Pleistocene in a time period compatible with Plato's date for Atlantis. Moreover, from Britain it is possible to reach

other islands, from which "you might pass through to the opposite continent." From northern Scotland it is 400 km to the Faroe Islands and from there another 350 km to Iceland. From Iceland to Greenland across the Denmark Strait is 290 km; from Greenland to Baffinland across the Davis Strait is 330 km, and from Baffinland to northern Quebec across the Hudson Strait is 67 km. None of this is easy sailing; it is treacherous ocean sailing out of sight of land and requires the technology to build sturdy boats and the knowledge to navigate by the stars. St. Brendan the Navigator is reputed to have done it in the 6th century of the common era. The records of his voyages were not compiled until long after his death, and it is probable that he himself did not sail further than Iceland. But there is also evidence that he had maps and that he knew of the existence of Greenland and the Labrador. Thus, even if Brendan did not reach America, someone must have island-hopped to the "opposite continent" before the 6th century.

Britain is also the right size to be compatible with Plato's description of Atlantis, i.e., about 250,000 sq km. The island of Britain is about 232,000 sq km. Before the final rise in sea level at the end of the Ice Age, it was probably somewhat larger. We may not include the area of Ireland, since Ireland was separated from Britain long before Britain was separated from the continent. Nevertheless, given the inexactitude of Plato's geography, it would seem that the area of Britain matches quite nicely the area of Plato's Atlantis. It is certainly a better match than Thera's 362 sq km.

The right to poke holes in other people's theories implies the duty to point out the flaws in one's own. There are three principal arguments against the theory that Britain was the site of Atlantis.

First, Plato describes the culture of Atlantis, in great detail, as a rich Bronze Age culture. But there is no evidence whatever that such a high culture existed anywhere on earth ten thousand years ago. Is Plato's date then wrong after all? Not necessarily. Between Solon and Plato there are 250 years of oral tradition. The main points of the story may have been remembered accurately while the details of Atlantean culture were left to the imagination of the tellers. A person of Plato's time, if told that Atlantis possessed a sophisticated and ancient culture, would naturally describe it in terms of the most ancient culture known to him from the legends and poetry of Greece, i.e., the Bronze Age culture of Tiryns, Mycenae, and Troy.

A second objection concerns the technology of the Atlanteans who, Psonchis implies, knew how to reach those islands from which one might sail to America. The culture of 10,000 years ago was Neolithic. Could people with only stone tools build seaworthy boats and steer them from island to island across the North Atlantic?

It is possible they could. After all, the Neolithic Iberian peoples built the great stone circles and passage graves, using

stone tools. Moreover, the alignment of monuments such as Newgrange and Stonehenge shows that these Stone Age people watched the sky. If they could accurately determine the times of the solstices and equinoxes and record them in stone, they could presumably steer a ship by the stars. Moreover, unless the site is a complete hoax, which seems exceedingly unlikely, the stone monuments at Mystery Hill in New Hampshire were built by people of the same culture as those who built the passage graves of Ireland and England. Someone certainly brought a Neolithic culture to North America.

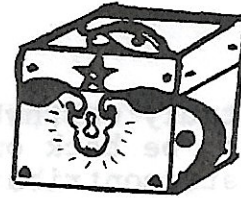
We cannot prove that Neolithic man built boats that could cross the ocean because no such boats have been found. But that primitive craft can cross the oceans has been proven. In 1947 Thor Heyerdahl crossed the Pacific from South America to Polynesia on a balsa raft, the Kon-Tiki; and in 1970 he crossed the Atlantic from Africa to Barbados in the Ra II, an exact facsimile of an ancient Egyptian papyrus reed boat.

The third objection concerns the war between the Atlanteans and the peoples of the Mediterranean. Psonchis tells Solon that his city, Athens, let the war against Atlantis. But Plato's date places the time of this war in the Neolithic, about 10,000 BCE. At that time there was no Athens, neither in Greece nor in Britain. Nor was there anywhere a settled community large enough and rich enough to mount a war of the sort Plato describes. Was Psonchis, the wise old priest of an ancient land, trying to flatter Solon, the naive visitor from a young civilisation? Was the war itself a myth? Or was Plato wrong about that crucial date?

