



THIS ISSUE: GOOD & EVIL

BEYOND GOOD & EVIL: A VISION OF PAGAN ETHICS

Good and evil seem to be the very building blocks of religion. But is this dualism a necessary component of religious thought?

By Archer, artwork by Christine Beetow... 14

A LITTLE SPOT OF DARKNESS: REFLECTIONS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL

Could that black spot of personal evil within each of us be the reason we are drawn to scenes of atrocity, from Mayan ballgames to gory horror movies?

By Laura Perry, artwork by Christine Beetow... 19

WHEN THE GODDESS SINGS THE BLUES

When a plane drops on my head I may believe that either; 1) Somebody Up There wasn't doing Her job, or 2) I deserve what I got. We feel betrayal, anger, and guilt when tragedy strikes; we wonder where the deity's love was that day.

By Caroline Ailanthus, artwork by Christine Beetow... 21

THE PARADOX OF EVIL IN WICCAN THEOLOGY

The problem of evil is a challenging question for any religion, but perhaps especially so for Wicca. And "The Problem of Good" could be said to be equally challenging as well.

By Lynna Landstreet, artwork by Christine Beetow... 24

SWORD WITHOUT A HILT: EXPLORING THE NATURE OF EVIL

What is this thing we call "evil"? We often toss the word around carelessly, yet in the end, most people have an innate sense of what evil means.

By Elizabeth Barrette, artwork by Christine Beetow... 27

BLACK HATS HAVE MORE FUN

Trying to be a perfect little princess gets pretty tedious. We go to work and sit in our little boxes doing what we're told, like *good* employees. We go home and we're *good* lovers and spouses and parents. We meet with friends and listen to each other's problems, the way *good* friends should. Most of us don't set aside much time to be *bad*.

By Bad Witch, artwork by Christine Beetow... 33

HEALING OF THE SOIL: WHEN THE LAND ITSELF DEFIES EVIL

In troubling times, we Earth-wise people need to do more than look to our rituals for escape. We might want to use ritual and action to acknowledge and defy the evil done on (and to) the land. We should also count our losses.

By Burdock, artwork by Christine Beetow... 34

FEATURES

EVERYTHING WE DO IS A RITUAL: ETHICS AND PRACTICE IN HAITIAN VODOU

Like all religions, Vodou has a moral code, but one that is very different than that expressed by the Wiccan's "Threefold Law." Given the vast differences between the lives of a Neo-Pagan living in the American suburbs and a Vodouisant living in the Port-au-Prince slums, this difference should hardly be surprising. Vodou is an integral part of Haiti's social fabric, with a code of ethics rooted both in African tradition and in the harsh realities of day-to-day life in the Western Hemisphere's poorest country.

By Kevin Filan, artwork by Christine Beetow... 36



FEATURES (cont.)

CREATING A PAGAN BOOKSHELF: PART 1, THE CLASSICS

The premise was simple enough. Most Pagans love to read, and even those who don't still have strong opinions about which books best capture the essence of Pagan spirituality.

Edited by Carl McColman, artwork by Christine Beetow... 40

WITCHES AND WIZARDS AND WARRIORS, OH MY! THE OLD RELIGION AND THE U. S. MILITARY

Do the American military services "recognize" Wicca? How do Pagans practice our religion in the Military? *By Lt. Col. Ron Schaefer, USAF... 43*

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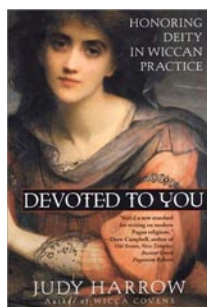
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ABOUT THE COVER ARTIST

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