

DISCERNING MINDS

Premiere Metaphysical Quarterly For The Abstract Enthusiast

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

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What's Your Perspective?



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What's Your Perspective?

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

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MIND TEAM

→ TAKING AIM ←

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

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

Content sections are:

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

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

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

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

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Sacred Sciences – Metaphysical, Mastership, Astrology, Cosmobiology, channeling, Numerology, Palmistry, Runes, prophecy, pendulum, crystals, animal totems, OBE, Qabalah, Tarot, quantum, psychism, codes and cyphers, conspiracy theories, meta-history, alternative paths.

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

Odd-vant Guard – Atypical, curious, paradox, eccentric or uncanny chronicles, yarns cartoons. Quirk ology. Opinions.



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The Human Condition

Life is an experimental journey undertaken involuntarily. It is a journey of the spirit through the material world and, since it is the spirit that travels, it is the spirit that is experienced. That is why there exist contemplative souls who have lived more intensely, more widely, more tumultuously than others who have lived their lives purely externally.



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The Human Animal

By Jane Mayhall

Opinion by Ali 'Zephyr' Nizen

My favorite poet of all time is Jane Mayhall (Katz) (5-10-1918 – 3-17-2009). She didn't receive attention until later in life and her early writings were compiled in books. My favorite poem of hers is *The Human Animal* which she wrote at age 15. I not only relate to but feel it is a reflection of my life as I continue to work and grow and probably yours too if you are honest. And yes, "the worse I am, the better I do."



*To make me do the thing I will, I won't.
Facing front, its back I turn
to scorn the right intent.*

*The worse I am, the better do. Against
my own impulse I plot; and overthrown
rise up to govern all I have undone.*

*To live my life, I've lost it. Or reversed,
the greatest loss was living most;
the best I did was least.*

*By counter causes, grown then capable,
I've come to some short pass. And passing still
go on to learn what's gone, and what I will.*



Why should I give up REVENGE? ON BEHALF OF WHAT? MORAL PRINCIPLES? AND WHAT OF THE HIGHER ORDER OF THINGS, IN WHICH EVIL DEEDS ARE PUNISHED? FOR YOU, A PHILOSOPHER AND ETHICIST, AN ACT OF REVENGE IS BAD, DISGRACEFUL, UNETHICAL AND ILLEGAL. BUT I ASK: WHERE IS THE PUNISHMENT FOR EVIL? WHO HAS IT AND GRANTS ACCESS? THE GODS, IN WHICH YOU DO NOT BELIEVE? THE GREAT DEMIURGE-CREATOR, WHICH YOU DECIDED TO REPLACE THE GODS WITH? OR MAYBE THE LAW? I KNOW WHAT EVIL IS AFRAID OF. NOT YOUR ETHICS, NOT YOUR PREACHING OR MORAL TREATIES ON THE LIFE OF DIGNITY. EVIL IS AFRAID OF PAIN, MUTILATION, SUFFERING AND AT THE END OF THE DAY, DEATH!

THE DOG HOWLS WHEN IT IS BADLY WOUNDED! WRITHING ON THE GROUND AND GROWLS, WATCHING THE BLOOD FLOW FROM ITS VEINS AND ARTERIES, SEEING THE BONE THAT STICKS OUT FROM A STUMP, WATCHING ITS GUTS ESCAPE ITS OPEN BELLY, FEELING THE COLD AS DEATH IS ABOUT TO TAKE THEM. THEN AND ONLY THEN WILL EVIL BEGIN TO BEG, 'HAVE MERCY! I REGRET MY SINS! I'LL BE GOOD, I SWEAR! JUST SAVE ME, DO NOT LET ME WASTE AWAY!' YES, HERMIT. THAT IS THE WAY TO FIGHT EVIL! WHEN EVIL WANTS TO HARM YOU, INFLICT PAIN - ANTICIPATE THEM, IT'S BEST IF EVIL DOES NOT EXPECT IT. BUT IF YOU FAIL TO PREVENT EVIL, IF YOU HAVE BEEN HURT BY EVIL, THEN AVENGE HIM! IT IS BEST WHEN THEY HAVE ALREADY FORGOTTEN, WHEN THEY FEEL SAFE. THEN PAY THEM IN DOUBLE. IN TRIPLE. AN EYE FOR AN EYE? NO! BOTH EYES FOR AN EYE! A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH? NO! ALL THEIR TEETH FOR A TOOTH!

REPAY EVIL! MAKE IT WAIL IN PAIN, HOWLING UNTIL THEIR EYES POP FROM THEIR SOCKETS. AND THEN, YOU CAN LOOK UNDER YOUR FEET AND BOLDLY DECLARE THAT WHAT IS THERE CANNOT ENDANGER ANYONE, CANNOT HURT ANYONE. HOW CAN SOMEONE BE A DANGER, WHEN THEY HAVE NO EYES? HOW CAN SOMEONE HURT WHEN THEY HAVE NO HANDS? THEY CAN ONLY WAIT UNTIL THEY BLEED TO DEATH.

The Ghost Twin

By Lydia Morrisey

Several years ago I met an elderly woman named Maddie who was a womb twin survivor. As a paranormal investigator she agreed to talk to me not about her twin death trauma but about the ghost of her sister which made her case a tad different than most.

According to sources on the subject this is a person who had a twin that died in the womb, was stillborn, miscarried, or aborted. In general people in this circumstance spend their lives in an ongoing relationship with the dead twin. They also suffer from the same psychological effects during their lifetime –

- Have a feeling that all their life something has been missing
- Fear rejection
- Feel they are not realizing their true potential
- Feel different from other people
- Have been searching for something all their life but do not know what it is
- Feel deep down they are alone, even when among friends
- Have a fear of abandonment
- Have a problem with anger; too much or too little
- Always feel in some way unsatisfied, but not knowing why
- Feel there are two very different sides to their character
- Have a preoccupation with death

A famous example of this is Elvis Presley. Many people believe that his twin Jesse Garon who was born before Elvis and died.



Some believe that Jesse was a restless spirit who haunted all of Elvis's relationships. It has been widely stated that Elvis suffered guilt over the death of his twin. His mother Gladys often said that it was like "Elvis was living for two people." It is also widely believed that Jesse was the driving force of Elvis's life. People also believed that the reason Elvis tended towards shyness was because of guilt over Jesse's death even though he was not responsible.

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According to author Vernon Chadwick, “We do know that twins who lose their partner, often suffer many problems and disorders later in life. The subject of Elvis’ twin can help us understand both the great power that Elvis had to connect with an audience as if he were reaching out to connect with his absent brother, as well as the emptiness of the so-called “black hole” which single twins often experience. Relatives and friends of Elvis in Tupelo have stated that Elvis felt guilty about the death of his twin brother, Jesse Garon. It’s very likely his guilt played a role in Elvis’ later dysfunctional behavior.” *

Most of this is also true about Maddie with one exception – she can see her twin at times in spirit form and converse with her. Like Jesse Garon, the ghost twin whose name would have been Morgan, was born before Maddie and had died. She claims Maddie is her life coach and never gives her bad advice. She feels Maddie protects her and has actually given her warnings that had saved her life in some circumstances. With Morgan’s help Maddie was able to avoid most of the inherent guilt and other behaviors that are associated with Womb Twin survivorship. She believes that if she had never been subject to Morgan’s visits her life could have been quite different.

At one point in Maddie’s life, her parents became aware of these conversations between Maddie and Morgan but after analysis they could not find any psychological problem with Maddie that would require treatment and wrote it off as harmless. As Maddie grew older and gained more confidence the conversations with Morgan lessened and Morgan would tell her that Maddie no longer needed her counsel and that she would slowly pull away. Maddie accepted it all very well knowing that if she should ever need Maddie all she would have to do was call her. Morgan was known to appear to Maddie on special occasions in Maddie’s life that marked milestones such as her graduation from college, marriage and the birth of each of Maddie’s five children and of course all of her birthdays. Maddie is convinced that when she dies it will be Morgan who will come to cross her over.

* <https://www.thethings.com/>



Paranormal Psychology

By Olivia Constantino Anastos

Did you ever notice that when scientific explanations are not available that people often turn to the Paranormal? Maybe it's because the Paranormal simply accepts that there are more phenomena than we can actually explain with scientific knowledge.

It has been my experience that paranormal researchers draw on both psychology and sociology to understand what cannot be explained otherwise. They can also differentiate between those who believe an incident can be a supernatural event and those who think the whole thing is fantasy conjured by imagination. You may not know this but, investigators who are worth their salt will often run psychological evaluation during pre-investigative interviews to determine whether the participants are of sound mind.

So what is Paranormal Psychology? Basically it refers to anything that is not explainable with current scientific methods and trends. When you think about the goal of science, it is based on the premise of making the world a better place. Psychology works to help humans fit in with world changes. Paranormal Psychology is actually a discipline rooted in science and operates to explain the world better thus its effect on us.

Cultural beliefs are always considered as these change over time. People often believe according to how they think something should go. This is often tied to traditions and past history. A curse is a good example. Curses often run in families and are believed to be part of the family history. Another more common issue is observance. This takes a good deal of sussing out and collecting of commonalities to draw an event baseline.

Two people witnessing the same event can see it differently. This is because of the brain that functions in such a way to make sense of something and make it logical enough for acceptance.

Some paranormal experiences are easily explainable, based on faulty activity in the brain. Reports of poltergeists invisibly moving objects seem to be consistent with damage to certain regions of the right hemisphere that are responsible for visual processing certain forms of epilepsy. Meanwhile, this can

This can cause the spooky feeling that a presence is stalking close by—perhaps underlying accounts of faceless “shadow people” lurking in the surroundings. Out-of-body experiences, meanwhile, are now accepted neurological phenomena, while certain visual illusions could confound the healthy brain and create mythical beings. ¹

Of course fields of endeavor often cross.

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Those researchers (mostly military) concluded that some people were psychic and could read people's minds or do other astonishing mental feats. So what was missing? The human factor. Psychologists began to debunk findings about psychics by using the scientific method to eliminate contamination. This devotion to science and data transparency became widely held by paranormal researchers and academic journals for paranormal psychology. Those who conduct research about paranormal phenomena typically take pains to provide error-free data because they often have additional skepticism to overcome about their findings.

What about all those things that go bump in the night – death and afterlife, superstitions and the wide range of monsters, apparitions and inter-dimensionals? Taking yet another practical view:

The broad topic of the afterlife is influenced by how people experience grief and cope with loss. Associated paranormal phenomena, such as séances, are also heavily influenced by the mental schemas that people bring into those situations. Early instances of séances played on people's senses employed by deceptive mediums. Regarding alien abduction experiences, the scientific consensus is that they typically can be explained by a combination of societal expectations and scripts for what an alien abduction should be like. They also correspond to the medical condition of sleep paralysis. Some people are more likely to believe in paranormal phenomena based on their personalities and life experiences. Fantasy proneness is the propensity to believe in things without objective proof. Childhood trauma is a major predictor of fantasy proneness because trauma survivors are more likely to use the adaptive coping mechanism of dissociation. Research shows that people who believe in paranormal phenomena and conspiracy theories tend to score higher on measures of fantasy proneness than those who disbelieve in paranormal events.²

Does all of this explain everything paranormal away? Therein lies the rub. It does not. Technology - recordings and filming can show an event and also the participants reacting to it. It's up front and in your face data. A *REAL* paranormal investigation requires a lot of hard work and expertise and documentation. Kudos to those who engage it.

Italicized resource passages:

¹ <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20141030-the-truth-about-the-paranormal>

² <https://www.hoganassessments.com>



Today is a new day and it brings with it a new set of opportunities for me to act on.

I am attentive to the opportunities and I seize them as they arise.

I have full confidence in myself and my abilities.

I can do all things that I commit myself to.

No obstacle is too big or too difficult for me to handle because what lies inside me is greater than what lies ahead of me.

I am committed to improving myself and I am getting better daily.

I am not held back by regret or mistakes from the past.

I am moving forward daily.

Absolutely nothing is impossible for me



AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES



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THE HUMAN CONDITION

Jane Mayhall (*The Human Animal*, pg. 2)

Jane Mayhall Katz (May 10, 1918 – March 17, 2009) was an American poet whose writing first received attention later in life, and was influenced by her transition from her youth in Kentucky to the hustle and bustle of life in New York City and her grief over the death of her husband. Her poems and other works had been published over the years in many publications, including *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*. *The Human Animal* was written circa 1933.

Andrzej Sapkowski QUOTE (*Revenge*, pg. 3)

Andrzej Sapkowski, born June 21, 1948 in Łódź, is a Polish fantasy and science fiction writer. Sapkowski studied economics, and before turning to writing, he had worked as a senior sales representative for a foreign trade company. His first short story, *The Witcher (Wiedźmin)*, was published in *Fantastyka*, Poland's leading fantasy literary magazine, in 1986 and was enormously successful both with readers and critics. Sapkowski's books have been translated into Czech, Russian, Lithuanian, German, Spanish, French, Ukrainian, and Portuguese. Quote was found on Goodreads.com.

Lydia Morrisey (*The Ghost Twin*, pg. 4)

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

Olivia Constantino Anastos P.I. (*Paranormal Psychology*, pg. 5)

Olivia considers herself a paranormal investigator in “training.” She is a research assistant to her older brother Philip (a Paranormal Investigator with 20 years’ experience) and joins him in his onsite investigations. Olivia has an MS degree in literature and hopes to one day write a book based on her experiences. She works part time in a law firm and as a hostess and says people would be surprised how many personal supernatural tales clients reveal. She makes notes of course.

Idowu Koyenikan QUOTE (*Today*, pg. 8)

As a Forbes magazine featured thought leader, Idowu has been listed alongside noble prize winners and cultural icons. As an internationally recognized consultant, Idowu helps individuals and organizations break through to new levels. He has been featured in media outlets such as the Harvard Business Review, Yahoo, Forbes, USA Today, ABC, Chicago Tribune, BBC, Huffington Post, NASDAQ, Boston Globe and many more. As a highly quoted author, some of his quotes have been translated into multiple languages. Quote was found on Goodreads.com

A Matter of Spirit

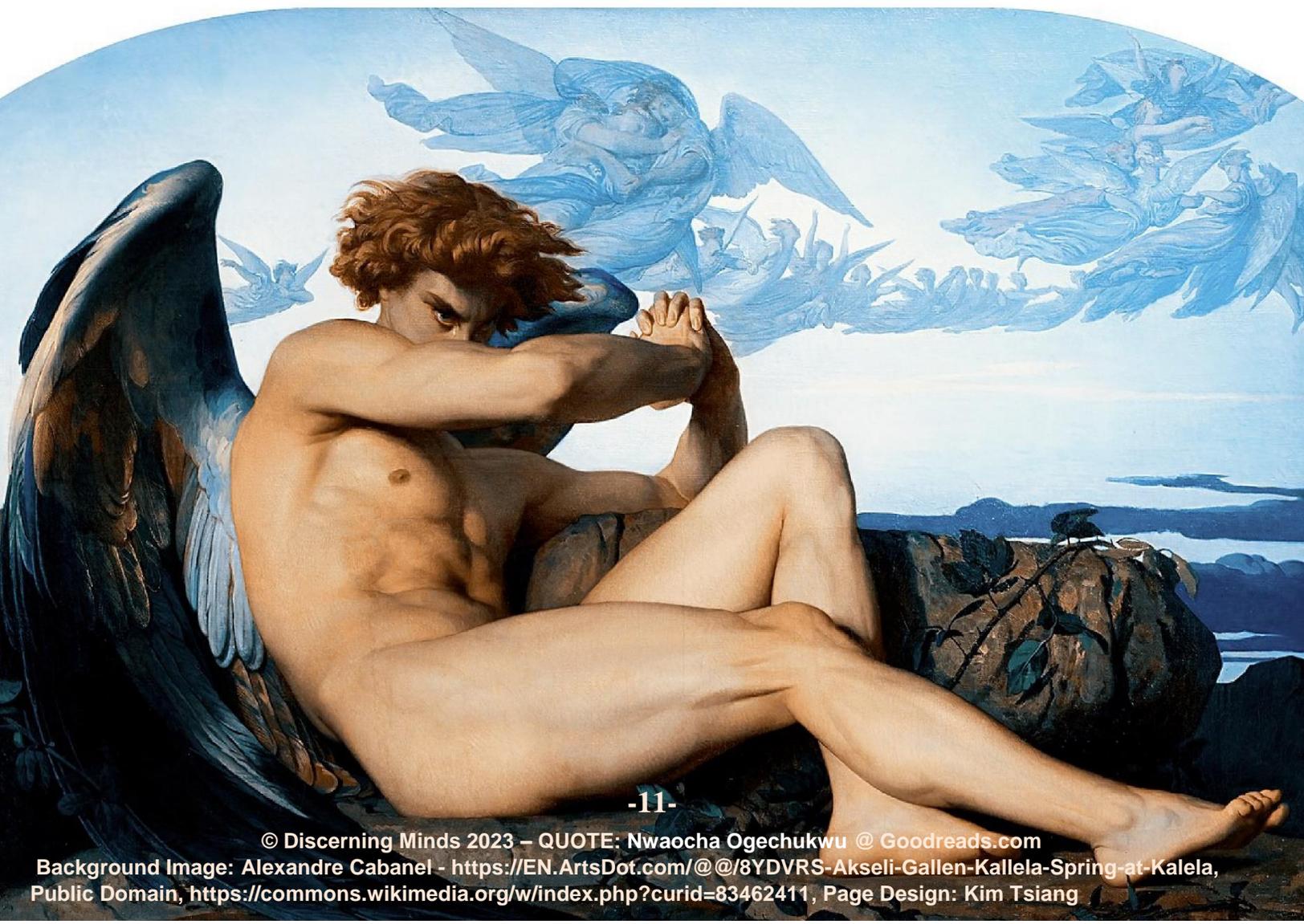
Giants are not what we think they are. The same qualities that appear to give them strength are often the sources of great weakness.