We do not know. Atlantis was not Thera; it may have been Britain. The mystery remains, but better a mystery than a wrongly solved riddle. For a mystery leaves the door open for us to seek and perhaps someday to find Atlantis.

On his eightieth birthday, John Quincy Adams responded to a query concerning his well-being by saying: "John Quincy Adams is well. But the house in which he lives at present is becoming dilapidated. It is tottering upon its foundation. Time and the seasons have nearly destroyed it. Its roof is pretty well worn out. Its walls are much shattered and it trembles with every wind. I think John Quincy Adams will have to move out of it soon. But he himself is quite well, quite well."

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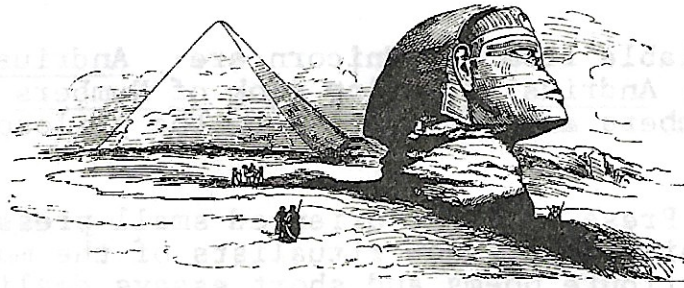
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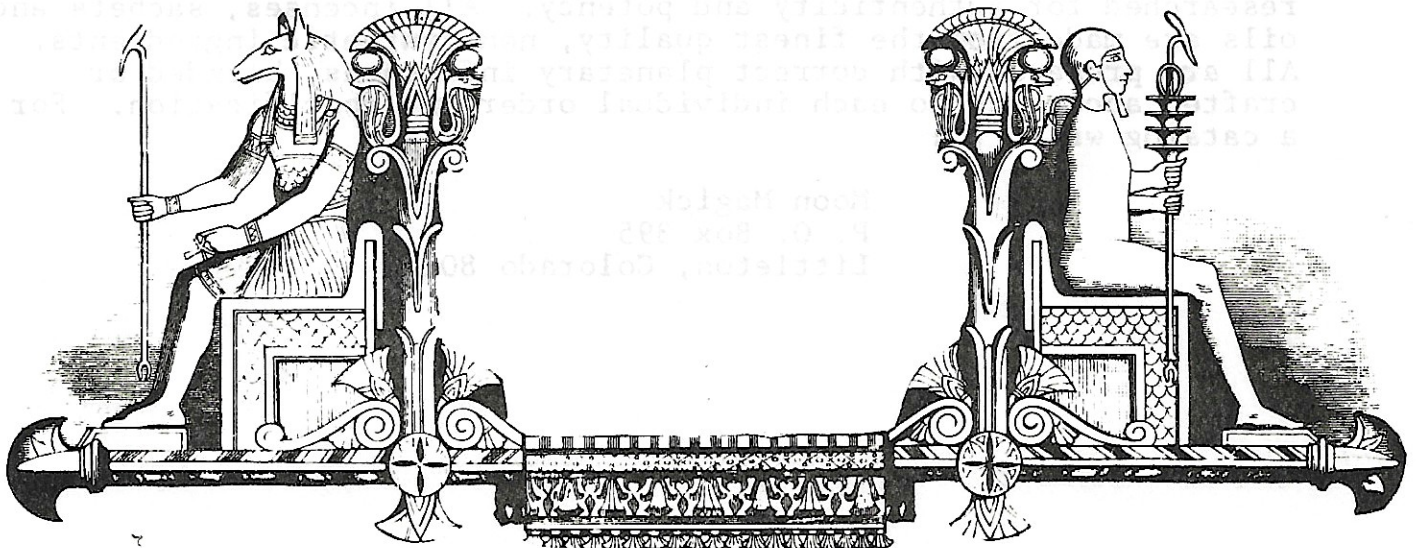
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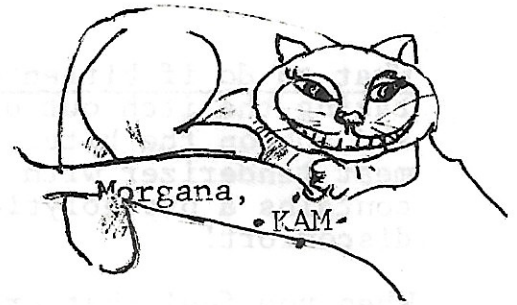
Vedis and Lady Angelique
Sekhmet's Seka, -KAM-

