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PanGaia: A Pagan Journal for Thinking People

IN THIS ISSUE: RITUAL & CEREMONY

COVER STORY: GIFTS TO THE GODS

Once we believed that the gods demanded blood offerings in return for their favor. Did They change Their ways — or did we? Or did the ancients know something that we have forgotten? An in-depth look at the “ultimate” ritual: human sacrifice, and its effects on Paganism, past, present and future. *By Archer, artwork by Cris Beetow... 15*

SUN DANCE

The timing couldn't have been worse. How could I attend a Sun Dance in Green Grass on Sunday and have surgery in Rapid City the following day? Both events were crucial — and immovable. Nothing to do but accept what the gods — the Native American ones and the gods of medicine — had decreed. *By Marian Mathews Hersrud, artwork by Chris Beetow... 27*

AN ALTAR IN THE WIND: BUILDING A MAGICAL OUTDOOR ALTAR

There's no better place to celebrate and connect with the forces of nature than in their true environment: outdoors. By building your magical altar outdoors, you can experience the gifts of Nature directly. *By Von Braschler, artwork by Chris Beetow... 42*

ALSO:

LOVESPELLS RECONSIDERED

Some say that “no real Witch would ever cast a love spell to control another's will.” This must come as a big surprise to the many practitioners, past and present, who do a brisk business in love charms, philtres, and spells. Is there a way to do such spellwork ethically? *By Kevin Filan, artwork by Chris Beetow... 31*

NATIB QUADISH: REDISCOVERING THE GODS OF CANAAN

What do you do when you hear the call of a god you never knew existed? Some Pagans are brushing off the dust of millennia and rediscovering an almost-forgotten path: that of the Canaanite religion. *By Tess Dawson, artwork by Chris Beetow... 34*

ENCOUNTERING PAN: A MEDITATION

It's just dawn. The green-gold Sunlight on your face eases you awake. There is honeysuckle on the air you can taste, and piping of morning birds, and the rolling hum of insects. As the gauze of sleep falls away, you understand — with some surprise — that you are *not* in your bed, in your room, in your home. *By Linnaeus, artwork by Chris Beetow... 39*

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FICTION PATSY'S CANDLES

There are eight of them on the painted shelf. White and uniformly sized, they are arranged in a straight line like slats on a picket fence. Three more, also white but of varying heights, perch atop the kelly-green hand towel precisely folded to fit the contours of the commode lid. *By Mitzi McMahon, artwork by Chris Beetow ... 46*

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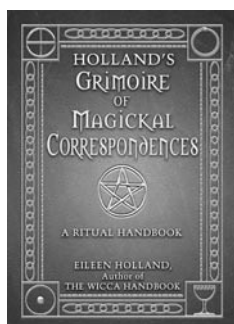
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For more information on the exhibition "The Mysterious Bog People" please see http://media.civilization.ca/bog_e.htm or contact the Canadian Museum of Civilization at 1-800-555-5621.

OUR FEATURED ARTIST

Chris Beetow is a freelance illustrator and educator living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. An associate professor of illustration at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, you can write to Chris *c/o PanGaia* or email her at cbeetow@hotmail.com.