You can't concentrate on doing anything if you are thinking, "What's gonna happen if it doesn't go right?"

Section Managing Editor – John “Salaam” Solis

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No matter how an individual views Satan, whether they believe that he is a real character or that he is just the product of literary scholars and imaginations, no one can deny that each one of us has an aspect of the devil within us. By studying the character and nature of Satan, we learn about ourselves; and the more we know about ourselves, the better we can fight our own personal demons—metaphorical or otherwise—in order to create a better tomorrow.



Sacred Breath

By Jurgens Pieterse

Breathe. Be still. Listen. Become aware.

Breath is sacred. Breath is a source of life. Treasure it at least once a day with sincere gratitude, for it is a precious gift from the Divine.

Nurtured lovingly by the soul, universal life flows with each breath to invigorate the body and bring healing to both mind and body. Should we not sing the song of praise to express the value of breath? Won't we honor the Creator and Master within by standing still to observe the breath in each phase of inhaling and exhaling?

My breath this morning, each day, is a prayer to honor the sacredness of the life-affirming impulse of my breath. I breathe in worship of my eternal nature and to honor my existence and purpose in this world. As long as I have breath, I live and celebrate both existence and purpose.

I aim to remember to move beyond the physical breath into the breath of eternal existence. In breath, I nurture an appreciation of beauty and celebrate the delicate harmony and balance within my body.

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COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT HEAVEN AND HELL

By Matt Sharpe

Heaven (n.)

\ 'he-vən\

The place where God lives and where good people go after they die according to some religions.

Old English *heofon* "home of God," earlier "sky, firmament," probably from Proto-Germanic **hibin-*, dissimilated from **himin-* (cognates Low German *heben*, Old Norse *himinn*, Gothic *himins*, Old Frisian *himul*, Dutch *hemel*, German *Himmel* "heaven, sky"), perhaps from a PIE root **kem-* "to cover" (also proposed as the source of *chemise*). [Watkins derives it elaborately from PIE **ak-* "sharp" via **akman-* "stone, sharp stone," then "stony vault of heaven"].

Plural use in sense of "sky" is probably from Ptolemaic theory of space composed of many spheres, but it also formerly was used in the same sense as the singular in Biblical language, as a translation of Hebrew plural *shamayim*. *Heaven-sent* (adj.) attested from 1640s.

Hell (n.)

\ 'hel\

The place where the devil lives and where evil people go after they die according to some religions

Old English *Hel*, *Helle*, "nether world, abode of the dead, infernal regions," from Proto-Germanic **haljo* "the underworld" (cognates: f. Old Frisian *Helle*, Dutch *Hel*, Old Norse *hel*, German *Hölle*, Gothic *halja* "hell") "the underworld," literally "concealed place" (compare Old Norse *hellir* "cave, cavern"), from PIE **kel-* (2) "to cover, conceal" (see *cell*).

The English word may be in part from Old Norse *Hel* (from Proto-Germanic **halija* "one who covers up or hides something"), in Norse mythology the name of Loki's daughter, who rules over the evil dead in *Niflheim*, the lowest of all worlds (*nifl* "mist"). Transfer of a pagan concept and word to a Christian idiom. In Middle English, also of the *Limbus Patrum*, place where the Patriarchs, Prophets, etc. awaited the Atonement. Used in the KJV for Old Testament Hebrew *Sheol* and New Testament Greek *Hades*, *Gehenna*. Used figuratively for "state of misery, any bad experience" since at least late 14c. As an expression of disgust, etc., first recorded 1670s.

Expression *Hell in a handbasket* is attested by 1867, in a context implying use from a few years before, and the notion of going to Heaven in a handbasket is from 1853, with a sense of "easy passage" to the destination. *Hell or high water* (1874) apparently is a variation of between the devil and the deep blue sea.

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To wish someone would *go to hell* is in Shakespeare ("Merchant of Venice"). *Snowball's chance in hell* "no chance" is from 1931; *till hell freezes over* "never" is from 1832. *To ride hell for leather* is from 1889, originally with reference to riding on horseback. *Hell on wheels* is said to be from 1843 in DAS; popularity dates from 1869 in reference to the temporary workers' towns along the U.S. transcontinental railroad and their vices.

From as far back as the time when Shamanic paths were the only sort of spirituality known to man there have been concepts of different worlds, planes or realities, aside from the obvious one that is seen on the Physical Plane through human eyes. Shamans were always trained to contact that which we know as Spirit, and to travel inwardly to gain inner experience and wisdom about medicinal plants that could be used for the health of the tribe, as well as spiritual matters, and as one grew, he was initiated through the various cycles and planes until it was possible for that person to become his tribe's spiritual leader, not only interpreting signs for the benefit of the tribe, but also in guiding them in the world and often through a number of significant challenges. The shaman knew that these challenges caused the spiritual growth of the individuals in the tribe. They generally looked at the world as being in three parts, the highest, what is now considered to be heaven, the middle which is the earth plane, and the underworld, where animal and nature spirits could be consulted for the wisdom that could be had.

Over time the concepts of various areas or planes developed more thoroughly. Native shamanic paths were the root of all spiritual and religious beliefs, regardless of on what continent they were occurring. To them the underworld was not necessarily a dark and scary place, but rather had a reason and purpose within the whole for existing. Over the centuries, as greater degrees of mystic experience were achieved, those that had them would propagate something of an upgrade to the form of spirituality that was prevalent at the time - a greater degree of development and overall understanding of the whole would be brought continually forward for the benefit of mankind.

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The timetable of history has now been provably turned on its head as far as civilizations are concerned. Sumer is no longer the actual cradle of civilization since the discovery of archeological evidence that the city of Jericho has been continually inhabited for at least 10,000 years, beginning with hunter/gatherer peoples. In Turkey the temple of Göbekli Tepe is thought to be the first megalithic temple structure built by mankind. Hunter/gatherer groups date to 11,000 years BCE. Sunken cities off the western coast of India are dated to be at least from 7500 BCE but are thought by some to potentially be 12,000 years old. So any of these cultural centers obviously pushes the date back much further than was previously thought.

Each spiritual tradition around the globe had its own names for heaven and hell, as well as for the Absolute and the lower form that formed a basic duality. In ancient Egypt Aaru (the field of reeds) was heaven, and Duat (or Tuat) was consistent with the idea of an underworld, but never did have any one consistent meaning or interpretation to compare it to Hell. The Soul would be tested before being allowed to enter Aaru to live with the gods, and if it failed the test it would be eaten by Ammit. They had no place where Souls were punished or tortured for eternity. Zoroastrianism is thought to be the first path that specified the possibility of an evil Soul being sent to a place for eternal punishment for its actions, and likewise a good Soul would spent its eternity in a heaven. Both of these early paths had a definite influence upon the Abrahamic faiths that came along later with their individual concepts of Heaven and Hell.

In Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism, hell is named Naraka, and is always a place of an appropriate recompense for the actions performed during a lifetime. In these cases, all of which include both karma and reincarnation, the punishments are never eternal as each Soul would need to be continually reborn until It earns Its freedom from the cycles of Samsara, at which time It may either remain in a perfect realm for eternity, or be reborn as a Saint, Prophet or Master so as to aid other Souls in accomplishing the return to their true home. On the other side of the dichotomy, the heavenly realms in a majority of the Eastern paths are most often split into various planes or levels that also relate to specific states of consciousness as opposed to being just one place or area. Some of the Abrahamic faiths do indeed detail specific and differing areas but none go into as much detail on these as many of the Eastern paths do.

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In Judaism there can be found more than one perception of a Hell. First is Sheol, which is a pit or dark place that all dead go. A later interpretation is a place called Gehinnom, where the Soul basically has any negative "stains" that it acquired during its life on earth laundered to cleanse it before it is admitted to Olam Ha-Ba (the World to come) which is one version of a perceived Heaven. Another is called Gan Eden, which is a Heavenly Garden of Eden where the Soul can continue its existence in a realm of splendor as Adam and Eve did in the beginning. These are generally seen as places where the Soul exists, disembodied, until the time of the coming of the Moshiach when each will be bodily resurrected for the final days. In Kabbalistic tradition can be found many instances of conscious travel out of body to various heavenly realms. Going along with this is the image of the Tree of Life, used in Judaism as well as many branches of later Christianity and Islam. This is a sort of diagram of the planes of existence and there are many dissenting points of view as to how accurate any of them are or are not. This is a form of Yggdrasil, the World Tree, as it was seen by the Norse peoples.

In what was to become Christianity, there were first of all a great many Apocryphal texts, and some of these outline not only various layers of Heaven, but also of Hell. In some are outlined up to fourteen planes which correspond directly to the cosmology of a later Indian path called Sant Mat by Sant Tulsi Sahib, and this is echoed today by Eckankar's plane structure. The Catholic Church obviously had historically the widest influence of spreading the ideas of Heaven and Hell to European and Asian societies. Islam calls Hell Jahannam or Hār. This is much like the Christian concept of hell as a place of eternal torture. Jahannam has seven gates and levels, each being for a different sort of sinner. Islam calls Heaven or Paradise Jannah which in Arabic means "Garden" showing its relation to the Jewish concept of Heaven, as well as an idea that also had a great importance to the Persian mindset as kings had kept gardens for this reason in Persia. This is also directly related to the peoples of Sheba or Saba, which is found on the southernmost shores of the Arab Peninsula in present day Yemen, that were known historically to actually keep two garden paradises in their lands that were fed by irrigation. This was much of the reason that in this dry area of the world the idea of a rich garden equated to a Heavenly Paradise in the minds of the populace.

Sufism, while being considered firmly under the area of Islam was actually begun by Zarathustra's first students and has been carried down through the centuries later using Islam as a camouflage, but with its universal tendencies and interpretations of God's way, is able to rise beyond the fundamentalism that often develops within religions. Much like its other Eastern equivalents, it considers varying planes and states of consciousness at least as far as the first realm that lies outside of duality. In Eckankar this is called the Atma Lok or Soul Plane.

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This enters the concept of Heaven in that this area is the first that can truly be considered Heaven. The other planes that lie below it, while being finer than the physical plane, and therefore often considered a Heaven by many religions, is not beyond duality and because of this contains not only positive places and levels within it, but also those that would be considered as negative, the home to demons or jinn.

From the Astral Plane, up through the Causal Plane, and the Mental and Etheric Planes, are found constant states of dualism, none of which are entirely pure. This means that the form of God that one finds here will often claim to be the Creator, but is not in any way the Godhead. This individual can be considered as Lucifer or Satan, and just as easily as Jehuva, the dual god, the Negative Pole or the Demiurge. This being the case there are also demons that exist on each of these lower planes that act as his agents by trying to overcome the Souls that reach these states of consciousness by endlessly challenging and testing them. This testing is the Negative Pole's purpose, to refine and constantly challenge that Soul's state of awareness in its lower forms.

One that is embodied physically often finds as they progress spiritually, they can often come under attack by these entities. As irritating and uncomfortable as this can often be, it still serves the purpose of developing a true state of love in the individual. It also demonstrates very clearly that there are several levels to the negative entities that we may come across as we progress. When an ECKist is a Second Initiate, they have the initiation of the Astral Plane, so they may find themselves having to learn how to protect against this influence, the same being the case with the Third Initiation, which is of the Causal Plane, or the Fourth Initiation, that of the Mental Plane. Astral negative entities will tend to use the emotions against a person, Causal ones might use memories of unpleasant things that they find will aide them, whereas Mental negative entities can use any number of mental situations or states of potential confusion to cause problems for an initiate, going forward into the Etheric or Sub-conscious Plane, which is included within the Fourth Initiation.

The majority of earthly religions fail to notice that they're addressing a dualistic "God", and so they continue to place importance on rituals that in their opinion, that god demands. For reasons such as this these that are believed to be God exist no higher than the Mental Plane as do their "heavens". As was said before, this sort of god is both what many humans consider erroneously to be their Godhead, and at the same time is the Negative Principle which is nothing more than the Universal Mind.

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Very few spiritual paths make any distinction between the psychic planes in the lower worlds and the purely spiritual planes that exist beyond matter, energy, space and time. This alone causes one of the greatest misunderstandings about death and "heaven". A Soul cannot be free of karma and reincarnation until it has passed beyond the dualistic limits of the lower planes, and this passage must be directly earned by re-balancing their karmic account. Only after moving beyond these things is true sainthood earned, and the first true Heaven realized and experienced. And in this world can be found the True Creator God, the first manifestation of the Godhead, in an area that the lower polarization cannot access, nor can any of its servants whether they be demons or angels. Both exist on the lower planes, but neither have any true access to God, by whatever name. Those entities must first go through the same process of expansion of awareness to develop any ability to rise into the non-dual planes and become Self-Realized, and it is this very detail that proves the actual importance of each physical embodiment. This gives Soul the opportunity to directly bring the rounds of birth, death and rebirth to an end.

One final point that cannot be left unsaid on the subject of the subjective views of Heaven and Hell is this: If one's path does not include steps to accept responsibility for the karma that one has created, in this life and in all past incarnations, then that path or way will be unable to carry Soul beyond the confines of Samsara, or karma and reincarnation. So often when an individual reaches the end of their physical life, that Soul is then able to see more clearly the ills they have thought, spoken and done that prevent them from being able to rise to any higher level. The cry of such Souls is always great, but they have no effect on any of the authorities concerned in these matters. Nor does it matter if one is so thoroughly invested in a path that cannot accomplish what it promises, even if this is not seen to be the case until after it is too late to do anything about it. That Soul will always be sent to re-balance the debt they created by acts of their own free will. It is in this specific area that Dharma becomes of great import, as living a just life, despite the various challenges that may be faced, is the right course of action and will help to prevent being karmically bound to any particular situation in the afterlife. It is literally true that one creates their afterlife just as they create the circumstances of their physical incarnations, that both can be either a "Heaven" or a "Hell", depending on how the individual sees things. And each does indeed have a choice in the matter.

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The Devil Gets His Horns

By 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.

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.

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Further along, when this concept came to Judaism it led to the creation of the Satan (Satan) 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. 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.



Certainly the most destructive vice if you like, that a person can have... More than pride, which is supposedly the number one of the cardinal sins - is self-pity. Self-pity is the worst possible emotion anyone can have. And the most destructive. It is, to slightly paraphrase what Wilde said about hatred, and I think actually hatred's a subset of self-pity and not the other way around - 'It destroys everything around it, except itself'.

Self-pity will destroy relationships, it'll destroy anything that's good, it will fulfill all the prophecies it makes and leave only itself. And it's so simple to imagine that one is hard done by, and that things are unfair, and that one is underappreciated, and that if only one had had a chance at this, only one had had a chance at that, things would have gone better, you would be happier if only this, that one is unlucky. All those things. And some of them may well even be true. But, to pity oneself as a result of them is to do oneself an enormous disservice.



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A MATTER OF SPIRIT

Nwaocha Ogechukwu QUOTE (*Lucifer*, pg. 13) (*The quote is from Goodreads.com*)

Mr. Nwaocha Ogechukwu is a member of the Royal Institute of Philosophy (England), and has won many Awards such as Great Minds of the 21st Century, the International Plato's Award (Cambridge), 2000 Outstanding Intellectuals of the 21st Century, Leading Educator of the World, Intellect of the Year, and is a member of the Great Mind Hall of Fame, etc. by the American Biographical Institute, and International Biographical Center (Cambridge).

Jurgens Pieterse (*Sacred Breath*, pg. 12)

Jurgens Pieterse, of South Africa was initiated on his spiritual path at the age of ten through a thoane (caracal) shamanic ritual. He received his Bachelor degree in Industrial Engineering in 1989 (Master's degree in Industrial Engineering in 1996) and was actively involved in the Dutch Reformed church until that time. In 1993, an obscure book, *Miraculous Management* by Saul Kuchinsky sparked his lifelong interest in the esoteric arts and sciences. He started to study the fourth way teachings of JG Bennett, PD Ouspensky and GI Gurdjieff. He travelled to the United States to meet Saul Kuchinsky and attend a workshop by author Anthony Blake. The meeting inspired him to deepen his study of the enneagram. His continued interest in systems theory led him to study divination systems: Astrology, Tarot, I-Ching, Geomancy and Runes. In 2005 Jurgens became a member of the Rosicrucian Order (AMORC). Jurgens joined the Parliament of South Africa in 2010 as a Management Information Systems manager to assist with the strategic planning of information and communication technology. His highest achievement was winning the IECG's Global Enterprise Architecture Award for "Strategy and planning" in 2013. Jurgens also participated actively in the wellness programs at his workplace, giving yoga and Tai Chi classes to employees. In November 2019, Jurgens was certified as a Rune Grandmaster by Karl Welz. Following Welz's passing in 2021, the leadership of Knights of Runes recommended unanimously that Jurgens should continue the work of the Knights of Runes.

Matt Sharpe (*Common Misconceptions about Heaven and Hell*, pg. 13)

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. He is a lead administrator and teacher on the Light Force Network.