He rises, His love shining forth
Midsummer He has long awaited
His intensity strengthening til at last
The hour of awakening is here.
She appraoches, gentle, yet strong
Her beauty enhanced by His love.
His new found radiance softly spreads forth
Gently enfolding Her...Now They are One.
Lovingly She unveils for Him
Wonders They have brought about together.
It's time...sadly They part.
So the day be remembered forever,
He showers Her in light
A last embrace before He goes.
Slowly Her strength increases
Her sadness eased by the thought
As a circle never ends,
So Midsummer will come again.



MORGANA'S MUTTERINGS

*"Gaze upon the Solstice flame, and
bless the Light in the Lady's name."*



With the arrival of Summer, I thought you might be able to use some hints for around the house and garden. But first, for those of you who haven't heard already, I want to share some happy news... KAM has been blessed with a new member, and I've become a proud grandmother! Jason Merlin was born to the Lady Ayeisha and Kern on February 19th, and need I tell you how happy we all are?

And now - on with the hints...

For plants: A teaspoon of sugar added to soapy lather will remove gardening stains from your hands... Arrangements of tulips will stay perkier when copper pennies are tossed into the water. A teaspoon of detergent to 1 quart of water will revive wilting cut flowers... Anemic ferns? Give them a tonic; water with weak tea once a week. And if you want them to be healthy green, give them a dose of ammonia - 1 teaspoon to 1 quart of water!... You can water your hanging baskets with ice cubes and dispense with any dripping.

A wonderful spray can be made of garlic and hot peppers, an organic deterrent to keep all the bugs and beasties from destroying your vegetable garden. Here's how: Place 4 garlic cloves, 2 or 3 hot red chili peppers (dried or fresh) and 1 cup water into your blender. Blend until finely ground. Let stand 10 minutes and strain through cheesecloth. Mix the liquid with 5 more cups of water and pour into a spray bottle. Use as needed to spray plants and vegetables.

To deodorize your house: Saturate a cotton ball with oil of wintergreen and place in your bathroom... a lot cheaper than buying deodorants and works just as well. To keep that kitty pan "fragrance" under control, mix some borax with the kitty litter. Not only will it help keep the odor under control but you'll find you won't have to change the pan quite so often.

Repellants: To ward off flies and get a wonderful tan in the process, rub yourself down with tarragon vinegar. Really works! Take the B vitamins regularly to repel mosquitoes... And, did you know that burning frankincense and/or myrrh will also repel them? To repel fleas: Splash pennyroyal oil around your pet's sleeping quarters, or, saturate his collar with the oil. Repeat the process every week or so. You can also feed your pet yeast tablets or sprinkle the powdered yeast in his food. Most love it.

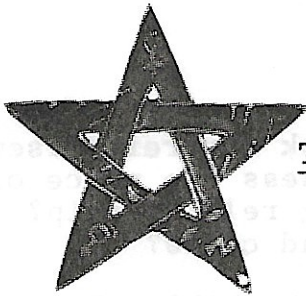
What to do if bitten or stung: A roll of Tums is effective in taking the itch out of mosquito bites. Just moisten a tablet and rub on the bite...For all insect bites - Mix 1/4 teaspoon meat tenderizer with 1 teaspoon water and rub on the bite. It contains a proteolytic enzyme and works in seconds to relieve discomfort!

