

Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections

Digital Commons @Vtext



New Age Movements, Occultism, and Spiritualism Research Library: Rowan Tree
Church Periodicals Collection
MS/150/5

Candlemass 1981

Children of the Earth

Vol. 1, No. 1

Rowan Tree Church Periodicals Collection

For this and additional works see: <https://vtext.valdosta.edu/xmlui/handle/10428/3270>

UUID: 1F28228B-E2F0-7882-4FCD-0C65B3EE9C84

Recommended Citation:

Children of the Earth. 1, no.1 (Candlemas, 1981). Rowan Tree Church Periodicals Collection, New Age Movements, Occultism, and Spiritualism Research Library. Archives and Special Collections. Valdosta State University. Valdosta, GA.

<https://hdl.handle.net/10428/5083>

This item is free and open source. It is part of the Rowan Tree Church Periodicals Collection at Odum Library Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections. If you have any questions or concerns contact archives@valdosta.edu

Paul - Thanks for giving our address to Rose & Tim. BB. A

Children of the Earth

Volume I, Number I

CANDLEMAS 1981

Rt. 2 Box 305 Philippi, WV 26416

c. 1981 Cote

Welcome to 'Children of the Earth'

- ★ This newsletter exists to provide a FORUM for Pagan families to SHARE the joys and hassles of raising (or being) Pagan children. We hope you will all send articles, and write letters, to share questions, ideas, problems, experiences, stories, whatever. I am the EDITOR, not the author. This newsletter will be whatever you, the readers, make it.
- ★ The format we are aiming for is: 1. Letters from YOU, 2. Articles of interest to Pagan families, 3. Music, games stories, activities, etc. that are Pagan/family oriented, 4. Stuff by/for the kids, and 5. Contacts, the purpose of which will be to put parents and kids in touch with one another, rather than the usual seeker/teacher type of thing. 6. Whatever else meets your needs. As soon as we have enough material for an issue, we'll go to press.
- ★ Please indicate how much of your name/address you want printed to sign letters or by-line articles. Unless you tell us otherwise, we'll print first name and state. We'll gladly forward letters if you provide postage.
- ★ Thanks to all who spread the word about our existence, who contributed copy, who gave advice and blessings.
- ★ Thanks to the Mother, for inspiration.

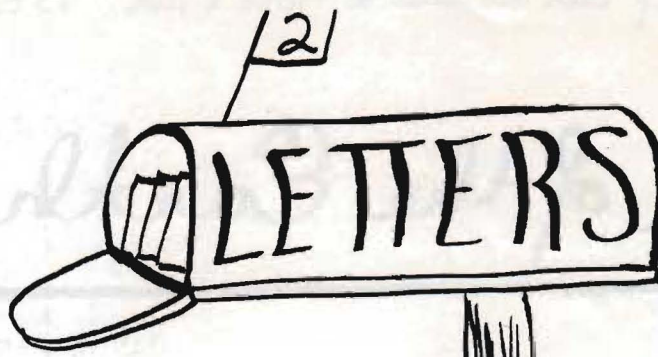
*Blessed Be!
Hestia*

* CIRCLE NETWORK NEWS (P.O. Box 9013, Madison, WI 53715) is doing their Spring issue on Pagan Parenting and Pagan Children.

* The Minneapolis Institute of Arts hosts the British Museum's Viking Exhibit from March 1 to April 30.

OTHER THINGS FOR PAGAN FAMILIES

If you know of an event, workshop, gathering, periodical, column, or whatever, please drop me a postcard so I can announce it here.



"...In reference to the pros and Wicca, I feel things have change Grandma vs. rest of the family- vision of the '80's is not too It's one of the few places I this country. But I can have all about raising the kids into to me. It's necessary and see what's happening and use deal with our times in a

cons of raising the kids in d much from when it was my Now it's us vs. them. My rosy...I'm glad we're here. could exist and remain in no qualms or hesitations at Wicca. There's no alternative essential that they truly all their energies to positive way..."

-Rose, Washington

UnSchooling and Paganism

Very quietly, a growing number of parents are choosing to educate their children at home. Some of them travel with their kids, some live very far from the nearest school. Many, though, simply find that the public schools do not meet their needs and those of their children.