Syd Alruhi (*The Devil gets his Horns*, pg. 19)

"Syd Alruhi" is the pseudonym for Gerome Cass. Gerome considers himself to be the "evolving man." Psychic experiences and out of body travel have been a part of his entire life. Gerome holds a Ph.D. in both psychology and physics which he describes as the red and blue pills and part of the Matrix construct and the thought controlled process. He also feels that people care too much about what others think and that it creates a spiritual block to attainment.

Stephen Fry QUOTE (*Self-Pity*, pg. 21) (*The quote is from Goodreads.com*)

Stephen John Fry is an English actor, broadcaster, comedian, director, narrator and writer. He first came to prominence as one half of the comic double act [Fry and Laurie](#), alongside [Hugh Laurie](#). Since 2011, he has served as president of the mental health charity MIND.

THE BODY TEMPLE

Every information you allow into your mind is molding you into something and making you into something.



No information is innocent. A regenerated spirit needs a healthy mind to thrive.

Section Managing Editor – Lynda Lidel Harley

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QUOTE: Kingsley Opuwari Manuel @ Goodreads.com, Cover Design: Kim Tsiang

How "magical charms" work for healing:

It is Divine Love that heals and cures. But many people have difficulty accessing the full power of Divine Love. So magical charms can act as a permission slip to let Love and faith in, to do the healing.

Ignorant people in their blind faith would accept a piece of wood or stone as their Savior or Divinity in the external creation, for which their heart's natural love will develop till by its energetic tendency it will relieve them of all exciting causes, cool their system down to a normal state, and invigorate their vital powers.

The adepts, on the other hand, having full control over the whole material world, find their Divinity and Savior in Self and not outside in the external world



ACV Tea and then some –

By Wisewoman

Apple cider vinegar (ACV) and honey are two amazing natural substances. When you consume them in their unprocessed, raw forms, the health benefits abound. If you put the two together, the results become even more positive. **As with all homemade remedies, always consult with your doctor to make sure it is safe for you to consume especially if you have specific medical conditions or take medications.**

The basic recipe requires:

- 1 teaspoon raw honey
- 1 teaspoon up to 1 tablespoon ACV
- 8 oz. warm water (1 glass)

Mine started out this way but it quickly grew as there were a few other medical issues I was addressing. I added turmeric, pepper and then cinnamon and cardamom and grated ginger. I always strain the tea to remove heavy particles or chunks. I find it quite tasty and you can experiment within reason of course.

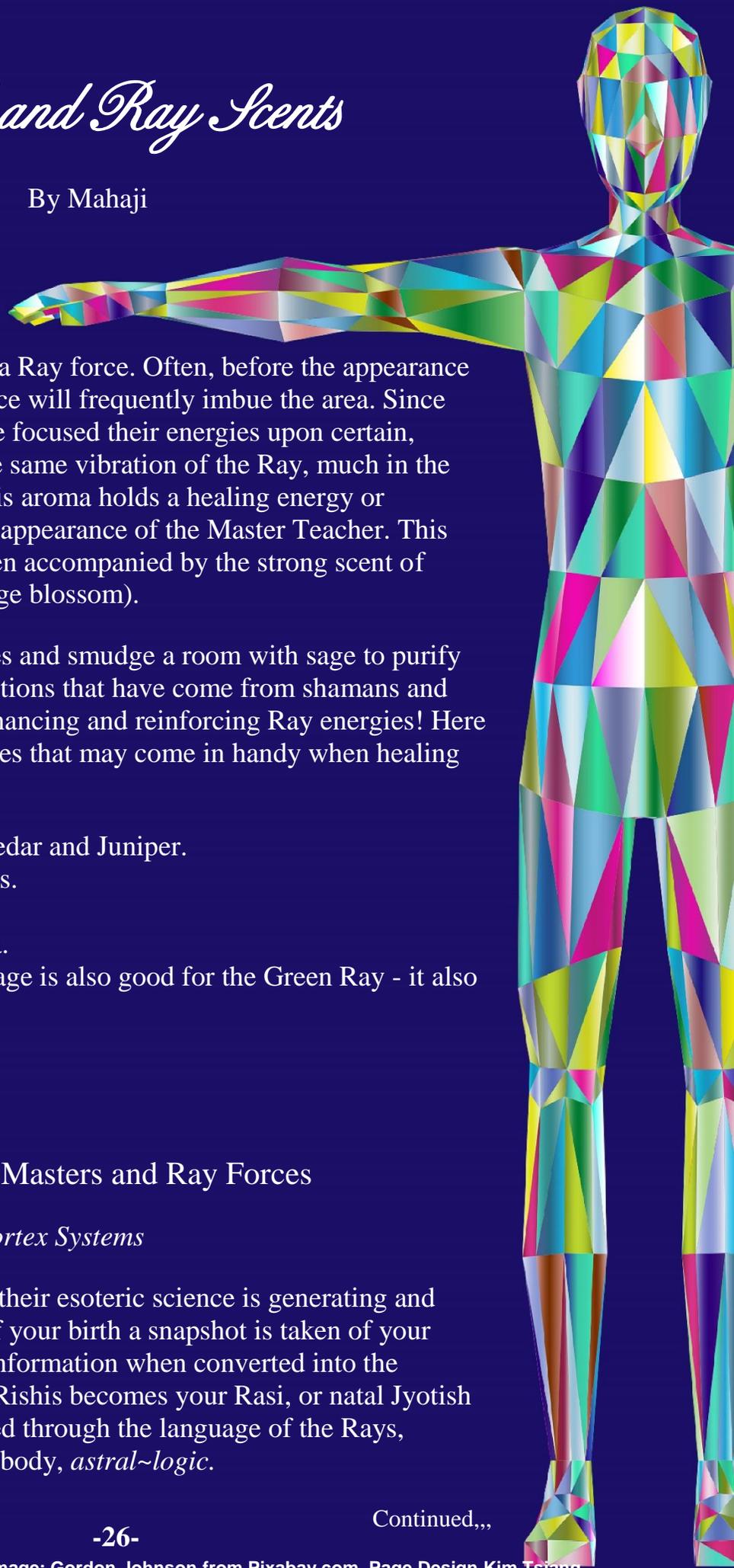
Raw honey and ACV are both praised for their abilities to ward off infections and treat different conditions that have an impact on your quality of life. If you consume them together, you're likely to experience the following benefits:

- Better joint health and joint pain alleviation (good for arthritic pain)
- Acid reflux and heartburn relief
- Improved digestive health, including help with constipation
- Weight loss
- Reduced cholesterol levels and lower blood pressure
- Sore throat relief
- More energy
- Youthful appearance and better condition of the skin
- Remedy for bad breath
- Reducing inflammation

Enjoy your tea!

Health and Ray Scents

By Mahaji



Certain scents also contain the essence of a Ray force. Often, before the appearance of an Ascended Being or Angel, a fragrance will frequently imbue the area. Since these highly evolved, spiritual beings have focused their energies upon certain, specific Ray energies, the scent carries the same vibration of the Ray, much in the same way as light or sound. Very often this aroma holds a healing energy or heightens the energies in the room for the appearance of the Master Teacher. This explains appearances of Mother Mary often accompanied by the strong scent of roses, or Kuan Yin's scent of neroli, (orange blossom).

Today it is popular to burn certain incenses and smudge a room with sage to purify the energies prior to a healing. These traditions that have come from shamans and different religious ceremonies are also enhancing and reinforcing Ray energies! Here are some aromas associated with Ray forces that may come in handy when healing the chakras.

Blue Ray: Myrrh, Frankincense, Cedar and Juniper.

Yellow Ray: Sandalwood and Lotus.

Pink Ray: Jasmine and Gardenia.

White Ray: Rose and Nag Champa.

Green Ray: Mint, Wintergreen. (Sage is also good for the Green Ray - it also vibrates to the Gold (Sun) Ray.)

Ruby Ray: Musk and Camphor.

Gold Ray: Ginger and Cinnamon.

Violet Ray: Lavender and Lilac.

Archangels, Ascended Masters and Ray Forces

The Esoteric Science behind Chakra & Vortex Systems

Since Ray forces are present everywhere, their esoteric science is generating and directing all of creation. At the moment of your birth a snapshot is taken of your astral (light and sound) body. This same information when converted into the mathematical formulas of Ancient Vedic Rishis becomes your Rasi, or natal Jyotish (Hindu Astrology) chart. When approached through the language of the Rays, Astrology becomes the *logic* of the *astral* body, *astral~logic*.



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The Seven Rays of creation indicate their interplay in every chart, through weaknesses and strengths, manifesting the destiny and actions of the soul. This is why women in childbirth experience short and/or long labors as the soul is picking the perfect moment of birth!

Light and sound is dispersed through the circular movement of the chakras. Clockwise movement indicates a healthy chakra, and it is taking energy in. Counter-clockwise movement may indicate disease, or the chakra is removing energies. The septanate order of the Rays is also found in the human energy system; seven chakras and seven layers to the auric field. Each of the seven chakras also relate to each of the Rays. However, in practice unless if the chakras are perfected or balanced, they will emanate many different colors. The table below shows the relationship of the seven chakras to each of the Rays. This segment of information is purely Vedic. *(You will note that two Ray forces identify with the heart chakra - the Blue Ray and Pink Ray. This blend of energies depict the perfected state of the heart center - open and receptive (Pink Ray) yet, imbued with the qualities of justice, order and detachment - the ability to act without bias (Blue Ray).)*

Blue Ray: Heart Chakra

Yellow Ray: Third Eye Chakra

Pink Ray: Heart Chakra

White Ray: Sexual Chakra

Green Ray: Throat Chakra

Ruby & Gold Ray: Root Chakra (Ruby) Solar Plexus (Gold)

Violet Ray: Crown Chakra

Aura Color Guide

Courtesy of the Galaxy Express

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.



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. Muddied 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. 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.

Continued...

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.

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

*Before you examine the body of a patient,
Be patient to learn his story.
For once you learn his story,
You will also come to know
His body.*

*Before you diagnose any sickness,
Make sure there is no sickness in the mind or heart.
For the emotions in a man's moon or sun,
Can point to the sickness in
Any one of his other parts.*

*Before you treat a man with a condition,
Know that not all cures can heal all people.
For the chemistry that works on one patient,
May not work for the next,
Because even medicine has its own
Conditions.*

*Before asserting a prognosis on any patient,
Always be objective and never subjective.
For telling a man that he will win the treasure of life,
But then later discovering that he will lose,
Will harm him more than by telling him
That he may lose,
But then he wins.*



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BODY TEMPLE

Yuktswar Giri QUOTE (*How Magical Charms Work for Healing, pg. 24*)

Yuktswar, May 10, 1855 - March 09, 1936, was an educator, astronomer, a Jyotisha (Vedic astrologer), a yogi, and a scholar of the Bhagavad Gita and the Bible. Yuktswar took on many disciples. Most famously, he was the beloved guru of [Paramahansa Yogananda](#), who brought Yoga to the West through moving to America, and through his book, [Autobiography of a Yogi](#), which mentions Yuktswar extensively. The quote was found on Goodreads.com.

Wise Woman (*ACV Tea and then Some, pg. 25*)

Alva "Wise Woman" Lennox is a retired primary education 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.

Mahaji (*Health and Ray Scents, pg.26*)

Mahaji, the Universal Mother, prefers to remain anonymous maintaining that what is written is more important than the person writing it.

Galaxy Express Courtesy Republication (*Aura Color Guide, pg. 29*)

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Suzy Kassem QUOTE (*The Maxims of Medicine, pg. 31*)

Suzy Kassem is an American writer, poet, philosopher, and artist of Egyptian origin. The granddaughter of a respected sage in 19th century Cairo, mysticism and wisdom run through her blood just as the water of the Nile flows through her veins.

PHENOMENA FILES

We'd stared into the face of Death, and Death blinked first. You'd think that would make us feel brave and invincible. It didn't.

SECTION MANAGING EDITOR - JOHN HOLBROOK PSI

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We're sorry the person you have reached is unavailable. You can leave a voicemail at the tone or leave a callback number. Beep.

Voice mail 3:33 Am

Jonah -

This will be my last communication. Very shortly I will be gone, not by my own hand but by what is coming for me. All my belongings and property will remain - the beach house, car, personal valuables and any monies in the house. More importantly my will which can be found in my nightstand drawer. Everything is yours as I have no family or relatives left. Do what you must - alert the media and police as I have seen no one broach the situation here. All of the neighbors have disappeared without a trace. I am the last. My curiosity led me to investigate when my next door neighbor vanished about a week ago failing to meet up with me for a jog along the shore. His dog was gone too. I could find nothing except that he was gone and his property left behind. There was some strange slime on the floor. It will come for me next. I saw it earlier this evening and God help me I wish I hadn't. I tried the police but they thought I was drunk or on drugs. They laughed and asked if I wanted a ride to a psych ward. My car won't start and I don't dare try to leave on foot. I still refuse to believe it but now I can hear it - the ocean water roiling - the splashing - the horrible slithering sound on the sand - OH GOD! It's...

Message cut off.

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PARANORMAL INVESTIGATION VARIABLES

By Holbrook PSI



Investigating paranormal events does not always go the way you think it will go and with little exceptions. There are many variables that could affect a normal investigation such as the weather, the people on your team, your equipment, the witnesses or a multitude of outer variables that could and often do occur. Many investigations are futile attempts to gather evidence of something that is not happening except in the minds of the witnesses or those relaying a story.

This was the case of a recent investigation that I conducted in my local area. I will refer to it as the “rumor mill investigation” and I do not advise visiting the location so I will not give too much information about it in an attempt to defuse any more problems that the rumors have already caused. The story I heard was one of those stories that actually had an original base event so I wanted to look into it for this reason and because it was near my home. The original event was the burning of a historic building by some juveniles based on the testimony of one of the juveniles who claimed that it was a site of devil worshipers. I spent several days onsite and talked to many people who were familiar with the site and history of the building that was burned.

The history of the building was well known and the basic history did not vary among any of the people that I talked to about the building. Part of the story that claimed a goat was sacrificed at the scene was not included by any of the people that knew the history of the site. This part of the story may have been derived from use of the area being by deer hunters who would leave deer carcasses in the vicinity of the site. I also talked to two hunters that verified that they have seen many deer carcasses in the area. I did find a deer carcass when I was there near the site, the deer was small and someone who was unfamiliar with wildlife could make a mistake by thinking it was a goat. None of the photographs or video that I took at the site had any anomalies and none of the audio had any E.V.P.s. There were some EMF readings that I found later on site that were caused by an old well and some metal pipes.

Even though I did not have any evidence of anything paranormal I continued my research of the site. I also learned of several other investigators that had investigated the site and I read what they had to say. Most believed that it was a site of interest with only an orb or two and rumors as evidence to support their conclusions. They were all taken in by the story that had been changed over the years and did not even investigate the area of the original building but rather a new replacement building on the site which was over 200 yards away. The rumor mill area story was one that had changed over the years fueled by the media and investigators who did not do their homework. So, this false story gained notoriety while the truth was lost over the years.

There are stories of hauntings or other paranormal events that change over the years with each re-telling of the story. The original story changes with each telling so that the original event is not even in the new story. This has happened with a lot of stories that I have been told over the years and some of them I have investigated.

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Many stories sound so good and so investigable that even I looked into the story – of course wasting time but gaining valuable experience. What has happened in the past can help you to understand what you may be trying to find.



Not every story is the *full* story because of the witness's perspectives. Point of views are different for each of the witnesses and the witness's religious beliefs also play a role. If the person's religious belief is such that there can be no existence of ghost but definitely existence of demons then everything is a demon. In some cases there is belief that there is no such thing as evil so there are no demons. People who believe everything without any skepticism often see things that are not there. This also happens to people who do not discern what they are being told. People who are subject to the powers of suggestion believe that they are seeing things that are not there. These people believe that they have actually witnessed events when in reality they have not.

The power of suggestion can be a problem with witnesses that have a desire to witness a paranormal event. This includes the investigators who go somewhere wanting to see something so bad that their skepticism is left at home. This is a problem for a lot of investigators and it is not always something that experience will cure. Just as a witness may see things that are not there, an investigator who wants to see a ghost will see one at every turn.

There can be issues with the investigator's ego that causes them to say that there is something there also. Investigators need to have an open and objective mind and refrain from jumping on the band wagon of the witness or other investigators that think there are ghosts at every site. The opposite is also true if an investigator closes his/her mind to the possibility of the supernatural because then they will not witness any event. Even if there is an event that occurs right in front of their eyes they will rationalize what they see or ignore it all together. Every good investigator that I know has reached a balance between skeptic and believer so that they are very discerning.

A good investigator will plan an investigation with consideration of possible weather conditions that could affect their investigation. The weather can change in a matter of hours and cause many problems that can cause safety issues as well dictate how an investigation will be conducted. Planning ahead for any problem the weather may cause starts with looking at how the weather can affect an investigation.

Many investigators take many different environmental readings that could be part of the evidence that is collected at the scene. This includes readings of temperature, humidity, barometric pressures and electromagnetic fields (EMF) which all can be affected by the weather. When planning an investigation you should watch the forecast on your local news and the Weather Channel before you set your investigation day. Your local news may give you a local point of view and the Weather Channel will give you a bigger picture. Both are important because you need to know how conditions may change with regards to your environmental variables. Low and high pressure systems will cause changes in the barometric pressure and may be the start of more severe weather. These two types of weather systems may cause the wind to pick up which could cause issues with E.V.P.s or any motion detectors you are using.