When you feel that creative urge coming on: Make a wonderful rose hip/apple jelly. Cook equal parts of rose hips and crab-apples with water to cover until tender, or, cook rose hips in apple juice until tender. Strain stewed fruit and liquid through cheesecloth. Reserve the juice. To each 2 cups of juice, add 2 cups sugar. Bring to a rolling boil and either (1) boil until jelly sheets from the spoon or (2) add 1 package powdered pectin and boil hard for 1 minute. Pour into sterilized jars and seal.

To add a delicate rose flavor to cakes, line your cake pans with rose geranium leaves...really nice. Enjoy the Summer!

SOLUTION TO WITCHWORD PUZZLE

1	K	E	2	R	3	F	4	A	5	N		6	R	7	I	8	A	9	L		10	B	11	A	12	T
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14	R	O	M	E				15	M	O	D	R	16	E	D		17	E	O	S						
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55	A			56	A	L			57	S	58	H	I	N		59	Y		60	N	O					
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71	D	E	I					72	O	R	G	I	E	S			73	S	O	L						



THE BLAZING BLUE PENTAGRAM

Lady Ayeisha,
Baltimore .KAM.

*"Morning and evening we hear the charlatans cry...
Come buy our rip-off wares! Come buy! Come buy!
They sell ill-gotten rituals, misunderstood versions,
Patriarchal parodies and sexual perversions,
Ensorcelments, hexes, strange powers on tape!
Their purses grow fat as our religion cries RAPE!"*

In other religions if a Priest/ess commits or encourages the commission of an outrageous crime against society, that Priest/ess is subject to the legal penalty agreed upon by that society and is prosecuted individually while the associated church, temple, etc., remains relatively unscathed in the public eye. Such is NOT the case with Wiccan/Pagan religions. If but one of our people commits or encourages a social crime, we are ALL subject to the pyre!

In other religions a Priest/ess who has committed an outrageous crime against society is subject to "social" law and is given separate religious trial and subsequently found guilty or innocent. The resultant procedures are usually absolution, counseling or banishment of that individual from/by the particular religious group. Such is the case in all the legitimate Wiccan/Pagan traditions.

In other religions a Priest/ess who has committed or encouraged the commission of an outrageous crime against society does not willfully involve their religious group nor expose their spiritual kin to the unhappy consequences of their individual mistake. Such is also the case in all the legitimate Wiccan/Pagan traditions.

In other religions when members of the Council of Elders disagree, they do not physically attack their opponent. This has also been the case in every legitimate Wiccan/Pagan Council I have had the pleasure to be included in.

In other religions individuals wishing to claim membership or adeptship in a religion are required to undertake the study of and gain at least a basic level of proficiency in the philosophy of said religion. Prospective members are also required to undergo some type of spiritual alignment/initiation at which time the prospective members commit themselves to try to live the tenets/laws/philosophies of said religion. Such is also the case in legitimate Wiccan/Pagan traditions.

In some religions, spirituality is a commodity, to be bought and sold in the common market. Health, happiness, love and prosperity are sold to the highest bidder. Such is NOT the case within

legitimate Wiccan/Pagan religions. One may ask for reimbursement for the cost of a candle, but how does one assess the price of a healing? How much can one charge for a loving relationship? Can spiritual growth be translated into dollars and cents?

In other religions one does not pick up the Bible, Koran, or other Holy Book and proclaim oneself to be a Pope, Tibetan Llama, etc. Because the public remains largely uneducated; because the Wiccan/Pagan community through its nonprotest allows charlatans to pass themselves off in the public eye as valid, such threatens to become the case within Wiccan/Pagan traditions.

In other religions the Priest/esses are secluded and protected from the rest of society. They are supported financially by their religious community and are not subject to the daily realities of life that the rest of us have to face. Within the Wiccan/Pagan traditions the Priest/esses are required to financially support themselves independently of their religion thus allowing them the opportunity to better understand the problems that face their people and better counsel them.

