

IN THIS ISSUE: PAGANS AND THE LAND

WHERE IS GAIA WHEN WE NEED HER MOST?

Few cities rivaled New Orleans for its concentration of Witches, magicians, sorcerers, and other Spiritually Aware Folks. If any city in the United States was home to the *Iwa* and the spirits, it was New Orleans. And yet all of that magical power was not enough to turn away a hurricane or to hold the levees in place. What does Hurricane Katrina tell us about our magic, or about the spirits we serve and the gods we honor? These are not easy questions, but they demand an answer nonetheless.

By Kevin Filan... 16

ON LIVING IN ARIZONA

It is a truism within the recovery community that moving halfway across the country can have no affect on your ability to deal with life. By definition, wherever you go, there you are; and whether you've got a desert or a rainforest outside your bedroom window doesn't change what's going on inside your mind and heart. That makes a lot of sense. It's also not always true.

By Caroline Ailanthus, artwork by Bodie Parkhurst... 19

BEYOND GAIA: THE REBIRTH OF ECO-PAGANISM

Ever since James Lovelock first proposed the Gaia hypothesis in the late 1970s, it has become clear that the concept of Gaia has as many religious implications as scientific ones. But too often, people who speak of Gaia as a goddess forget that other natural systems can be understood in the same way. If Gaia is a goddess, in other words, She may not be alone — and today's Pagans may be missing the fact that the gods and goddesses they worship are much closer than they think.

By John Michael Greer, artwork by Bodie Parkhurst... 25

I AM THE MOUNTAIN WALKING

What if I am not only human, but also part of the mountain, and the mountain is part of me? From that perspective, mountains do indeed walk. When I walk, the mountain also walks, because the mountain is part of me. I am the mountain walking.

By Dr. Douglas Ezzy, artwork by Bodie Parkhurst... 29

THE REWILDING: THE LAKE ISLE OF INNISFREE

The first time I visited Innisfree, the owner walked all of it with me. I have never met anyone who knew her homeplace so deeply. She took me into the secret world beyond her cabin; to the wild shoreline, rocky cliffs, willow thickets, and magical places where she'd played as a child. The owner's raw intimacy with this land combined with her spiritual beliefs have led her to want to preserve this particular patch of wilderness in a non-wilderness world.

By Cristina Eisenberg, artwork by Bodie Parkhurst... 39

WHAT CAN I DO? MOVING FROM ANXIETY TO ACTION

Paganism is all about making the world a better place. We may not be able to save the whole world, but we can each make our little corner of it a safer, happier, healthier place. Remember that the gods bestow gifts in proportion to need — we would not have the power of magic if we did not face obstacles that call for it. But despair is not the answer. When you read about depressing things in the news, here are concrete things you can do to counteract the negativity.

By Elizabeth Barrette, artwork by Bodie Parkhurst... 52



25



39



52

PanGaia: A Pagan Journal for Thinking People

FICTION

MIGRATION

"I first heard about it when Redwood appeared in the desert, dropping his bags with a thud. One of them popped open, spilling a sunrise with scented air redolent with the gradual warming of tree sap and the sound of melting spring snow. Redwood picked it up hurriedly, embarrassed at his own clumsiness."

By Brian K. Lowe, artwork by Suzanne Cheryl Gardner ... 21

YUNDAH

Kat dug these graves for me six months before she passed away. She was waning fast, but got up one morning and made sure that every living thing in our care had a place to go when it died. *By C. S. MacCath, artwork by Sharon McLeod ... 33*

GARDEN OF SOULS

Kelody waited impatiently for the hatch to release while Rigel methodically locked the console — though the landscape was deserted — remote-linked his cord, then slowly exited as if about to step onto the ice field of a Jovian moon, not midsummer Earth. *By M. Turville Heitz, artwork by Carol Coogan ... 44*

POETRY

Lady of Arizona by Rebecca Wolfe ... 18

The Land by Kat Ricker ... 24

The Memoirs of Old Wildflowers by Carly Svamvour ... 28

The Green River Enchantment by Marie Lavendier ... 32

Who is She? by Elizabeth Barrette ... 38

Persephone's Garden by Elizabeth Barrette ... 38

A Wing and a Prayer by Jessica D. Thompson ... 50

COLUMNS

IMPRESSIONS

By Elizabeth Barrette ... 3

UNDERWORLD

By R. J. Stewart ... 55

MIND AND MAGIC

By Judy Harrow ... 59

CONNECTIONS

By Archer ... 78

DEPARTMENTS

FEEDBACK LOOP

Letters from Our Readers ... 5

NEWS AND NOTES

From the Publisher ... 9

TOE-TO-TOE

Debate and Controversy: Should We Hunt for a Pagan Paradise? ... 11

POINT OF VIEW

Perspectives from Our Readers ... 15

INNER CIRCLE

PanGaia recommends ... 63

MARKETPLACE

Goods, Services and Ideas ... 76

ABOUT OUR FEATURED ARTIST

Bodie Parkurst writes, paints and illustrates for pleasure and profit and lives with her son in the Pacific Northwest. Her column on mothering in *PanGaia's* sister title *SageWoman* will begin in the spring issue.



21



44



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11



63