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If there is a possibility of thunderstorms you will have issues with power outages and power surges that could cause problems with your equipment.

Thunderstorms will also affect the EMF because of the static electricity that will be in the air and in the ground. The light from the lightning can affect the motion detectors and the low light cameras that you are using.

The power surges will affect any of your equipment that you have attached to the site's power source possibly causing irreparable damage. The temperature can affect your equipment and cause more areas of cold spots at your site. With all the different types of weather and the problems it could cause the most important thing to consider is your safety. Icy roads and severe wind could keep you from getting home safely. In your preparations for an investigation don't forget to bring extra clothes in case it gets colder or you get wet. Having an extra jacket and shoes is as important as extra batteries, film and cameras.

When you're getting ready for an investigation you need to plan for equipment failures by having backups. Testing your equipment before you go is important but even if it is working at home it can still fail in the field. You should also be familiar with all of your equipment before using it on an investigation. Don't let your ego lead you think that every camera works the same as the one that you have been using. With all the new technology that is coming out each year every camera will have its own strong and weak points. The simpler the camera is to use the better it will be for an investigation. I still keep a point and shoot type 35mm camera as a back up to my digital camera. I also have backups for my sound recordings and flash lights - anything that I think that is important for the investigation. Many investigations that I have conducted found me in need of another battery or more tape. A battery charged at home may be drained very fast at a site that is active especially if a battery has a memory for only a limited amount of charge. Extra batteries and chargers for all of your equipment are just as important as having a game plan for the investigation.

You can plan and plan and never actually ever get to investigate because of over planning. I am not suggesting investigating without a plan and a chain of command if there is more than one person on the investigation. If you have a team of four or five members one person should be the leader of the investigation. This person should be chosen by experience not by ego. *If you do not know what you are doing then you need to follow not lead.* Books and articles about investigation will help you to learn some of the protocols involved in an investigation. You can read how others have conducted their investigations and adapt it to your own style. My style is that I take some of my law enforcement experience and apply it to paranormal investigation.

Experience is the best teacher and to get it you need to be involved in investigations. You can have a style or a way that you want to conduct your investigation but when you get to the site you may find that it will not work for the investigation. Experience will help you to deal with all the different variables that will arise during your investigation. . You can investigate any site that has a story or has no story, either way you need to be exposed to paranormal activity to get experience. You can join a group that has the same style of investigating that you want to acquire to get more experience.

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Some groups have a reputation that will allow you to be a part of an investigation that you could not do on your own.

With all the years of investigation that I have under my belt I still learn things and gain experience with each investigation. Here is to a safe investigation! Even if there is no paranormal activity and all the things that can go wrong do go wrong, you will still learn and get some experience.



ECOCIDE – Soylent GREEN

By Olivia Constantino Anastos

HISTORY: Soylent GREEN, introduced 1966, is usually considered the original “GREEN” food. It was first marketed as a, “Miracle food of high-energy plankton gathered from the oceans of the world.”

Throughout the years the company has adopted many slogans:

- “Food for *THE* people, by *THE* people.”
- “MAKE ROOM, MAKE ROOM FOR GREEN.”
- “It’s EASY BEING GREEN.”
- “YOU’RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH SOYLENT.”

The Soylent GREEN Biscuit Co. is planning on world distribution by 2022.

The Soylent GREEN Biscuit Co’s famous snack has been a **cult classic** since its inception in 1973. People everywhere were delighted to have this affordable snack that “TASTES JUST LIKE GRANDMAS.”

COMMERCIAL: This program is brought to you by Soylent red and Soylent yellow, high energy vegetable concentrates, and new, delicious, Soylent green. The miracle food of high-energy plankton gathered from the oceans of the world. Try all of Soylent's delicious flavors: Soylent red, Soylent yellow, and new, delicious, Soylent green. Made from the finest undersea growth.



REMEMBER: Tuesday is Soylent GREEN day!

DIALOG: You know, when I was a kid, food was food. Before our scientific magicians poisoned the water, polluted the soil, decimated plant and animal life. You know, when I was a kid, food was food. Before our scientific magicians poisoned the water, polluted the soil, decimated plant and animal life. When I was a kid, you could buy meat anywhere! Eggs they had, real butter! Not this... CRAP! How did we come to this? REPORT: *Soylent Oceanographic Survey Report, 2015–2019:*

The oceans are dying and can no longer produce the plankton from which Soylent GREEN is made.

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THOUGHTS: WHEN AM I GOING TO LEARN TO STOP QUESTIONING AUTHORITY AND JUST EAT THE SOYLENT GREEN?

HISTERIA: OCEAN'S DYING, PLANKTON'S DYING... IT IS PEOPLE. *SOYLENT GREEN IS MADE OUT OF PEOPLE*. THEY ARE MAKING OUR FOOD OUT OF PEOPLE. NEXT THING THEY'LL BE BREEDING US LIKE CATTLE FOR FOOD. YOU'VE GOTTA TELL THEM. YOU'VE GOTTA TELL THEM!

Selected Commercial, Report and Dialog from the movie *Soylent Green*

<https://foodimentary.com>



PARANORMAL Q & A

WITH PARANORMAL INVESTIGATORS JOHN HOLBROOK, NORMAN
'PARANORMAN' JUSTICE AND ABHAY KAPOOR

QUERY:

Do you know if anyone has ever seen or photographed any spirits around Stonehenge? You'd think a place like that would have "something" hanging around. I'd also like to know the same about Newgrange in Ireland since I heard that it is older than the pyramids.

RESPONSE by John Holbrook:

Unfortunately I do not know of any investigations other than archeological that have taken place at these locations. This is not to say that a tourist has not captured something and did not recognize it as paranormal over the years. I do know there was talk many years ago about anomalous magnetic readings around some of the stones at Stonehenge. This was fuel for the debate that extraterrestrials had a hand in the building of Stonehenge. I think that there were more paranormal investigations on the side of UFO's than the possibilities of a haunting. Over the years doing an investigation on sites such as these has become very difficult and almost impossible in most cases. Stonehenge was given to government in 1918 and limited access has been in place since 1986 when it became inscribed as a World Heritage Site. I personally looked at conducting an investigation there someday and found that it would be time limited and I would also have to get special permission to go on to the site. Because of people who do not have respect for history there has been damage to the site. Some of the original stones have been used in some of the foundations of local area buildings or in some of the small bridges in the area. The stones were taken before the site fell under the control of the government. It is possible that there may be some areas away from the main site that have activity related to the main site. This would be like an *object haunting* because some of the stones that have been moved could have an entity or a residual energy that is out of place in the new location. They have a set of rules now that will make a full investigation of the site impossible to conduct. I do feel that these sites will be very active.

QUERY: What do you do when people try to dupe you with a phony paranormal happening?

RESPONSE by Norman Justice: Unfortunately this happens and it is a waste of time and goodwill. If I pick up something awry in either the pre-investigation interview or walk through I conduct my own testing of a phenomena or may even contact a professional mental health care individual for their opinion of an interview. Some people are very clever and only interested in their moment of brief attention and possible fame.

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Those people will often set up a ‘phenomenon’ using advanced electronics, hidden wires and sounds. My team very easily can find these on the premises and the perpetrators more often than not will try to make a joke of it. Fraudulent camera effects and event filming and computerized data that has been altered can be a little trickier especially if the people are good at it, but if we can replicate how we think they produced the effects then we can confront them. People can put on quite a show and go to great lengths – some to the point of inflicting scratches or bites on their bodies to make a point. They will generally slip up in an interview on how it happened and it always amazes me how they can keep a straight face until you start punches holes in their stories. I have found that the weeks leading up to Halloween are the most prominent times for this kind of fraud. With every case we investigate we learn new tricks. We only want 100% true unexplained evidence.

QUERY: What is a Shraap?

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



"IS The Mansion haunted, do you think?"

"Naw. There ain't no REAL haunted houses--just in the fuckin movies. But if there ever WAS one, it'd be The Mansion. I heard that a couple of years ago, two kids from Norwood Street went in there to bump uglies and the cops found em with their throats cut and all the blood drained out of their bodies. But there wasn't any blood on em or around em. Get it? The blood was ALL GONE."

"You shittin me?"

"Nope. But that wasn't the worst thing."

"What was?"

"Their hair was dead white. Both of em. And their eyes were wide open and staring, like they saw the most gross-awful thing in the world."

"Aw, gimme a break."





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PHENOMENA FILES

Sam Quint Story Quip (*Voice Mail*, pg.34)

Sam's pseudonym is fashioned after the human antagonist from the movie JAWS "Quint" chosen specifically for his original story quip. He is in the habit of doing this with most of his writings for fun and to keep the reader amused. Sam is an avid horror movie fan and oddly enough most of his ideas come to him in dreams. He lives in the northeast US with his wife and 4 dogs.

Holbrook PSI (*Paranormal Investigation Variables*, pg. 35)

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

Olivia Constantino Anastos (*ECOCODE – Soylent Green*, pg. 39)

Olivia Feels she has finally come into her own as a paranormal investigator. She is a research assistant to her older brother Philip and joins him in his onsite investigations but also has her own ventures. Olivia has an MS degree in literature and hopes to one day write a book based on her experiences. She works part time in a law firm and as a hostess and says people would be surprised how many personal supernatural tales clients reveal.. This particular selection is a departure from her more serious work and she considers it simply flexing some literary muscles.

Paranormal Q & A Compilation (pg.41)

John Holbrook, Holbrook PSI: *Read Bio above.* **Norman 'Paranorman' Justice:** Norman is a veteran paranormal investigator with over 30 years' experience in the field. In the real world, he is a happily retired business man living in New England with his wife Lynne. He still participates in local investigations and mentors paranormal fledglings on a one to one basis. Norman is a long time member of and contributor to the Light Force Network website. **Abhay Kapoor:** Abhay Kapoor came to the United States from India when he was a child in 1969. His many experiences involving both spiritual and supernatural events led him to a lifelong interest in the paranormal research of events tied to different ethnic groups. His hobbies include playing the sitar and pencil sketching. He also enjoys playing tennis.

Stephen King QUOTE (*The Mansion*, pg 43)

Stephen Edwin King is an American author of horror, supernatural fiction, suspense, crime, science-fiction, and fantasy novels. Described as the "King of Horror", his books have sold more than 350 million copies as of 2006, and many have been adapted into films, television series, miniseries, and comic books.

Arcanus Obscurum

You know about witches, wizards. You can envision dragons, even if you presently think you are above believing in them. You doubt magic, but you have a word for it. Isn't that a strangeness that wears at you? All these things that you know all about, but you think you are above. Did you used to be able to shape the spell children use to find lost things in the grass? Did you always know to look at the sky, at stars, when you make your wishes? Who taught you the things your soul has always known?



Section Managing Editors: Eliana Rosini Mascolo and Marco X. Mascolo

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Image by Ali Newton from Pixabay.com, Cover Design: Kim Tsiang

"No matter what danger you might face." the wizard resumed. "within this book is a magical solution."

I did as Ebenzum bade. opening to a page titled "EZ Wizard's Index." I scanned quickly down the righthand column:

Demons. who are about to eat you. 206. 211

Demons. who are about to tear you limb from limb. 207

Demons. who are about thrash you soundly. 206-7

Demons. who have already begun to eat you. 208

"As you can see." my master continued. "quick reference to this index can prepare you for virtually any eventuality."



Ancient Beliefs

By Rev. Dr. Loni Haas



Magic is as old as humanity itself. The ancients believed in both God and magic, which they considered to have been taught to man by God. In olde magic, it was not God that was dealt with but less important spiritual beings who were believed to exist as helpers or assistants carrying out God's plan. The conjurer or magician did not "ask" for assistance of these beings but rather ordered or demanded assistance. He did so in complete confidence that these entities could not refuse him because he had been given power over them by God. Even though Magic differed greatly from religious practice it had two parts much like religions – ritual and doctrine. The ritual was the actual ceremony performed and the doctrine contained the beliefs upon which the ritual(s) were based.

To the ancients, all things that existed had a spiritual and material essence. Everything in creation was also interconnected so magic was believed to exert forces on probabilities manifesting them into the realm of matter. To the Ancient magicians, the only difference between a living thing and that which "appeared not to live" was a difference in spirit. Everything had a spirit. Man was believed to have a spirit and a soul and thus stood above and transcended all things. Man had greater mobility and the opportunity for self-consciousness was paid homage by all that was lesser than he yet when it came to magic man had rules. The actions of man were governed by laws and sub-rules in magical doctrine:

The Law of Sympathy states, "A mysterious or spiritual link exists between anything in the world and *any one or more of its parts.*" (I.e. a tree and its leaves.)

- Rule of Parts – Even though something is no longer connected to something else, one disconnected part can still affect the other part.
- Rule of Contagion – An article that is close to a person such as a prized personal possession forms a connection to that person and that person can be influenced by another person who steals or becomes in possession of the article by performing magic on it.

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The Law of Imitation states, “Because there is a spiritual link between anything in the world, one can cause spirits to imitate certain acts thereby producing certain phenomena. (I.e. pouring water over an unclothed virgin produced rain.)

- Rule of Three – Evil magic that is cast will rebound on its castor threefold.

The word magic comes from one of three Greek terms, megus meaning ‘great’, magein, which is a reference to Zoroastrianism or magoi, the name of an Iranian Median tribe known to the Greeks and recognized for their magical prowess. Magic can generally be described as a seeking to control events and to cause certain things to come about. Most of us understand magic as divided into two groups – Black and White but magic in itself is neither good nor evil except by intent. In essence, magic is neutral.

There are as many different types of magic and combinations of magic as there are magicians with different intent. Among them are Black Magic (malevolent), White Magic (positive), Gray Magic (justified using curses), Ceremonial Magic (ritualistic), Chaos Magic (1960s, Austin Osman Spare, ritualistic and evocative), Liber Null (black arts and altered states of consciousness), Composite Magic (combination of religious influences), High Magic (ceremonial aimed at spiritual enlightenment), Folk Magic (traditional spellcasting and remedies), Practical Magic (applied and psychic), Ritual Magic (Western occult discipline of high ceremonial magic), Sympathetic Magic (distant through connection) and Transcendental Magic (transcendental ritualistic).

The 17th century ushered in a newfangled thing called “science” which explained the events of the world by a popular new set of laws. The interest in magic waned and by the 18th century its prominence was only seen in personal or folk practices. The 19th century brought a revival of magic and with it an array of colorful characters including Eliphas Levi and Gerard Encausse known as “Papus” AND orders such as the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn which was founded by the Rosicrucians and Freemasons who were familiar with Eastern philosophy as taught by the Theosophical Society. Considerable contribution was made by the infamous Aleister Crowley and his Thelemic Magic.

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Whenever the word magic is seen being spelled as magick it is because of Aleister Crowley who preferred to spell the word that way in order to distinguish it from the lower forms of magic such as sorcery and spell casting. In the 20th century, magical occult teachings were carried on by "adepts" such as Franz Bardon, William Gray and Israel Regardie. Ceremonial magic literally went underground until the latter part of the 20th century with the upsurge of "new religions" such as Wicca and Paganism. It now seems as though the route of magic has come full circle within its own cycle.

Is magic actually at the root of science? Are contemporary inquiries and methods such as alternative healing, psychical research, quantum physics and chaos theory all based in the rudiments of magic? I'll leave that up to you reader but it seems it is a small world after all.

So mote it be!



Love Potion Number Nine

“Blue must be worn for protection. Moonstones were useful in connecting with the living, topaz to contact the dead. Copper, sacred to Venus, will call a man to you, and black tourmaline will eliminate jealousy. When it came to love, you must always be careful. If you dropped something belonging to the man you loved into a candle flame, then added pine needles and marigold flowers, he would arrive on your doorstep by morning, so you would do well to be certain you wanted him there. The most basic and reliable love potion...”

Love Potion Number Nine consists of anise, rosemary, honey and cloves all simmered for nine hours. It always cost \$9.99. The potion is said to work best when taken on the 9th hour of the 9th day of the 9th month.

I took my troubles down to Madame Ruth
You know that gypsy with the gold-capped tooth
She's got a pad down on Thirty-Fourth and Vine
Sellin' little bottles of Love Potion Number Nine
I told her that I was a flop with chicks
I've been this way since 1956
She looked at my palm and she made a magic sign
She said "What you need is Love Potion Number Nine"
She bent down and turned around and gave me a wink
She said "I'm gonna make it up right here in the sink"
It smelled like turpentine. it looked like Indian ink
I held my nose, I closed my eyes, I took a drink
I didn't know if it was day or night
I started kissin' everything in sight
But when I kissed a cop down on Thirty-Fourth and
Vine
He broke my little bottle of Love Potion Number Nine.

Quote: Alice Hoffman @ Goodreads.com

Lyrics:

Songwriters: Jerry Leiber / Mike Stoller

Love Potion Number Nine lyrics © Sony/atv Tunes Llc



~Lucky Seven~

By Seven

If you ask, a majority of people will tell you 7 is the luckiest number. When asked, the majority of people who have been asked to choose an odd number between 1 and 10 will answer 7. People also overwhelmingly will reveal that 7 is their favorite number. You could say this indicates that the number 7 is very present in the Collective Consciousness but why is that? Could it be that it is because the number is all around us on a daily basis?