Witchcraft and Paganism have, since the dawn of our remembrance been apostolic traditions. Initiated teachers have taught and initiated teachers who, in turn, initiate. This has been our way, our tradition. The old ones are venerated for their contributions and teachings, but each new teacher must find her/his own path of growth; each new initiate embraces a religion of freedom which demands/allows equality - God/esshood.

We are apostolic but not avatar-bound. Our religions are spontaneous; we are all of the Priest/esshood. Since when has Craft/Paganism been a herd of cattle ruled by some "Grand Poobah" who demands tribute in gold?!?! WHY are some individuals demanding that we take "vows of poverty"? WHERE is this money going?!?! "We're so poor", they cry, as they board the airplanes to attend their conventions in far-off Hilton Hotels! Has the God Pan been hiding in the Sheraton Hotel all these years?!

I am sick and tired of people being taken in by "defense funds" in which religion is clearly being used as a cover up/excuse for actions of particular people! WHY are we dragging our religion into murder and rape? Are murder and rape part of our religion? NO! So then WHY do we pay money into defense funds for people who have murdered - raped - prostituted miners - and otherwise violated the tenets of our religion?!?! What ever happened to "An it harm none, do what thou wilt"? It is one thing to work for spiritual enlightenment for these people but quite another to drag our religion through the courts thus bringing the Craft into contact with the "law of the land".

In many cases, these people are not being prosecuted because of Craft but because SOMEONE IS DEAD - RAPED - OR BEATEN!!! It is

at this point they cry - "Craft!" "Persecution!" - AFTER the fact of the crime!!!

WHY are we supporting festivals which charge outrageous sums of money for very little knowledge and rip-off the public under the guise of Wiccan/Pagan traditions? Whenever we attend or support financially one of these affairs, we lend our credibility to these charlatans. How is it that some of our people are able to organize large and small gatherings of Wiccans and Pagans which both educate the public and bring together many traditions and do it without charging outlandish sums while others put on festivals at the drop of a hat which are outrageously expensive and offer very little in return?

WHY do we tolerate "public personalities" from the "conveniently dead traditions" who address the public through the media, i.e., radio, TV, newspapers, and through lack of knowledge, greed, or personal ego fulfillment misinform the public and endanger our religious freedom? It is to their words that the public at large respond! It is from their imagery that the public forms their opinion of our religion! If we, without protest, allow these individuals to appear in our home towns, then we suffer the consequences!

WHY do valid Wiccans/Pagans allow their presentations of their religion to be shaped by the media? All too often, in our honest endeavors to inform the public we are manipulated by the media into appearing during times of the year which already have heavy public bias associated with them so that our efforts go for naught? Why not speak or appear at Midsummer instead of sharing the stage with the desecrated graves and sacrificial virgins on the altar which the public associates with All Hallows?!!!

WHY aren't we demanding control over what appears in newspapers and magazines? Every other legitimate religion demands and gets that control! It can be had!!!

*"Morning and evening we hear the charlatons cry...
Where would they peddle their rip-off wares,
If we refused to buy?"*

NEVER AGAIN THE BURNING!



NEVER AGAIN THE BURNING

Lady Seshat
Sothistar

A bill is being presented in New Hampshire to have a copy of the Ten Commandments hung in every school room in the state, because they have become "the accepted moral code of the Western World". Not so long ago, Anita Bryant campaigned against gays because their way of life was, in her religious beliefs, immoral. The City of Plano, Texas, outlawed all aspects of the occult about three years ago.

"Pagan" and "Witch" have become synonymous with "Satanist". "Cult" conjures up images of the People's Temple and the Moonies. De-programmers are making a fortune.

Not only am I tired of it, but it is beginning to scare me a little. I can feel the flames licking at my feet. Paranoia? Perhaps, but I have come to feel that it is important---no, it is vital that the Pagan world become united in spirit. I do not mean that there should be one Pagan tradition, but that we should work together for a common goal---freedom to worship as we choose.

By constitutional law, we have that, theoretically. In actuality, we do not. In order for our handfastings to be legal, we must be "ordained" as "ministers". To have legal standing, we must incorporate as "churches". In other words, we must masquerade as Christians. Freedom of religion really means freedom to be Christian or Jewish.