Parents who educate their own kids can tailor the instructional program to fit their child, rather than the other way around. Some kids need more structure than the schools give; many need much less. A home-taught child can spend more time on subjects that interest her, and cover the standard material in much less time per day. She doesn't need to waste her time on school busses, or waiting for slower kids in her class to understand the material. Home schooling is not for everyone, but for many families it makes a great deal of sense.

As Pagan parents, we have some additional concerns to deal with regarding our kids' education. Some of us, keeping a low profile for various reasons, cringe at the thought of our children sneaking our athames in for show and tell. We worry that repeated cautions of "Don't tell anyone Mommy's a Witch" will cause feelings of guilt-- or at least encourage dishonesty. If we are out of the broom closet, our kids are members of a VERY small minority group in most schools. Not only are we not covered by Affirmative Action programs, but our very existance is often denied.

More to the point, regardless of the community's attitude toward Paganism, is that traditional education is rational, left-brain oriented. There are nominal courses in the arts, but there is no way that the relational, right brain gets much real encouragement. Magic, fantasy, art out of art class, movement, emotion, spontaneous anything, all are supressed in public schools in the name of order and discipline. Then we grow up and do many long hours of meditations exercises, and rituals to awaken the child within. A balanced education program, at home or elsewhere, might not put him to sleep

in the first place.

Now, I fantasize Pagan communities, where kids grow up in touch with All facets of themselves, growing and learning joyfully, where neither learning nor magick is separate from living. But you have to start where you are, and maybe home education is a way some of us can give our kids a better start in THIS world.

Parents who are interested in exploring home schooling further should read THE MOTHER EARTH NEWS, Issues 64 and 66, P.O. Box 70, Hendersonville, N.C. 28791. GROWING WITHOUT SCHOOLING (Holt Associates, Inc. 308 Boylston St., Boston, Mass. 02116, \$10/yr.) is a newsletter for the home education movement.

If anyone out there is unschooling now, or has any experience with home education, we hope you'll share your experiences in this newsletter. A

ANDROMEDA

Arwen Fae

Witch's child, growing wild
Waxing enchantress,
Hair of copper wire,
Eyes of luminous jade,
Head full of curls
And sugar plum visions.
Scorpio eyeblinks
Could melt the Sun
Like a dish of ice cream,
Or freeze it quick
To a laughing lunar landscape.
Child of water and moon,
Soar like the eagle you are!
Dance out your young/old heartbeat,
Laugh over and under your stars!
Sabbat-happy, drinking milk and wine,
How did our souls become entwined?



Book Reviews

A CHILD'S WISH BOOK, Rowan Tree, Box 8814, Mpls, MN 55408 \$5.00

A CHILD'S WISH BOOK is a slim volume of joy (intended for, but not limited to, beginning readers). Illustrated with the delightful drawings of Prairie Jackson and Dirk of Ravenswood, its pages are a place where unicorns and elves frolic and where fun and pagan lore intertwine in stories, poems, and riddles. I only wish there were more, and more, and more...

We hope this is the SMALLEST issue we EVER print. It can best grow if people send us stuff. Stories? Books you liked? Songs? Questions? Controversy? Ideas? AND SUBSCRIPTIONS!

Subscriptions \$5.00
four issues

Send your name and
address with it

To:

CHILDREN OF THE EARTH
Rt. 2 Box 305
Philippi, WV 26416

ESP LAB

ON ESP BY Robert H. Curtis, Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J. \$5.95

Written by an M.D. who describes his own attitude as "open-minded", this carefully objective book guides young people in setting up their own ESP lab. Subjects such as Zener cards, dowsing, and psychokinesis are explained, and controlled experiments are given, in which the reader can discover his/her own psychic abilities.

Although I feel that work with a Ouija board should be approached with a bit more caution than Curtis recommends, the other experiments should prove helpful as they are, both in finding and developing psi talent.

A kid with this book will use it, too. I read one paragraph aloud to my daughter and her(non-pagan) friend, and found myself involved in a whole day of psychic experiments right on the spot.