Most sources will state the general:

- There are 7 days of a week
- 7 colors of the rainbow
- 7 notes on a musical scale
- 7 continents
- 7 seas.
- Number 7 is considered as the universally lucky number in Numerology.
- In Astrology 7 represents the planet Neptune and those who will take a leap of faith.
- There is powerful connection between number 7 and the religions of the world.
- 7 is quite significant in the Bible.
- In Judaism, there are 7 heavens.
- Islam's holy book, the Koran, also speaks of 7 heavens.
- In the traditional culture of China, 7 represents Yin and Yang combined with the Five Elements.
- 7 is a prime number

It has been observed that people who like the number 7 are thought to be surrounded by good energy and usually manage success. Further, a person who chooses 777 is thought to be favored and blessed by the Divine.

Other interesting facts:

- *The King James (KJV) Bible contains 562 instances of the word seven*
- *The atomic number of nitrogen is seven.*
- *Seven has the highest probability of occurring as an addition when rolling dice.*
- *A set of seven similar things are considered as one unit is known as a septet.*
- *Seven major parts of the human body, that is, 2 legs, 2 hands, trunk, neck, and head or there are seven chakras in the human body.*
- *Mammalian bodies have 7 external orifices namely, the nostrils, mouth, ear canals, nasolacrimal ducts, anus, urinary meatus, and the vagina (in females).*
- *The OSI model has seven layers*



Continued...

- *There are seven logic gates*
- *Human cognitive capacity limits lie within the range of 7 plus or a minus 2.*

There are also some interesting facets connected to folklore about the seventh son of a seventh son. It is generally thought that the seventh male child born in an unbroken line with no female siblings born between has special powers granted by God or the gods generally for second sight and healing. This is not so in all cultures. In Latin America for example, the seventh son is thought to be cursed and is a werewolf. In Romania he is thought to be a vampire.

Maybe it's not so lucky after all.

Resources:

<https://latestnews.fresherslive.com>

<https://www.wikipedia.org/>



The early magicians, to my thinking, must have been people who knew the symbols and stories of the societies next door.

Ones who understood that the Pharaoh's got different gods from the Greeks, and they've got different gods from the Wildmen in the North with the pointy horned hats.

The folks who might come and say your neighbors have better gods than yours, and their rituals are more fun and their temples are better.

Or even worse, they might get you thinking about how strange it is that you both have gods for the sun even though there's only one sun.

Maybe that means the symbol is more powerful than the god.

The magicians are the ones who keep that secret knowledge.

That occult knowledge.

The understanding that the symbols run the show.





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ARCANUS OBSCURUM

Craig Shaw Gardner QUOTE (*Magical Book*, pg. 46)

Craig Shaw Gardner was born in Rochester, New York and lived there until 1967, when he moved to Boston, MA to attend Boston University. He graduated from Boston University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Broadcasting and Film. He has continued to reside in Boston since that time.

He published his first story in 1977 while he held a number of jobs: shipper/receiver for a men's suit manufacturer, working in hospital public relations, running a stat camera, and also managed of a couple of bookstores: The Million Year Picnic and Science Fantasy Bookstore. As of 1987 he became a full time writer, and since then he has published more than 30 novels and more than 50 short stories.

Rev. Dr. Loni Haas (*Ancient Beliefs*, pg. 47)

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 including crystal healing and chakra balancing.

Alice Hoffman QUOTE, Song Lyrics Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller (*Love Potion Number Nine*, pg. 50)

Alice Hoffman is the author of more than thirty works of fiction, including *The World That We Knew*; *The Marriage of Opposites*; *The Red Garden*; *The Museum of Extraordinary Things*; *The Dovekeepers*; *Here on Earth*, an Oprah's Book Club selection; and the *Practical Magic* series, including *Practical Magic*; *Magic Lessons*; *The Rules of Magic*, a selection of Reese's Book Club; and *The Book of Magic*. She lives near Boston.

Seven (*Lucky Seven*, pg. 51)

Richard "Seven" Savin is actually the seventh son of a seventh son. Because of this and the stigma that follows such a condition and experience he is a very private person. He will tell you however, that he is a very mystical person with "the sight." The rest you'd have to ask him yourself.

James T. Tynion IV QUOTE (*The Early Magicians*, pg.53)

James T. Tynion IV is the writer of *Batman*, and many other titles for DC Comics, including *Detective Comics*, *Justice League Dark*, and the New York Times bestselling *Batman/Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* trilogy. He is the co-creator of *Wynd*, *Something is killing the Children*, *Memetic*, and the GLAAD award winning series, *The Woods*. He lives and works in Brooklyn, NY with his partner and their dog.

Sacred Sciences



One of the great cosmic laws, I think, is that whatever we hold in our thought will come true in our experience.

When we hold something, anything, in our thought, then somehow coincidence leads us in the direction that we've been wishing to lead ourselves.

Section Managing Editor – Anne Drake Sydney

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What transforms this world is — knowledge.

Do you see what I mean?

Nothing else can change anything in this world.

Knowledge alone is capable of transforming the world, while at the same time leaving it exactly as it is.

When you look at the world with knowledge, you realize that things are unchangeable and at the same time are constantly being transformed.



Cosmobiology

By Loni Haas R.MAFA, NCGR, DD

Cosmobiology is a discipline concerned with the correlation between the Cosmos and all organic life and the effects of cosmic rhythms and stellar motion on mankind. Man's character disposition, innate knowledge and all possible turns of fate are a mirror reflection of the Cosmos ... the macrocosm in the microcosm ...

We are all cells of a greater whole ... why wouldn't the Cosmos and ALL of its information be imprinted in us? Do we actually learn or simply remember?

Man's quest to understand himself with the complexity of the cosmos in reality predates the earliest Babylonian/Sumerian illumination. From the time the first human contemplated his environment his mind has been soul-driven on the quest for understanding him-Self. Like most gallant searches, we simply have not found the physical evidence for it to speak about it with any clarity. The cell memory and the Soul memory knows that civilizations have come and gone without leaving any traces. Values of good or evil, angel or demon, religious underpinnings of any kind, in truth, have nothing whatsoever with that original quest. That quest is the quest of the Soul and the proverbial "why am I here?"

There is a new awakening which is expanding and transforming the minds and hearts of a great multitude of humanity. It can be considered an evolutionary current of the collective experience that will bring forth a radical turn in orientation. Students and teachers of astrology will be confronted with certain dynamics of human psychology and human inter-relationships that no longer satisfy what we truly need to know. . Our 2D vision will no longer suffice as we are pulled into a holographic program of understanding and re-understanding. But in essence this is not new but very, very old. The astrology of the Chaldeans and even the ancient Hebrews was steeped in metaphysics and the interpretation of Cosmic Laws. We would be fools to think that these interpretations belonged to them, for their interpretations were based upon the foundation of something much more ancient. Something that transcends what we identify as "time" itself.

Today there is a great divide between Astronomy and Astrology. Why should that be? Could this statement be true?

"Astronomy is actually Astrology that has had its Soul removed."

Esoteric knowledge of astrology is largely attributed to far removed sources or other-worldly beings such as Djwhal Khul, for example, who allegedly gave certain information of cosmobiological significance via channeling to Alice Bailey.

We can accept that or poo-poo it.

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We can look at it this way, either Alice had one hell of an imagination OR she had in fact tapped into something, not necessarily someone, very ancient. Perhaps something that was always there. Imprinted in her being and ready for release.

When something comes very easily to a person, let's say a foreign language, OR they just understand it without ever having studied it, it means they have had contact with that language prior to incarnating and are currently releasing that ability. Where did that ability come from? If we go into the modern study of the Seven Rays and calculate a person's Rays, we would see that a person who carries a strong 7th Ray influence (arcane knowledge of all time and non-time) would most likely make a good astrologer, alchemist or high magician. Why? Because the imprint is there. Who imprinted this? The Soul. Who created the Soul? What we call Source, the Divine, God, the Ultra Natural or an "accident" depending on your flavor du jour and current orientation. We are all cells of a greater whole ... why wouldn't the Cosmos and ALL of its information be imprinted in us?

Yet we continue to speculate through our current level of understanding shaped by exposure and beliefs, our books, attended lectures and studies - Perhaps it is aliens, inter-dimensionals, ascended masters and anything else we can identify by a structured specific title? OR is it ... Just plain evolution of the human mind? No to each.

It is merely the predisposition, the blueprinting of the Cosmos that resides in each man in his cell and Soul memory and is always there and always will be there.

He will recognize it and the complexity of the Cosmos bit by bit when he is ready just as he did at the beginning of it all.



Disciple: "Master, I am conscious only of the present life. Why have I no conscious recollections of previous incarnations and no foreknowledge of a future existence?"

Master: "Life is like a great chain in the ocean of God. When a portion of the chain is pulled out of the waters, you see only that small part. The beginning and end are hidden. In this incarnation you're viewing only one link in the chain of life, the past and the future, though invisible, remain in the deeps of God. He reveals their secrets to who are in tune with Him."

- From Sayings of Yogananda



Karmic Synastry Case File

By Loni Haas R.MAFA, NCGR, DD

The following is a case file of the astrological findings of a past life and the karmic implications of two friends based in their individual Karmic charts and the interactions between them. One of the basic tenants of personal astrology explains that a natal chart or Nativity acts as a cosmic road map customized for a life journey full of potentials and opportunities. In Karmic Cosmology, it is believed that an individual soul chooses this map before entering Earth existence to provide itself with much needed Earth experiences. These experiences ultimately promote spiritual growth which in turn brings the soul closer to a state of grace and perfection. It is further believed that in each subsequent incarnation, the Nativity grows and changes along with the individual. An exoteric astrologer who is also educated in the esoteric ramifications of Universal Law can not only look forward into the future of an individual but also backward into past lives. In each lifetime the rate of growth is different. In some lifetimes growth is greatly accelerated. In other lifetimes growth is slowed down and it may take more than one lifetime to fulfill a particular modus operandi. This in no way implies lack but rather a need for more work to be done in order to complete a cosmic contract and bring it to a fruitful conclusion.

Why is karmic analysis important? If one believes the basic tenants of reincarnation then it is easy to accept and understand that every single experience in life is representative of a choice made on a Soul level in order to gain wisdom and thus perfect the essence of the Spirit. When an individual seeks individual personal or relationship karmic analysis, he or she is seeking to improve the quality of life by gaining more insight into what makes them and others “tick.” On a very intimate and innate level it is already understood that all of us learn karma a few steps at a time through a series of lessons that transcend from one lifetime or human existence to another. Karma is not always difficult but rather reflects our human capacity for give and take in any given lifetime. Based upon this capacity, many of us carry residual energies for good or ill from one space of existence into another. Through higher spiritual understanding, we can break the old ties that bind and open the door to true expression which brings us greater happiness and a closer connection to God or Source. Indeed, this makes our karmic obligation for give and take much easier.

This is a final product example. The astrological method used by STAR LOGIC ASTRODYNAMICS for the Karmic Synastry is based on an ancient Middle Eastern procedure encompassing reincarnation.

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In this process, it is believed that a soul is reincarnated into successive lifetimes until it has been karmically and spiritually purged of all desires through archetypical experiences expressed within the Zodiac. This report is not computer generated. It involves hand calculated aspects by the astrologer which is accompanied by insightful written interpretation. Over 150 interchart points are considered in these cases. All technical data has been eliminated in this blog for reasons of privacy. Names have been eliminated and the individuals are referred to as “Male” and “Female.” Both are metaphysicians in this lifetime.

In Karmic legend, it is difficult to say exactly “which” past lifetime or lifetimes two souls meet to support each other’s further evolution and growth for reincarnation is a constant process of re-cycling. We have for too long been conditioned to think that Karma is nothing more than Divine Retribution for our past deeds. Contemporary esotericists are breaking away from this old mode of thought and negative perception. The “New Thought” proposes an acceptance that each Soul chooses its life path and all the other Souls it chooses to associate with on the Earth plane. Since Karma is truly associated with our capability for give and take in any Earth lifetime, each of us chooses others who will help us improve our sharing capacities which in turn assists us with the resolution of “old” issues.

Astrological Synastries (inter-chart comparisons) are sought out for various reasons, the prime reasons being romantic compatibility or work related compatibility. The information is used as a guideline for better human understanding which enhances the future of a potential relationship. The Karmic Synastry is mostly sought out of “curiosity.” This type of Karmic analysis can be very shocking to less spiritual individuals but, for the most part, it is enlightening and helpful. Each of you should read your individual Karmic delineation before engaging this part of the report so some of the references will be easier to understand.

The Case File ...

This is very much a spiritual and arcane lifetime for both of you. Female, you were chosen to help Male work through his Double Karma life experience by keeping him grounded and realistic about his work and “himself.” Male has had many lifetimes but, this is the lifetime whereby he takes a large leap and finishes his work through an old and comfortable essence which must be completed and shed. It is extremely important that Male deal with himself on an honest Earth level regarding “who” and “what” he is without the smoke and mirrors of the past and his joie de vie lack of attention to himself.

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Male, you were chosen out of “kinship” and a prior bond with Female that carries a sense of obligation because of your “past” demise which affected the “prosperity” both financial and spiritual surrounding her work. Your relationship was very meaningful in the past life and there was a significant destiny to be fulfilled. In this lifetime your unfinished business will be fulfilled with a sense of supplementing each other’s life purpose. Due to the chart signatures, connecting in this lifetime is absolute.

It must be strongly stated that each of you harbors powerful occult and arcane knowledge most of which neither of you is completely aware. The chart cross references suggests that despite whatever “day jobs” the two of you held, there was strong entanglement with a Secret Society. You were both comfortable with these powerful arcane energies in the past life and cast a fair amount of caution to the wind when it came to experimentation. Male, you tend to still experiment in this lifetime while Female has a healthy respect for the lesser realms and the consequences attached to “poking around in the dark.” This is because despite her shameless liking for the occult in the previous life, she learned that her mischievousness could lead to violence. Both of you need to be warned about the quality of the spiritual activities you engage in this lifetime. You were both highly susceptible to serious attack from astral entities and you are still susceptible in this lifetime as both of you are exceptionally mediumistic or “open channels.” This is not just an issue of proper “protection” but also iron clad “discernment”, in other words, be careful before you pick up the stick and poke the snake’s nest ... the snakes can bite back. This all probably sounds a tad medieval in nature but you both must remember that Secret Societies have been around for a very long time. Throughout the years there have been many people who literally lived dual lives. For example, a 1920’s haberdasher by day was transformed into a Freemason by night meeting with the “brotherhood” in a building with no windows where strange rituals were conducted. Most of these societies have their roots in “magick” and still do today. Most of the members of these societies had/have wealth and stature in their everyday lives as the two of you did in the past lifetime. The cross reference is suggesting a Hermetic Order from Female’s chart and a secret organization original to Lower Egypt in Male’s chart. What comes to mind among the various Hermetic Orders is the Hermetic Order of the Brotherhood of Luxor which is ancient in nature but which also was extended in the last decades of the nineteenth century to England and then to the Western world. The Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn can also be considered due to its “blended” brand of philosophy. The only thing that can be said about that order is thank heaven neither of you appears to be a reincarnate of Aleister Crowley.

Continued...



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Again, it is difficult to place an exact time frame on the past since there is only a “signature” to base hypothesis.

Regardless of time or lifestyle, it appears that Male was Female’s superior with regards to “work.” It is also possible that he was older than Female. It is not suggested that Female knew less about the work, in fact, the degree of knowledge was most likely equal. Both of you were publicly prominent and wealthy through your own efforts. On the energetic level associated with the arcane side of your relationship, there was tremendous power and extremes. This factor was so strong that it left a residual imprint on both of you that carries over to this lifetime. It would most likely show up in what are teaching and learning from each other on the spiritual levels. The two of you must avoid “swinging” from one extreme to another in this regard. You also worked well together “then” and will continue to do so “now” as there is equal understanding to “do it right” this time and eliminate the old problems of the past.

Male was a bit of a loose cannon in the past who was too willing to leap without looking at the drop of a hat. Female was faithful and dedicated to the relationship but her good qualities were usurped by the lure of power, fear of her superior’s disapproval and his ability to incite her to rebel. Male was easily conned by those who misrepresented themselves. His spiritual side was lacking and he was improvident in nature. This was the missing piece of the puzzle in the past lifetime for Male. For all of the occult and healing knowledge he had and kept working hard to gain, he was not at “spiritual peak” to bring the work to fruition by helping and healing others. He kept his information to himself. Female was caught up in this spiral and lost the joy connected to the work. She became too much of a critical perfectionist who began to lose the respect and cooperation of others in the group. Since Male was easily conned by proposals he thought worthy of experimentation, his fortune began to dwindle as did Female’s via her willingness to support his eccentricities. For obvious reasons, the two colleagues began to isolate themselves and work alone. Eventually, there was great dissention in the group as to how the power it wielded should be used and the differences of opinion led to other disassociations. Despite the important work that was done and honored in some circles, the Male’s reputation suffered disgrace and Female suffered from the aftermath and from the “legacy of association” with Male which followed her to her own demise. The conditions surrounding Female’s death suggest a condition of paralysis possibly similar to poliomyelitis, which first affected the muscles of her lower legs and nerve of the left fibula.

Continued...



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The chart cross reference also suggests that Male predeceased Female and that he died due to injury or ailment of the liver. It is also suggested that Female may have been responsible for the death delivering Male a fatal wound with a sharp instrument, probably a knife or dagger, during a heated argument. It would behoove Male to tend to the health of his digestive track, pancreas and liver in this lifetime. The charts also strongly suggest that Female was attendant at Male's death where she applied "healing" for his transition. This was a lifetime of reorientation for Female where she learned to appreciate the value connected to that which was irrevocable.