Changing that should be a long-range goal. However, there is one present obstacle that we can overcome now---2,000 years of bad publicity.

We must change our public image. This can be done, but it will be slow work---a long journey of small steps. If we can work together, we can accomplish it.

The following are my suggestions for attaining our goal, in small ways that suit our beliefs and our way of life:

1. Live the tenets of our beliefs every moment. Conduct yourself in such a manner that when and if you should disclose your religion to someone who knows you, they will have to reconsider their ideas about Pagans.
2. Work on the development of your circles. Each of us should work, as a group and individually, to build a strong, loving, living circle. Work on your relationships within the circle. "They" expect us to be a bunch of Satanists, celebrating evil and death. Let us disappoint them. Let us build groups whose work and whose members shine with love and light.

3. Allow others their own paths. I know they don't want to allow us ours, but that's their problem. Tolerance of other ways is one of our beliefs. Let's live up to that, both in reference to non-Pagans and other Pagans. How can we expect tolerance from outsiders if we don't show it for them and, as importantly, for each other?

4. Vote! Know what's going on in your community and your state. Keep an eye out for laws, bills, etc., which might be used against us, or against other religions. In the current panic about "cults" laws might be passed which could do us harm. I personally worry about the "mind-control" cults, but laws against them could harm us.

5. Don't sit and stew when a book, article or TV show portrays us in an incorrect manner. Bitch about it. Point out to those responsible that portraying Pagans as evil and barbaric is like portraying all Jews as cheap. We deserve the same respect as any other religion.

6. Open communications with other circles. Develop friends in other traditions. This can accomplish much. Sharing ideas can keep us from stagnating. We can help each other if the need arise. It can help us to form a bond between the wonderfully varied facets of Paganism. The necessity for isolationism is past. The necessity for communication is great.

7. Become known as a force for good. Each group and each member should spend some time helping others, in whatever way they deem best. While I'm sure we all do that magically, I'm speaking here of help of an earthly, visible type. They refuse to give us credit for the other, so that won't really help our image. (Our Karma, maybe, but not our image.)

8. From time to time, invite non-Pagans to share your rituals. This more than anything will show them what Paganism is all about.

9. For those of you with special talents, work on their development. The more we are able to demonstrate our powers, the less we will be viewed as "fakes" and "weirdos", or even "crazy". Science is beginning to accept telepathy, auras, etc. Let's help them out.

10. Be prepared to defend yourselves. We would all prefer not to have to, but there are those who would harm us, and it might, sadly, be necessary. A group should be capable of effectively defending themselves. We have the right to invoke the Rule of Three.

11. If we all begin using some or all of these methods, we can take some giant steps toward true religious freedom. We of Sothistar invite all Pagans to join us in this work. Let us work together, cheer each other, and help each other. Let us grow as the trees in the forest; strong and beautiful alone, but with our roots in the same earth, and reaching for the same bright sky.

Blessed Be.

KAM AWARDS



THE SHINING SILVER PENTAGRAM AWARD:

To all those Wiccans and Pagans from various traditions who combined the knowledge of each of their very special traditions in order to heal, uplift and sustain the Lady Alexandria when she underwent major surgery. We thank them not only for their magicks, but also for the many pints of blood donated anonymously in her name. Lady Alexandria handled the surgery much better than was anticipated by her doctors and is recuperating wonderfully.