Pagan Puzzles

SYLLACROSTIC

Answer the definitions using syllables in the SYLLABOX. The number of letters in the answer is shown by the blanks. All syllables will be used.

A	BAT	BEL	BRI	DI	E	EL	EO	ES	GID	HAIN	HENG	LUGH	MEN	NA
NA	SAD	SAM	STONE	STRE	TALS	TANE								

1. Bride
2. Lammas
3. Spring Goddess
4. Eclipse counter
5. Hallows
6. Undines, etc.
7. Lunar Lady
8. Spring festival
9. Meeting

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

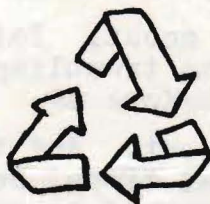
Contacts!

Sonja would like to have pagan penpals around her age. Write to her care of this paper.

This book provides, in laymen's language, an interesting exploration of the psychiatric implications of religion, making insightful recommendations on the religious education of children. Dr. Chesen draws on his experience as a psychiatrist to show the debilitating effects of too much (Judeo-Christian) religion too soon. Although he acknowledges the benefits of healthy religion, as it provides emotional support and enhances mental health, he demonstrates how, misused and mis-taught, it can cause or aggravate conditions from unhappiness to outright psychotic episodes. To avoid such tragic results, he provides guidance for parents, explaining when children are developmentally ready for the various stages and types of religious education, and giving guidelines to enable parents to pass on the positive aspects of their religion without the negatives, and to help their children find the path most suited to them.

Although quite objective, Dr. Chesen does write COMPLETELY within the Judeo-Christian tradition. This is, of course, where his experience lies. I did wish he had been able to comment on non-Biblical religions, though. In any case, the developmental readiness guidelines are helpful and the psychiatric material is quite interesting.

Can Craft



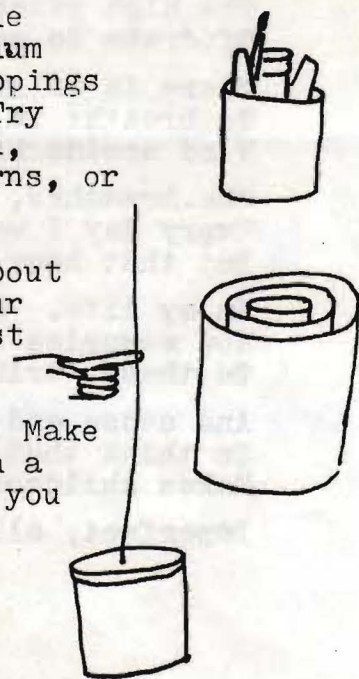
In our house we try not to make any more trash than necessary, so we use a lot of it for crafts. We're always looking for new ways to recycle things which otherwise would be thrown away. For instance, we store all our cans, washed along with the dishes, for projects like these:

THINGHOLDERS (Sonja gave everyone these for Yule a couple of years ago.) Our best one is a medium sized fruit can with make-up advertisement clippings decoupaged onto it, in which I keep make-up. Try gluing (with white glue) string, yarn, macaroni, wallpaper, fabric scraps, ribbons, shells, acorns, or whatever you have to recycle.

NESTING TOY Wash and remove the labels from about five cans that will nest inside each other. Our biggest was a 46 oz. juice can, and the smallest was from tomato paste. The baby loved it.

STRING BASS Take a can that has a plastic lid. Make a tiny hole in the middle of the lid and attach a string. By varying the tension on the string, you can pluck different notes.

Got any other ideas?



On Walking

Every day I walk the same path
Through the same woods,
But the path is never the same.

Weather changes the colors here.
Yesterday, the rock was gray,
But morning moss has turned it brilliant green.

And imperceptibly, the color scheme
Changes week to week as blossom hues
Of yellows, blues and violets peak

And fall to dulling green. Then turn
Again to multi-colored leaves. And
Turn again to brown. And finally,

To wheat and white. Sounds are varied
As a scale my footstep plays, falling
Almost silent on the moist earth

In spring. Rustles through the leaves
Of autumn. Crackles on the twigs beneath
The crusted snow. I become an Indian.