Post Note: Both subjects are Metaphysicians in this lifetime. The female is a bonafide healer and the male served as a deacon and diviner although there are questions regarding the validity of his practices. They do not get along in this lifetime and have parted ways. Perhaps their joint purpose has been fulfilled and Karmic closure has occurred. Only they know for sure if that is true.



CAUSE AND EFFECT

You can give a man who has never given you a good word,
Volumes of knowledge.

And you can give a man who has never given you a gift,
A thousand gifts.

You can give that same man who has never given you a blessing,
A thousand blessings.

And you can offer that same man who has never
Offered a hand to help you grow,
Seeds to help him grow a garden.

And while you have never seen true kindness from his direction,
You still offer to help push him up.

And in the end,

He only wants to be the hand that pulls you down.

Do not worry, my friends:

Cause and effect was written by the stars of the universe.

He who passes suffering onto others

Will also have that suffering passed onto his own children.

Gifts he feels he should have in the next lifetime will be unobtainable.

And the help he needs to grow in the next lifetime will be unavailable.

And the people he cuts down that were good to him,

Will cut him down in the next lifetime.

What goes around does come back again,

Even through your children.

There is a vibrational effect

In every action,

Just as there is

A vibration that rings

From every letter

In every word.

No cause occurs without effect

And no effect occurs without cause.

No unjust action goes without penalty

And no action or thought

Flows unnoticed

Throughout

The universe.



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SACRED SCIENCES

Yukio Mishima QUOTE (*Knowledge, pg.56*)

Yukio Mishima was born in Tokyo in 1925. He graduated from Tokyo Imperial University's School of Jurisprudence in 1947. His first published book, *The Forest in Full Bloom*, appeared in 1944 and he established himself as a major author with *Confessions of a Mask* (1949). From then until his death he continued to publish novels, short stories, and plays each year. His crowning achievement, the Sea of Fertility tetralogy—which contains the novels *Spring Snow* (1969), *Runaway Horses* (1969), *The Temple of Dawn* (1970), and *The Decay of the Angel* (1971)—is considered one of the definitive works of twentieth-century Japanese fiction.

Loni Haas RMAFA, NCGR, DD (*Cosmobiology, pg. 54 and Karmic Synastry Case File, pg. 60*)

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 including crystal healing and chakra balancing.

Yogananda QUOTED QUIP (*Disciple and Master, pg.59*)

Paramahansa Yogananda was an Indian Hindu monk, yogi and guru who introduced millions to meditation and Kriya Yoga through his organization, Self-Realization Fellowship / Yogoda Satsanga Society of India – the only one he created to disseminate his teachings.

Suzy Kassem QUOTE (*Cause and Effect, pg. 64*)

Suzy Kassem is an American writer, poet, philosopher, and artist of Egyptian origin. The granddaughter of a respected sage in 19th century Cairo, mysticism and wisdom run through her blood just as the water of the Nile flows through her veins.

Creative Musings

You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.



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Mary Collaco Photography



A Fall Moon



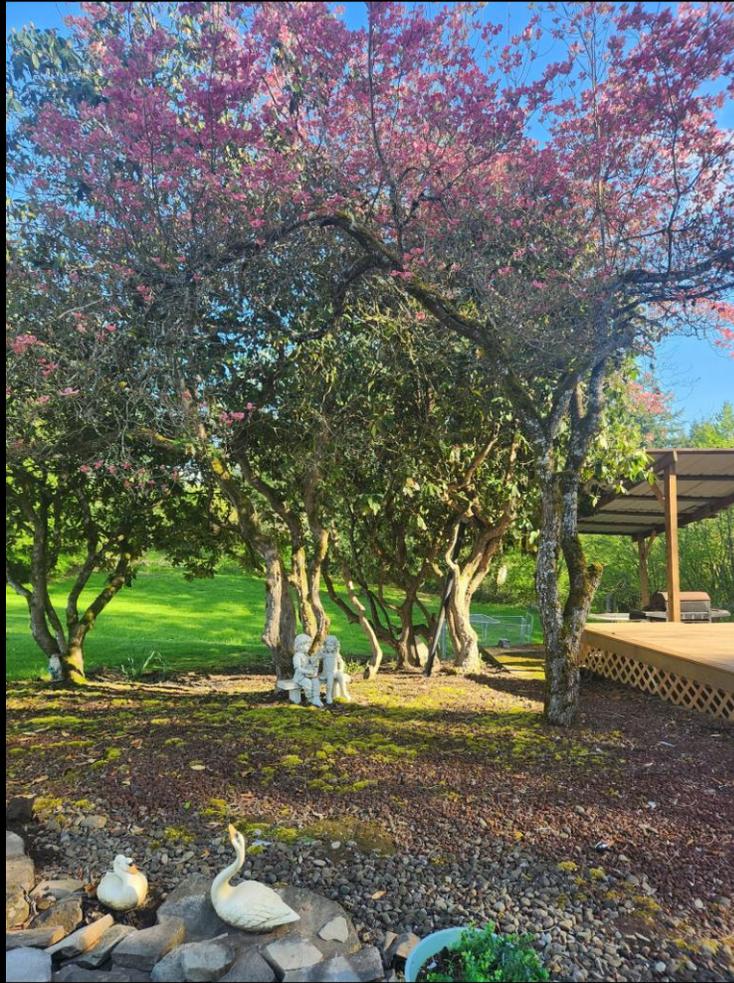
Mary Collaco Photography



Mt. Hood in Spring



Mary Collaco Photography

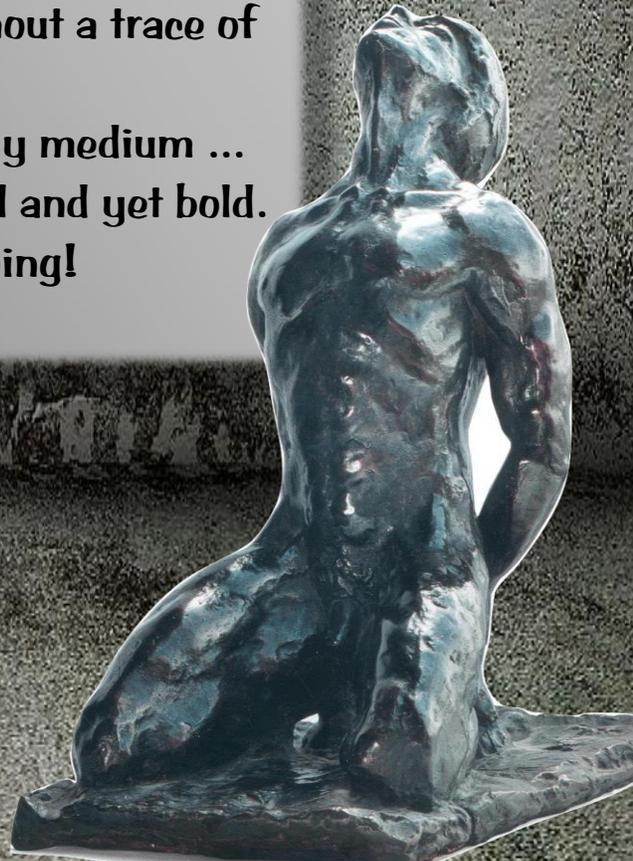


Daniel Patrick Murphy Sculpture



Old Mountain Man Smoking Pipe

**Sculpture... You are my delight...
For in you lies no disappointment... in that
you cannot...
Speak of vague existence... for you shall
endure.
Someone... somewhere will understand
you...
You shall often speak many stories... tales of
relationship
Of continuance... of beauty... of Poetry.
You shall not be ignored by someone...
Go on and spell silent thoughts... though ever
so personal...
Tell of your mystery... glow with your
dimension and never be noisy.
Bring someone peace... someone privacy
Allow your emotion even though frozen... be
ever so warm and yet not without a trace of
intellectual stimulus.
Last than my love... breathe my medium ...
talk and be silent... be graceful and yet bold.
Let not a soul be left with nothing!**

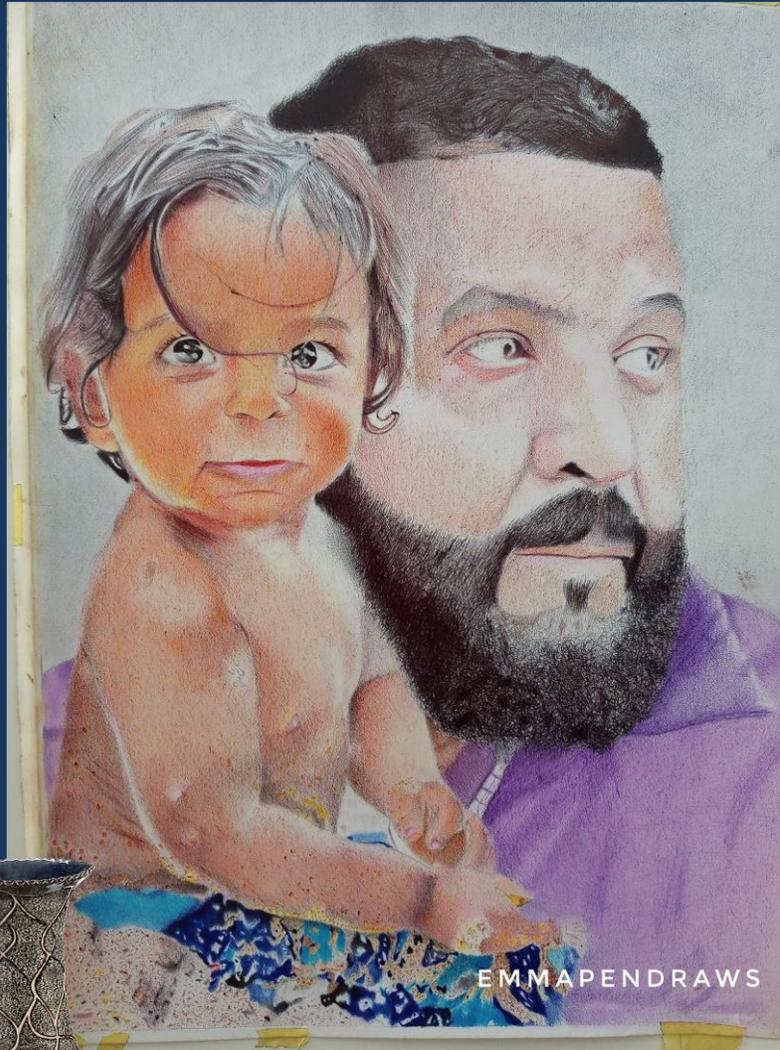


Daniel Patrick Murphy Sculpture



Trump in Hat

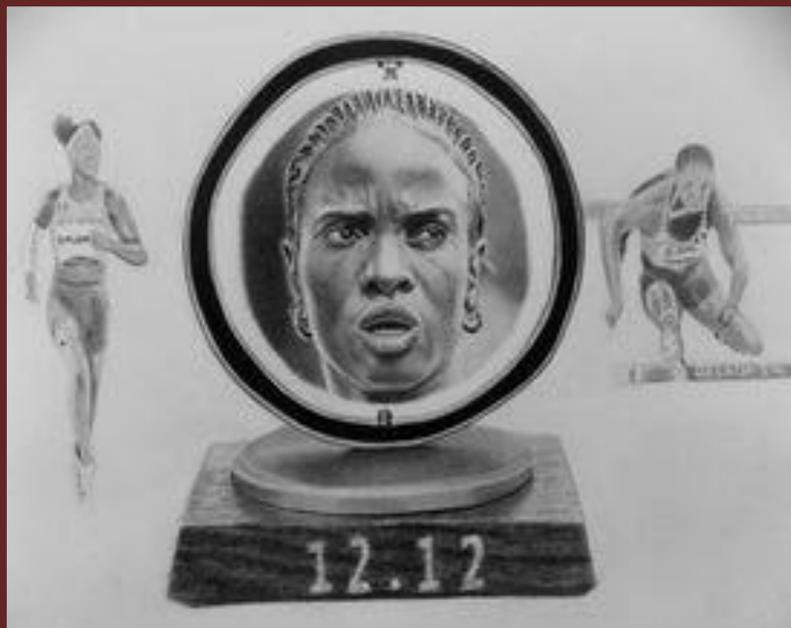
EMMANUEL BIOBAKU ART GALLERY



KHALED



EMMANUEL BIOBAKU ART GALLERY



12*12 OLUWATOBILOBA AMUSAN

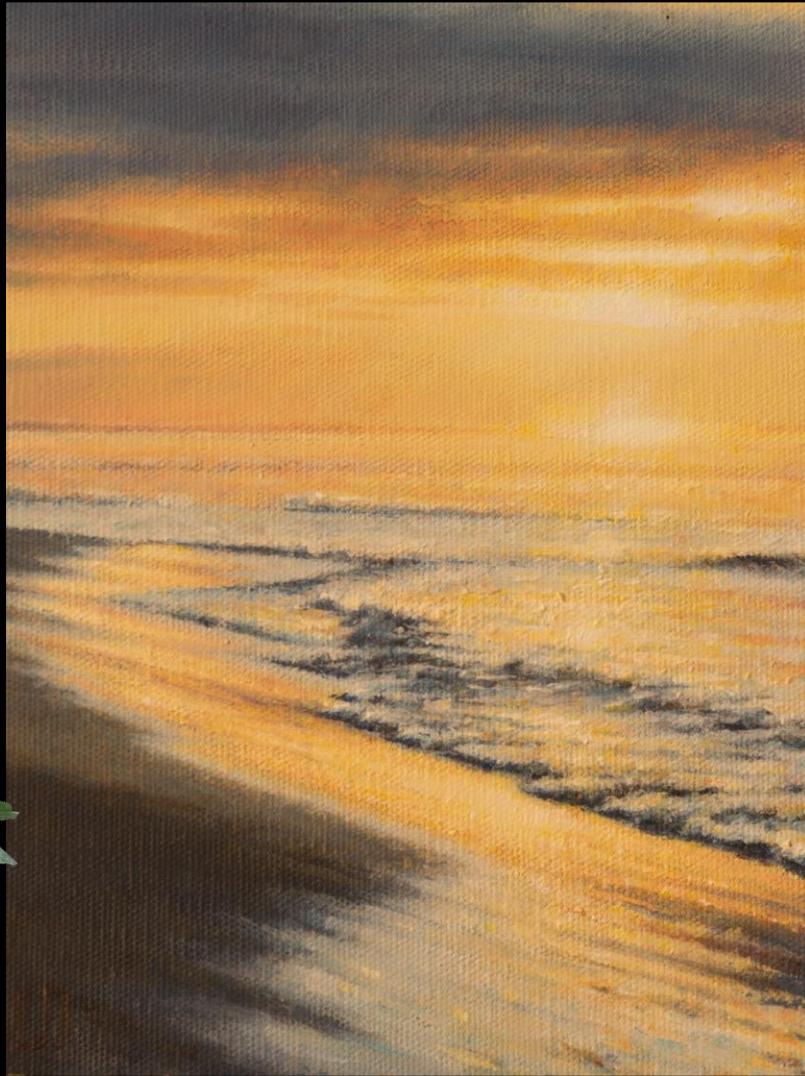


EMMANUEL BIOBAKU ART GALLERY



NO MATTER WHAT





Before Sunset



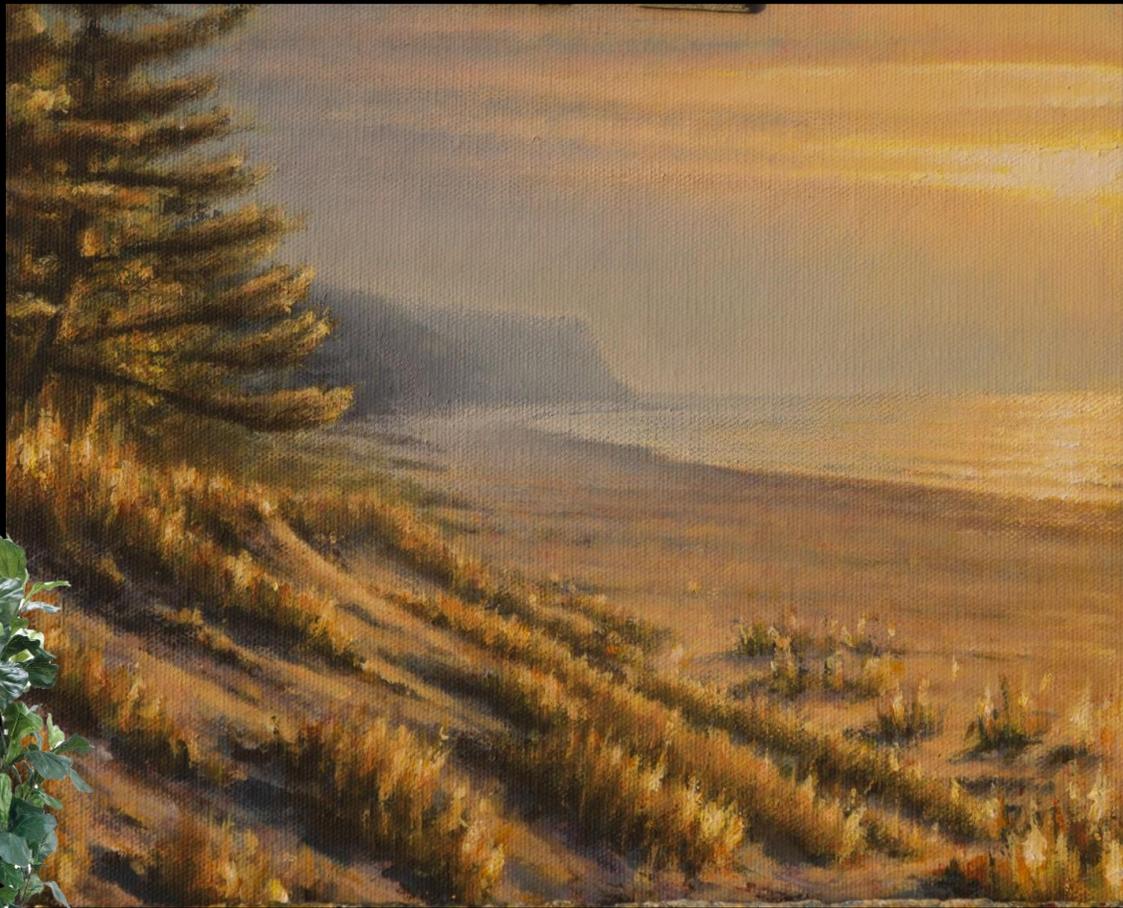
Lukasz Jan Drygiel Art Gallery



Spring in the Berry Forest



Lukasz Jan Drygiel Art Gallery



Three Paved Wolf's Cliff



EDYTHE RENZ PEARSON POETRY

Thanksgiving Prayer

Lord, we come to thee
This day of gratitude.
And with humility,

We know the magnitude
Of thy great love and care in all things.
Lord, we thank thee for life,
The beauties therein.