AN HONORABLE MENTION PENTAGRAM:

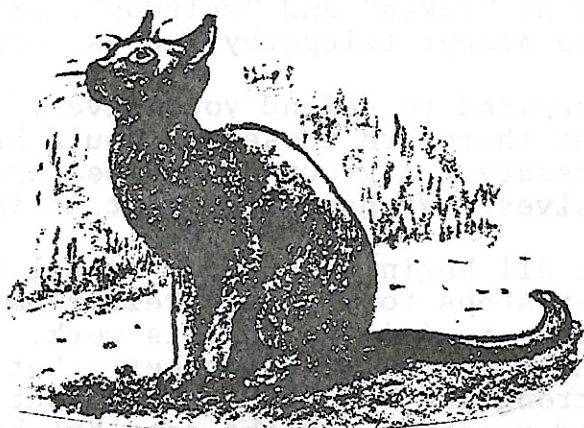
To Andras Corban for the wonderful job he did in organizing the Massachusetts Rites of Spring Festival. Having undertaken similar experiences we can appreciate the many organizational difficulties and frustrations that went into such an endeavor. The gathering's great success can be attributed to Andras' hard work.

THE RABID BAT AWARD:



To all those turkeys who masquerade as Wiccans and Pagans planning, organizing and implementing "Mickey Mouse" circuses at outlandish fees.

And a second award goes to all those Wiccans and Pagans who are foolish enough to support them. With your continued support we can only anticipate bigger and better fiascos. Get ready, Donald Duck!...With Porky Pig's assistance, your big day may be next year!



COVENSTEADS



, KAM ,

Baltimore ,KAM ,

Lady Aysisha conducts ongoing Pagan classes which explore basic philosophies, rituals and practices of Ancient Mystery Religions. Esbats and Sabbats are marked with joyous celebrations and simple magicks. There are also classes in progress open to advanced students of the Art.

All who love and seek knowledge of the Old Ways are welcome. For further information write: Lady Ayeisha, ,KAM , , P.O. Box 34464, Bethesda, Maryland 20034.

Nea Elefsis

The Coven of Nea Elefsis is dedicated to the tenets and practices of the Old Religion with emphasis on the worship of the Old Gods and life lived in harmony with Nature. Those wishing more information may write to: Lady Antigone, Nea Elefsis, P.O. Box 34464, Bethesda, Maryland 20034.

The following ,KAM , covens are accepting new students and further information may be had by writing:

The Crescent Coven
c/o Jayne Alcott
1031 Rue Ste Anne
New Orleans, Louisiana 70116

Lady Angelique
(Egyptian oriented)
271 Red Clay Road, #202
Laurel, Maryland 20810

James T. Darwin, Jr.
P. O. Box 58024
Houston, Texas 77058

TRADITIONAL - Foxmoore

On the doorstep of our Capital City - We welcome communication from any who would be friends or who are seeking knowledge. Write: Foxmoore, Lady Alexandria, P.O. Box 9165, Suitland, Maryland 20023.

CELTIC - Silver Wheel Coven

The Silver Wheel Coven is a working coven specializing in training the Initiate for the higher degrees. Those interested in the Path of Wicca with a strong Celtic bias may apply for affiliation. Write to: Lady Rhiannon and Gwydion, P.O. Box 326, Skippack, Pennsylvania 19479.

GARDNERIAN - Star Tribe

We are a Washington/Virginia coven practicing elemental, Nature magick. We follow the way of self-knowledge through knowledge and experience of the Old Gods, in festival format. We stress growth on the spiritual, emotional, mental and physical levels. Anyone interested in knowing us may write: Lady Kestral, Central Station, P.O. Box 28175, Washington, D.C. 20002.

ISIAN - Sothistar

We are a coven of the Craft, worshipping in the ancient ways, while incorporating both ancient and modern techniques in our quest for spiritual growth. Write: Lady Seshat, 12018 Saticoy, North Hollywood, California 91605.

PAGAN WAY

Pagan Way offers classes in Goddess oriented Nature mysticism with special emphasis on the Seasonal Round. Those interested in learning more about the "Old Time Religion" may contact: Pagan Way, P.O. Box 326, Skippack, Pennsylvania 19479.

PAGAN STUDY GROUPS

Northern New Jersey Pagan Study Center and active Gardnerian coven. Write: Sarna Sven Dsen, 149 Pennington Avenue, Passaic Park, New Jersey 07055.

Order of Middle Earth, an affiliated group of Circle, has begun a magickal Pagan Study Group. Write: Order of Middle Earth, Box 33367, North Royalton, Ohio 44133.

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