My dog, the lead scout. Tail high,
Nose to ground, he trembling with
Excitement runs before me. Finds

Our predecessors out. And these,
Invisible to me at times, come clear
When tracks are marked in snow.

I know a man with a large dog
Has walked here early. In fact,
Not very long ago. And there are sounds

Particular to season birds and insects make.
The high pitched caw of crow, the call
Of drake to mate, the drone of the cicada.

There is no sound of wind in air too still
To breathe in heat or cold. But when the
Wind scolds high among the trees

The branches, creaking, answer.
Every day I walk at the same hour
But that hour is never the same time

In my life. Mood is seldom the same.
New memories of other days spring back
To these, bringing with them sight,

And sense and sound which make me smile
To think that walking here, a circled path,
Makes childhood, middle age, and age -

Imperfect, all - become a perfect round.

Candace Olesen
December, 1980

DIANA

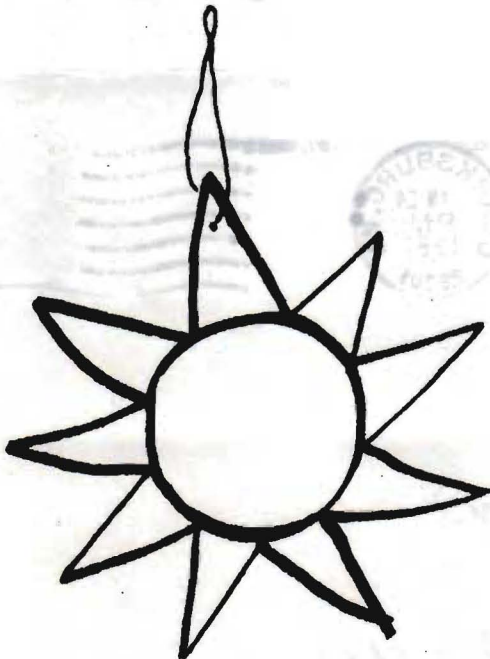
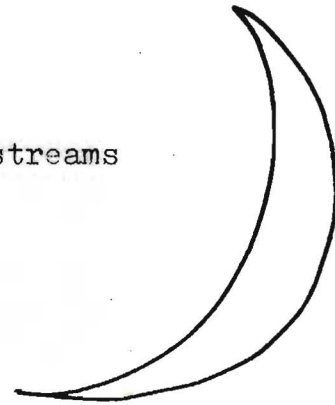
by Sonja (age 11)

Diana, Lady bold
Standing there in the moonlight gold
Shedding light over forests old
Huntress of the Night

As the Huntress of the Night
Stands watching the great buck's flight
Through woods and fields and wverflowing streams
She is standing on the moonbeams
Diana, Lady of the Night

Diana, Lady bold
Standing there in the moonlight gold
Shedding light over forests old
Huntress of the Night

As the Moonbeams fade away
Then comes the break of day
She watches from the Clouds in the sky
Then sees her brother's chariot go by
Diana, Lady of the Day



Sun Catchers by Sonja

These ornaments are made to look like stained glass. They are good for using the leftover plastic milk jugs that you don't know what to do with. You need:

1 or more plastic milk jugs

Scissors

Permanent markers, including black
Thread

First you take the jug and cut off the top. Then you cut off the bottom. (save it) Now you have a cube without a top or bottom. Cut the four sides apart from one another so you have four sides and one bottom. Now you take the Black Permanent Marker and outline what you want to make. Cut out the form. Color it in with any color markers you want. When it is done, let it dry for about 5 minutes. If you want to you can poke a hole in the top and put some thread through the hole. Then tie a knot in it and put it in your window. Now you can watch them catch the sunlight and shine.



Stans, Day of the Night
As the moonbeams fade away
Then comes the break of day
The water from the clouds in the sky
The sun has brother's partner
Stans, Day of the Night

CHILDREN OF THE EARTH
Rt 2 Box 305
Philippi, WV 26416



TO:
The Unicorn
Box 8814
Minneapolis, MN
55408