Also we are mindful
Of the proud determination,
A Pilgrim courage gone before
In building Freedom's Nation.
Notwithstanding toil and suffering,
Not in gratitude they'd pray...
In our hearts, we thank father
For that first Thanksgiving Day.

Rain in the Afternoon

The sun shines brightly,
Soft clouds drift lazily across the sky.
Then thicker dark clouds roll in.
A wind picks up rustling all the tree branches.
Rain falls softly then quickens.
Fast pellets of rain drops come down,
Thunder rolls all around.
Gentle rain drops slither through golden tipped green tree
leaves,
Like tiny water falls, crystalline beauty.
It is a quiet ending to a wonderful day.

~Continued~

EDYTHE RENZ PEARSON POETRY

Autumn

Autumn Tree
Enlighten me,
And tell me why
You stand so tall
With hardly any
Leaves at all.

That which you
So blithely shed
In tones of gold
And brown and red.

Prouder still
In winter's snow,
A watchful guardian
Eskimo.

By Evening's dark
And Morning's light
Resplendent in
Our robe of white.

With outstretched arms
You strive to be
Protectorate
Of all you see.

Born of Earth
And Blessed of Beauty
Mutely now
You stand at duty.



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CREATIVE MUSINGS

Mary Collaco (*Photography Studio, pgs. 67-69*)

I have always loved photography and taking pictures of nature. I have been taking photos since 1976. I got my first camera when I won it at an indoor carnival when I was about 11 yrs. old and was hooked. I love capturing beautiful scenes and loved being out in nature taking pictures. I took photography in High School and college, and it became a lifelong passion. Everywhere I go I take pictures, I can envision the pictures in my head, and how to take shots that enhance the beauty of nature.

Daniel Patrick Murphy (*Sculpture Studio, pgs. 70-72*)

I am Daniel Patrick Murphy aka "Murf." Since I was 13 the human face has been a world of intrigue to me. I am fascinated by human emotions and how we can express ourselves without words by our facial expressions; hence I named my business "Expressions by Murf." I must express that which I see and dream and feel... Many of my subjects are drawn from Nature, the human face being my primary subject. I enjoy making decorative vases which have also been sold as Urns. Be sure to view my online Galleries and also below on this page to see more examples of my work. You will notice that my work looks like wood. I used to buy burls but discovered that I can simulate burls by using many colors of Stoneware with airbrushing after firing to high temperatures. My work is not poured in a mold but is done by hand by a tedious method called "The Press Mold Method." Every piece I finish I sign and number in a limited edition so that the collectors may know they definitely have a piece of art executed by me the sculptor artist.

Lastly, I accept commission jobs and would be happy to sculpt your loved one. In the meantime, I continue to create the art that I hope will inspire....

My sculptures can be found at:

<https://www.instagram.com/murfstuff/>

<https://expressionsbymurf.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/dpmurphy1>

Emmanuel Biobaku (*Art Gallery, pgs. 73-75*)

I've just completed this portrait drawing of Calum Scott an Amazing singer. Oftentimes I regard his style as "sound from the soul" because of how much I feel connected to his tunes. I did this using only ballpoint pens on paper. I've been reading about great people lately in Africa and their achievements as well. Then I thought of "Oluwatobiloba Amusan" who is the Nigerian athlete who broke the World Record with her 12.12 seconds semi-final win before going on to win the world title in Oregon with 12.06s wind-aided time.



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I genuinely feel her win is worthy of celebration, not just because she's a lady but most especially because she's an African. Africans have birthed a lot of amazing heroes whose lives will continue to inspire more lives across borders. I made KHALED purposely to reach out to people who are giving up on their dreams. Irrespective of our present situation or circumstances there still a light at the end of the tunnel. Don't let us see patience like a waste of time nor hard work like a stress. Everyone is a winner, Time can just play its part. I've been following through @aalamkhaled page for a while and I love how cute he his, so I decided to make a portrait drawing of @aalamkhaled and his dad @djkhalead the living legend himself using ballpoint colored pens on paper. My artwork can be found on:

<https://twitter.com/emmapendraws?t=ngK71JlxHFAsvwzVguwS3g&s=09>

<https://www.instagram.com/emmapendraws/>

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=emmapendraws>

Lukasz Jan Drygiel (*Art Gallery, pgs. 76-78*)

Since I was a child, I had a need to draw, as probably many of us do. Then came the time of getting lost and moving away from my passion , as I am sure many of you do...Gradually, I started to discover myself and what I need in life to return to my passion and devote myself to drawings and travels that shape me. At some point I realized that despite the composition and depth of the sketches, they lack color, but it is color that arouses the greatest emotions in me, both during observation and in the creation itself. So I reached for paints. My goal is to travel the world and immortalize its beauty through them, doing it more and more skillfully and consciously. My passion is complemented by films, thanks to which I capture many images and express myself better. My artwork can be found at:

<https://facebook.com/lid.pictures> (my artworks)

<https://www.youtube.com/@farwaypictures> (painting and travelling videos)

Edythe Renz Pearson (*Poetry, pgs. 79-80*) Bio by her daughter Dee Stebbins

In loving memory of my mother and her poetry which I cherish. My mother was in a singing group who went to nursing homes and sang. She loved to share of herself and had an angelic voice. She loved making people happy and feeling that she cared. She wrote a section in the local newspaper and had a lifelong passion for writing, especially poetry. She worked at a TV station when she was starting her career and met a lot of interesting people. She wrote poetry all her life to celebrate life and creativity. She passed on November 6, 2017 and left a legacy of wonderful poetry.

ODD VANT GUARDE

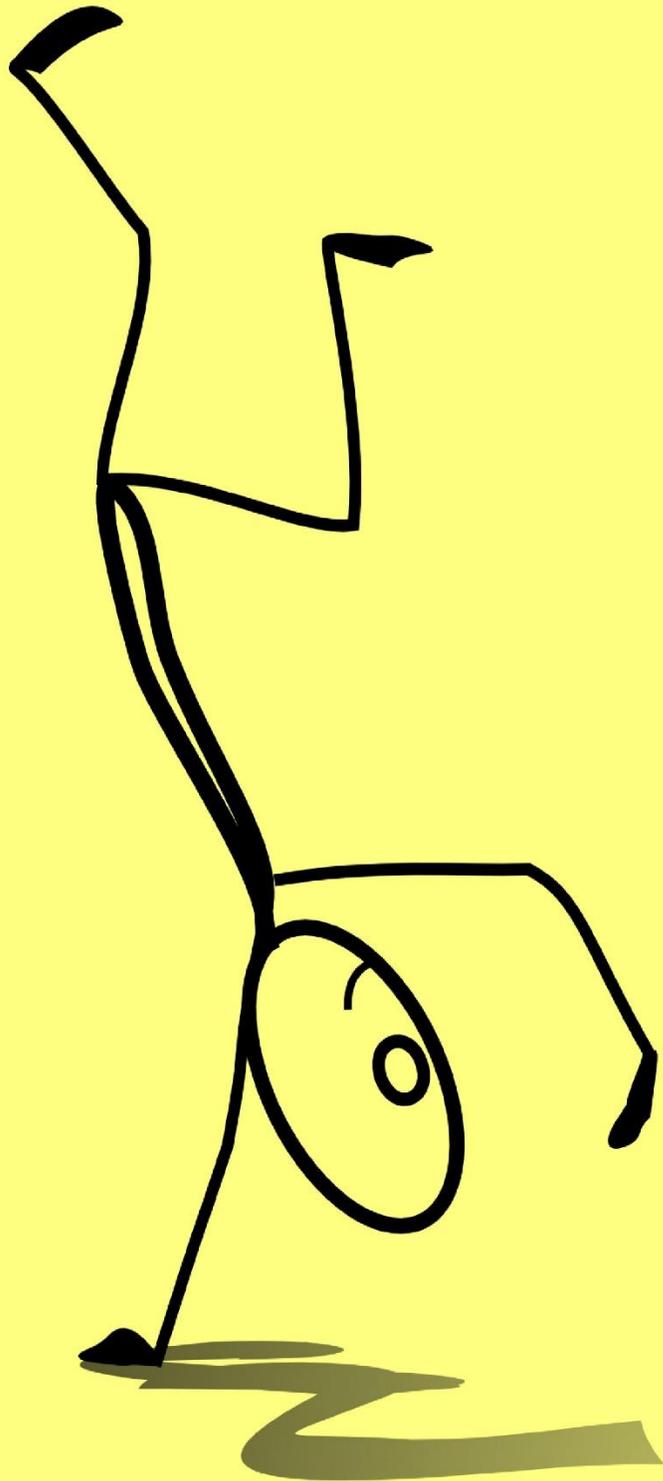
Usually the wacky people have the breakthroughs.

The smart people don't.



Section Managing Editor Oscar "Trashman" Corelli

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**I have long ago accepted that I
am a little crazy and a little
weird.**

**It wasn't that exciting a
revelation though.**

Turns out everyone is.

**It doesn't matter if I'm off the
beat.**

**It doesn't matter if I'm
snapping to the rhythm.**

**It doesn't matter if I look like a
complete goon when I dance.**

**It is my dance. It is my moment.
It is mine.**

And dance I will.

Try and stop me.

**You'll probably get kicked in the
face.**

You want to be popular?

It's easy to do.

**Just be a total weirdo and love
yourself for it**



Ask Zoltar

Courtesy of Star Logic Astrodynamics

Step right up and meet the Great European Seer ZOLTAR. He hates his name. You see ZOLTAR has a bad attitude and a chip on his shoulder. He has been harboring a grudge since his cousin ZOLTAN had a major role in the movie "Big" starring Tom Hanks back in 1988. After the movie premiered, there was a big rush of popularity for all penny arcade fortune telling machines which died down just about as fast as it got started. Consequently, ZOLTAR doesn't have anything nice to say about anyone's solar sign so be sure to read this with a HUGE sense of humor...

ARIES - "I AM"

Your dominant keywords of 'I Am' should really state, 'I AM ANNOYING.' You think that your opinions should be the universally accepted beliefs of all mankind and you have no problem trying to ram your conclusions down the throats of others. It IS true that you can be quite a wordsmith but you talk too much... way too much. As a matter of fact you are so busy talking you don't even hear what anyone else is saying. Actually you couldn't care less what anyone else is saying because in your microcosmic world only you count. Baa-baa bad sheep!

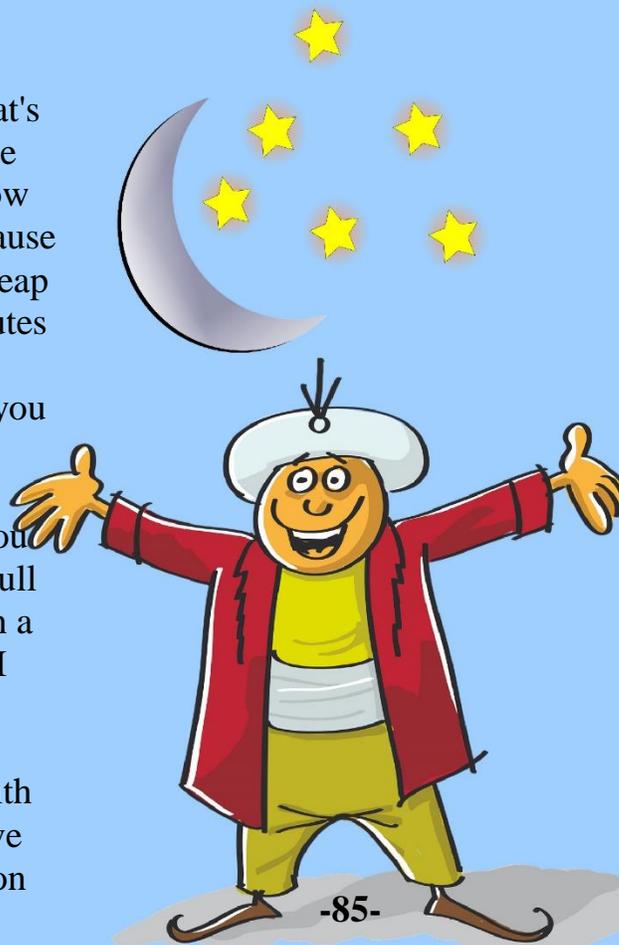
TAURUS - "I HAVE"

Sure you do. You HAVE what's yours and want what everyone else HAS but better. You know it's true and the reason is because you're so cheap. You're so cheap in fact that you spent 30 minutes trying to figure out how to retrieve the dollar of change you put into my machine! You'd rather spend that dollar of change on some antique so you can brag to the neighbors in full detail about how you are such a grand master of value. Well, I have news for you Taurus. If you even try to weasel that change out of my machine with your grubby little hoof I'll give you a manicure you won't soon forget! - - - >

Go appease yourself with a doughnut.

GEMINI - "I THINK"

You think huh? Not really. You just like to make people believe that you not only know how to think but that you ponder deeply and profoundly. Just like the legendary Loki, the trickster, you just throw around a bunch of BS and make it sound good and worse... true. Well, the jig is up Gemini and your eternal well of excuses and typical glibness isn't going to help you to get out of this one. All of this is no more than a cover up for your real persona which is akin to a sexually starved hamster with Attention Deficit Disorder.



Continued...

You'll be dancing to the tune of *Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered*.

CANCER - "I FEEL"

I'm just about fed up with all of this 'feeling' baloney associated with your sign. The truth is you could care less about anyone except yourself. You are also the biggest bully in the zodiac. You stick your nose where it doesn't belong and hand out unwanted advice carefully disguised as gushing maudlin caring. When you can't persuade others that you are only looking out for their best interest with your cheap advice, the REAL you comes out which is like a giant monster king crab with a glandular disorder ready to devour anything in its path. AND heaven help the poor soul who doesn't think one of your jokes is funny or who forgets to pay back the money you lent them because you'll 'guilt' them into a yearlong depression.

LEO - "I CREATE"

This may come as a shock but you are NOT the center of the Universe. All of this nonsense about 'creating' is out of whack! If you create anything it is usually a big mess. You're not concerned about your messes because no one would dare to criticize you for fear of the backlash and being teased unmercifully for the rest of their natural lives. You are the king of manipulation and this comes easy to you because you are such a martyr. Cancer doesn't hold a candle to you in the martyr/manipulation department. When it comes to sex but you cover up that tacky and tawdry side of your life with phony dignity.

VIRGO - "I ANALYZE"

Analyze my derrière! What you really do is Criticize. This is very clever of you because it is the best way to turn the tables on an adversary. If that doesn't work then you just act agonizingly boring until your opponent falls asleep or gives up out of frustration. Your sign is also known as the sign of service and while this is true it is also another way you cover up the 'real' you which is highly promiscuous... AND for the rest of you who are snickering (except Scorpio) - let's remember that service means service and prostitutes need to make a living too even if it is a second income. - - - >



You are supposed to be the zodiacal sign of intelligence but truth be known you're actually the village idiot. You are also a gossip monger particularly when you have nothing else to do (which is often since you feign being busy). You are supposed to be the zodiacal sign of intelligence but truth be known you're actually the village idiot.

LIBRA - "I BALANCE"

In my book the only thing you balance is Circus Balls! You're another over-rated sign that runs a close second to Virgo as an imbecile. Do you even need to ask why? Others say you are the procrastinator of the Zodiac because you need time to weigh what is fair and just.

Continued...

The truth is you're just stupid and don't have any answers. You also corner the market on superficiality and preoccupation with cleanliness. You like to be married (the more marriages the better) but are not necessarily interested in procreation. In your world children should be "clean and not heard." You have the worst temper of any sign in the Zodiac and it surprises others when you spout off because your sickeningly sweet façade throws them off.

SCORPIO - "I DESIRE"

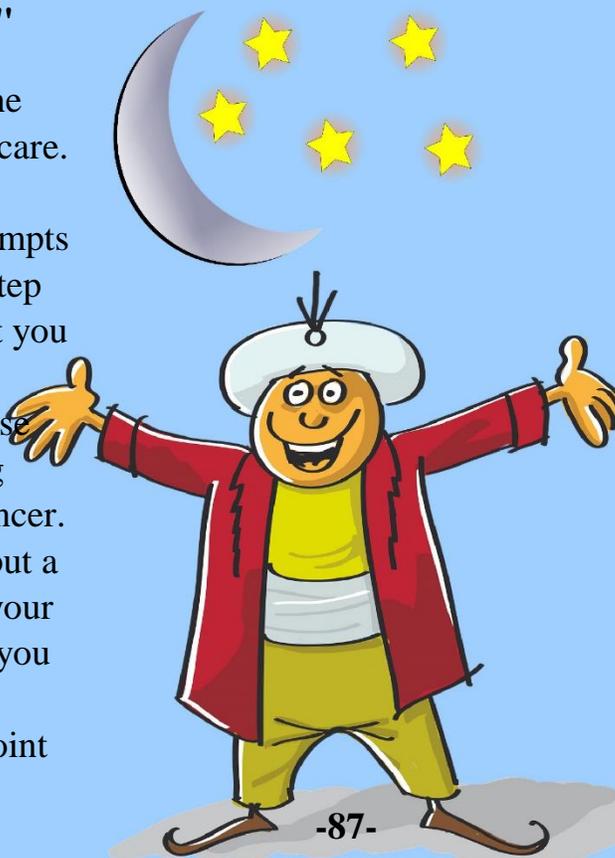
Let's take a good look at you Hot Stuff and this desire of yours! It is said that Scorpio has been blessed with tremendous stamina and that you like to have sex 24-7. This is simply not true. Your genitals don't guide you but your criminal mind does. You'll cheat anyone out of anything (especially money) and then when you get it you hoard it. It goes straight into your abyss of collectibles among everything else you've collected since you were three years old. As far as sex goes, you can and will wield it like a weapon along with the other nasty things you engage like the black arts, sorcery and the occasional bloodletting.

SAGITTARIUS - "I UNDERSTAND"

If you are so understanding, why are you always in trouble? Most of your trouble starts with your rude mouth and blunt speech pattern. You pretend to innocently blurt things out but you mean what you are saying. You enjoy being facetious and then think it is hilarious when the human brunt of your wordy barrage doesn't get it. It takes at least 5 minutes for your repartee to sink into the average person's brain. The worst part is your recipient usually thanks you for it no matter how brutal the delivery. You also enjoy stirring up trouble between people and then just sit there enjoying the ensuing battle that erupts. Since you are always looking for lucrative ventures, maybe you should join up with Scorpio... you could mesmerize folks with your banter while Scorpio ★ picks their pockets.

CAPRICORN - "I USE"

Yes you do... you use everyone and everything and you don't care. Don't even try to dispute it or cover it up with any lame attempts of faked justification. You'd step on your mother if it would get you ahead. Everything with you is push and shove. This is because you borrow the art of bullying from your polarity sign of Cancer. Worst of all you are nothing but a big baby when you don't get your own way. As a matter of fact you have been known to go to extremes just to prove your point and get attention. - - - >



You are supposedly the busy sign of the Zodiac but this is not born of out of any inner dynamic to achieve - you're just hyper. I bet you wouldn't be able to still in for five minutes unless a monetary wager was involved. You are also a terrible story teller because you belabor the plot to such an extent everyone falls asleep or loses track of the point.

AQUARIUS - "I KNOW"

This is an incomplete statement. It should say "I know I'm right and you're wrong." I am wasting my time talking to you because your arrogance far outweighs your intelligence. Continued...

You'll compensate by dropping into paradox mode pretending to be preoccupied with something much more cosmically important. Most people find you complex but I know you're just a faker and a taker... a real weasel. It's your eyes that give you away every time... they dart about and you never look at anyone straight on when you are lying or trying to escape. AND escape you do... every time!

PISCES - "I BELIEVE"

So what do you want - a medal? All of this spiritual bunk surrounding your sign is a bunch of nonsense. Your sign is no more spiritual than anyone else's sign and you know it. You're just a little more adept at pulling the wool over the eyes of others. You are a terrible communicator and no one can understand what you say which is usually some twisted metaphysical double talk laced with incompetent attempts at intelligence. Those of you who are intelligent tend to be of the mad scientist variety working subversively on some weird project that has absolutely no value to mankind. You are often described as a 'goody two shoes' in nature but the truth is you're a sex maniac. Nobody notices you as much as Scorpio in this regard because you're quiet and sneaky about it. Virgo of course understands all of this since it is your polarity sign so maybe the two of you should open shop!



The Monk and the Samurai

This is a take on a Zen Parable that has been told and retold many times...

A big, tough samurai once went to see a little monk.

“Monk!”

He barked, in a voice accustomed to instant obedience.

“Teach me about heaven and hell!”

The monk looked up at the mighty warrior and replied with utter disdain,

“Teach you about heaven and hell? I couldn’t teach you about anything. You’re dumb. You’re dirty. You’re a disgrace, an embarrassment to the samurai class. Get out of my sight. I can’t stand you.”

The samurai got furious. He shook, red in the face, speechless with rage. He pulled out his sword, and prepared to slay the monk.

Looking straight into the samurai’s eyes, the monk said softly,

“That’s hell.”

The samurai froze, realizing the compassion of the monk who had risked his life to show him hell! He put down his sword and fell to his knees, filled with gratitude.

The monk said softly,

“And that’s heaven.”





A Strange Case of Astro Twins

Courtesy of Star Logic Astrodynamics



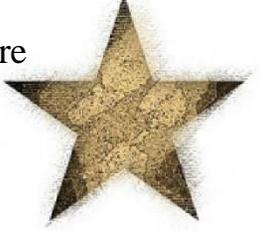
How far can probability be stretched in terms of astrology? Consider the case of astro twins. If the principles underlying astrology are truly valid then it would make sense that two people born under similar astrological conditions would not only have the likelihood of similar professions but also similar lives.



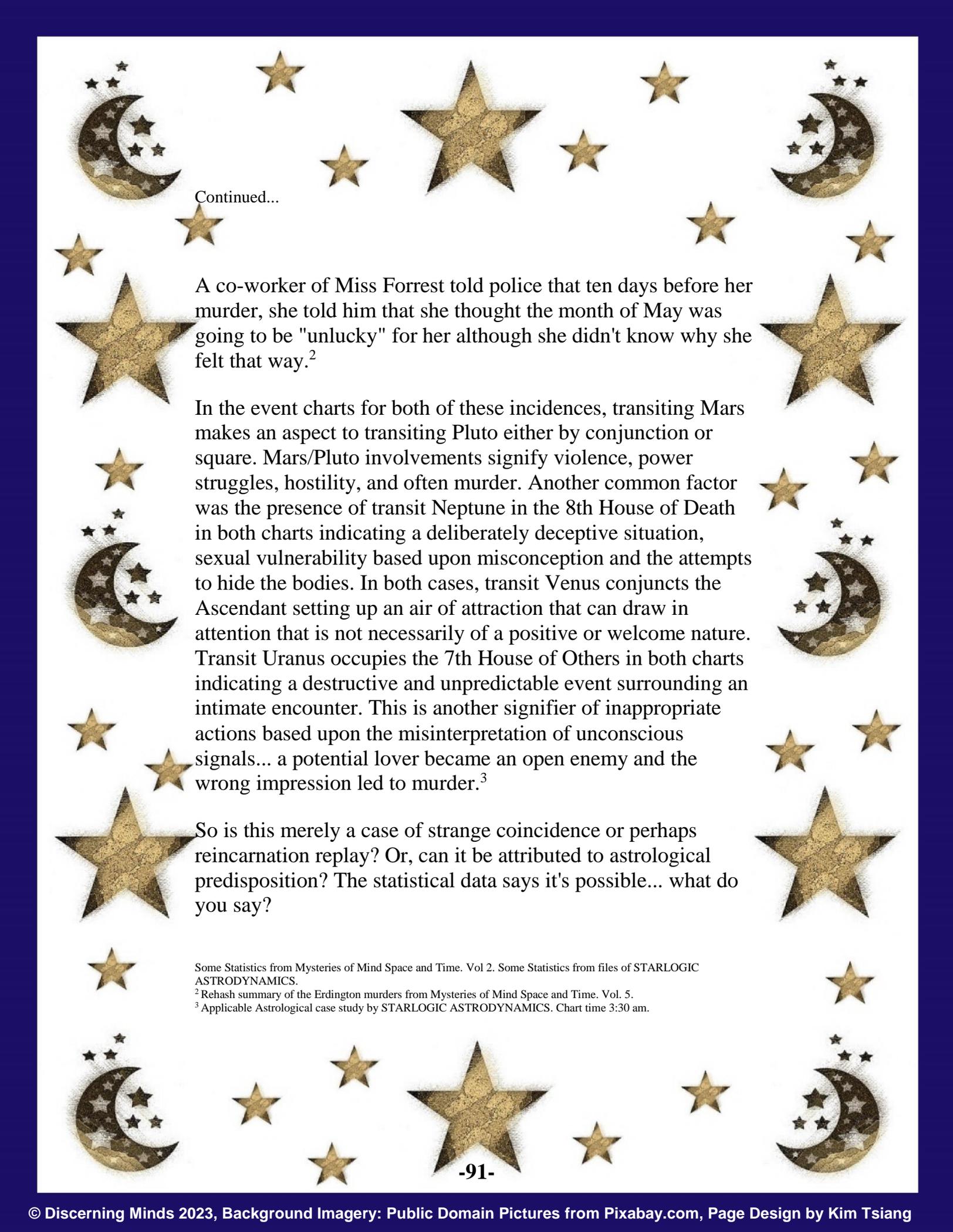
What about events...do prevailing astrological conditions set the stage for uncanny reoccurrence? Here is a scary story that provides food for thought. On May 27, 1817 a 20 year old girl by the name of Mary Ashford was found murdered in the small village of Erdington in England. Mary had been strangled and her body was found near a children's home where she worked as a nurse. On May 27, 1974, some 157 years later to the day, in Erdington, another 20 year old girl by the name of Barbara Forrest, a worker in a children's home, was found murdered by strangulation. It has been calculated that the deaths took place around the same time of day and that the bodies were found within 400 yards of one another. In both cases attempts had been made to hide the bodies.



According to records, the two girls' activities on these dates were uncannily similar. Both had visited a friend and changed into a new dress in preparation for a dance later that evening. In both cases a man named Thornton had been arrested for each respective murder and in both cases acquitted. Even though there are no photographs of Mary Ashford, it has been suggested that sketches of her bear a remarkable resemblance to Barbara Forrest. It has also been rumored that the girls had the same birthday.



Continued...



Continued...

A co-worker of Miss Forrest told police that ten days before her murder, she told him that she thought the month of May was going to be "unlucky" for her although she didn't know why she felt that way.²

In the event charts for both of these incidences, transiting Mars makes an aspect to transiting Pluto either by conjunction or square. Mars/Pluto involvements signify violence, power struggles, hostility, and often murder. Another common factor was the presence of transit Neptune in the 8th House of Death in both charts indicating a deliberately deceptive situation, sexual vulnerability based upon misconception and the attempts to hide the bodies. In both cases, transit Venus conjuncts the Ascendant setting up an air of attraction that can draw in attention that is not necessarily of a positive or welcome nature. Transit Uranus occupies the 7th House of Others in both charts indicating a destructive and unpredictable event surrounding an intimate encounter. This is another signifier of inappropriate actions based upon the misinterpretation of unconscious signals... a potential lover became an open enemy and the wrong impression led to murder.³

So is this merely a case of strange coincidence or perhaps reincarnation replay? Or, can it be attributed to astrological predisposition? The statistical data says it's possible... what do you say?

Some Statistics from *Mysteries of Mind Space and Time*. Vol 2. Some Statistics from files of STARLOGIC ASTRODYNAMICS.

² Rehash summary of the Erdington murders from *Mysteries of Mind Space and Time*. Vol. 5.

³ Applicable Astrological case study by STARLOGIC ASTRODYNAMICS. Chart time 3:30 am.

I can believe things that are true and things that aren't true and I can believe things where nobody knows if they're true or not.

I can believe in Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny and the Beatles and Marilyn Monroe and Elvis and Mister Ed. Listen - I believe that people are perfectible, that knowledge is infinite, that the world is run by secret banking cartels and is visited by aliens on a regular basis, nice ones that look like wrinkled lemurs and bad ones who mutilate cattle and want our water and our women.

I believe that the future sucks and I believe that the future rocks and I believe that one day White Buffalo Woman is going to come back and kick everyone's ass. I believe that all men are just overgrown boys with deep problems communicating and that the decline in good sex in America is coincident with the decline in drive-in movie theaters from state to state.

I believe that all politicians are unprincipled crooks and I still believe that they are better than the alternative. I believe that California is going to sink into the sea when the big one comes, while Florida is going to dissolve into madness and alligators and toxic waste.

I believe that antibacterial soap is destroying our resistance to dirt and disease so that one day we'll all be wiped out by the common cold like Martians in War of the Worlds.

I believe that the greatest poets of the last century were Edith Sitwell and Don Marquis, that jade is dried dragon sperm, and that thousands of years ago in a former life I was a one-armed Siberian shaman.

I believe that mankind's destiny lies in the stars. I believe that candy really did taste better when I was a kid, that it's aerodynamically impossible for a bumble bee to fly, that light is a wave and a particle, that there's a cat in a box somewhere who's alive and dead at the same time (although if they don't ever open the box to feed it it'll eventually just be two different kinds of dead), and that there are stars in the universe billions of years older than the universe itself.

I believe in a personal god who cares about me and worries and oversees everything I do.

I believe in an impersonal god who set the universe in motion and went off to hang with her girlfriends and doesn't even know that I'm alive.

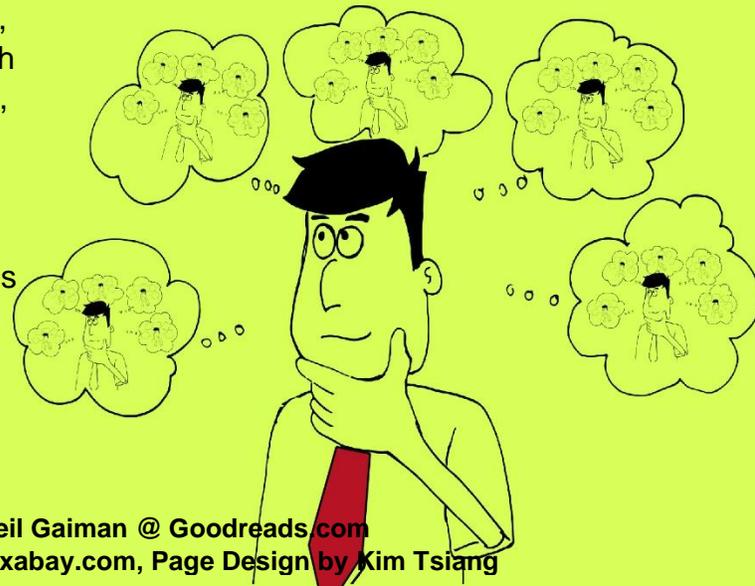
I believe in an empty and godless universe of causal chaos. background noise. and sheer blind luck.

I believe that anyone who says sex is overrated just hasn't done it properly. I believe that anyone who claims to know what's going on will lie about the little things too.

I believe in absolute honesty and sensible social lies.

I believe in a woman's right to choose, a baby's right to live, that while all human life is sacred there's nothing wrong with the death penalty if you can trust the legal system implicitly, and that no one but a moron would ever trust the legal system.

I believe that life is a game that life is a cruel joke, and that life is what happens when you're alive and that you might as well lie back and enjoy it





AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES



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ODD VANT GUARDE

Dan Pearce QUOTE (*Weird*, pg.84)

Dan Pearce is an American-born author, photographer, and artist, most widely known for his world-popular blog Single Dad Laughing, where he wrote and shared content for millions of daily subscribers for more than a decade. He has been featured in large publications and editorial pieces and has appeared on national and morning television programs and national radio shows.

Star Logic Astroynamics (*Ask Zoltar*, pg.88 and *A Strange Case of Astro Twins*, pg. 90)

These articles come courtesy and with explicit permission from Star Logic Astroynamics and Astrologer Loni Haas.

Public Domain Tale, (*The Monk and the Samurai*, pg. 89)

The Monk and the Samurai is an often told tale in the media. This take was excerpted from [Conscious Business: How to Build Value through Values](#).

Neil Gaiman QUOTE (*I Believe*, pg.92)

Neil Gaiman is an English author of short fiction, novels, comic books, [graphic novels](#), audio theatre, and a screenwriter. His works include the comic book series [The Sandman](#) and the novels [Good Omens](#), [Stardust](#), [Anansi Boys](#), [American Gods](#), [Coraline](#), and [The Graveyard Book](#). Gaiman has won numerous awards, including the [Hugo](#), [Nebula](#), and [Bram Stoker](#) awards, as well as the [Newbery](#) and [Carnegie](#) medals. He is the first author to win both the Newbery and the Carnegie medals for the same work, *The Graveyard Book* (2008). In 2013, [The Ocean at the End of the Lane](#) was voted Book of the Year in the British [National Book Awards](#). It was later adapted into a critically acclaimed stage play at the [Royal National Theatre](#) in London.