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Children of the Earth

Vol. 1, No. 3

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Children of the Earth

P.O. Box 584, Petersburg, WV
c. 1981 Cote

LAMMAS, 1981
Volume 1, Number 3

From the Dining Room Table

At last, another issue of Cote! Sorry it took so long. We moved, and it was hectic. Then my HP/ co-editor dislocated his shoulder and made it more hectic. I discovered that some of the Cote stuff got misplaced in the move (not lost- it may turn up yet), and that we hadn't been getting all our mail at the old address. I fished one subscriber's check out of the mud where the postman dropped it - fortunately, it was still legible - please send checks, not cash - we have a P.O. Box now, but you never know. If I promised anyone anything or if anyone didn't get an answer to a letter, WRITE AGAIN, please!

Part of Cote is supposed to be BY & FOR KIDS. Kimberly and Gretchen sent stuff. Come on, kids, write, draw pictures (they must be black ink on white paper), send games, stories, letters, whatever, this isn't just a magazine for grown-ups.

-Hestia*

Events Etc. of Interest to Pagan Families

FESTIVAL FOR PAGAN CHILDREN! August 14-16 at Harmony Acres Farm in Illinois. Weekend workshop and campout. Contact Sandra Mueller, RT. 2 Box 75, Mascoutah, IL, 62258.

Janel & Richard Clarke will have a homebirth discussion at the Midwest Pagan Council Pan Pagan. Aug. 6-9, Michigan, contact MPC, Box 613, Richton Park, IL, 60471.

Parents interested in Homeschooling: ALTERNATIVES IN EDUCATION is a W.Va. based newsletter, but it'd probably interest others, and it doesn't cost much. 1 year, 3 issues, \$2.00 to Alternatives in Education, Rt. 3, Box 305, Chloe, W.Va, 25235. (wish I knew how they do that.)

MOTHER EARTH NEWS (Hendersonville, N.C.) featured an interview with Rolling Thunder in their July-Aug issue.

Note: If you have an event, and don't tell me, and are listed anyway, it's pure luck. Please keep us informed.



"I received the first issues of I really liked them. I especially liked the story of The First Cat by Ellen Cannon. I and I felt as if the Lady was telling me the story. ... decided to publish a newsletter I respect a person's choice I also expect respect on my mother. In quite a few of the there had been a definite bias we worship a deity whose (to me) Mother, it seemed rather odd that should be so looked down upon. articles and letters have such publications as KAM, and now even the Georgian our children are being why motherhood and life is put down so says in his song "Clean Up Time", "the center of my circle will always be my home..." and so it is for me. I love my home and my family. I have 2 sons, ages 8 & 5 years. They are very eager to learn the Craft and I am very eager to teach them.lately my 8 year old has been asking me what is catechism and can he go with his friends? To keep him from feeling left out I've decided to work out a kind of Pagan catechism. I'll teach him as many of the basics as he needs now and we'll also have fun things to do like drawing and coloring pictures that pertain to the particular lesson being studied. The lessons will include the meaning and use of the Craft tools, why we use a circle, the four Guardians and their attributes, the Wheel of the Year, and some simple meditation techniques. I'll also read stories, poems, and articles from various sources that pertain to the Gods and the Craft. When we both agree that he is ready, I'll do a simple Wiccaning ritual for him. As I work up the lessons, I'll type them up and send them to you to share with other parents who might want to follow a similar route. I would also appreciate feedback from the readers. Should I include other things, have other parents used a similar plan and how did it work out? Any suggestions will be welcome.

Children of the Earth and I liked the story of The First Cat so much I cried holding me in Her arms

I'm so glad someone has dedicated to Pagan parenting. about not having children, but choice of being a full-time other newsletters I receive, against children, and since main aspect is the Great the product of motherhood Since about Yule of 1980 started to appear in Crystal Well, Circle, Newsletter asking why ignored and asking traditional family much. John Lennon

the center of my circle will always be my home... I love my home and my family. I have 2 sons, ages 8 & 5 years. They are very eager to learn the Craft and I am very eager to teach them.lately my 8 year old has been asking me what is catechism and can he go with his friends? To keep him from feeling left out I've decided to work out a kind of Pagan catechism. I'll teach him as many of the basics as he needs now and we'll also have fun things to do like drawing and coloring pictures that pertain to the particular lesson being studied. The lessons will include the meaning and use of the Craft tools, why we use a circle, the four Guardians and their attributes, the Wheel of the Year, and some simple meditation techniques. I'll also read stories, poems, and articles from various sources that pertain to the Gods and the Craft. When we both agree that he is ready, I'll do a simple Wiccaning ritual for him. As I work up the lessons, I'll type them up and send them to you to share with other parents who might want to follow a similar route. I would also appreciate feedback from the readers. Should I include other things, have other parents used a similar plan and how did it work out? Any suggestions will be welcome.

-Isabel, Texas.

"Merry Meet! We certainly do need a viable solution to the problem of schooling our children. We need to establish a Pagan network so that our children can be free to grow and experience socialization with other Pagans. It's not desirable for Pagan children to be sent to Patriarchial school systems.

I would love to be in contact with others desiring to establish a community schooling program or even a homeschooling program which would allow our children to grow without fear of indoctrination or rejection.

The legalities in every state are different, but there is a wonderful organization called Growing Without Schooling which can help with the legal problems encountered when pulling our kids out of the system. (308 Boylston St, Boston, MA 02116)

My husband is certified to teach and we would be thrilled to contact other families desiring to establish a network of children for growing and learning the Pagan ways together.

We also chose to have our baby at home, and we are currently involved in a midwifery study group.

We feel this is essential - that in order to begin life without Patriarchial mechanisms altering or harming the birth experience, we need to reach out to other Pagans and establish a network of midwives capable of birthing at home or in birthing centers. We would be more than willing to share information with any people involved in birth as well.

The answers lie in our action - If we decide NOT to hide our beliefs, NOT to send our kids to standard schools, NOT to fear rejection - Then paths will open through which we can freely educate, communicate, live, and love.

Blessed Be-

Robin, Tom, & Pandora
Robbins, 1305 Marion,
Denver, Co. 80218

!...Please, don't refer to Christianity as brainwashing. It is a perfectly valid religion and if they were as knowledgeable of us as we are of them - there would be a lot more peace on this earth. Education, not condemnation, is the key. Tolerate and love.

Clytemnestra.

NOTES FROM THE BROOMCLOSET

by Cloud

Psst

I WISH I COULD RAISE MY KIDS PAGAN

But in the obvious and desirable sense, I can't. They're foster children, and as long as they may end up in another family, it doesn't seem to me to be permissible to teach them thought patterns they may have to unlearn.

I'm not alone. Oh, I may be the only Witch bringing up the State's children, though I doubt it, but many of us are unable, at least temporarily, to teach our children Craft in a formal way. We live with our parents, we have spouses or ex-spouses who are hostile to us or our religion or both, the list goes on.

Even without any custody-threatening situation, some of us fear peer trouble, if only because deep contradictions between family and culture may drive the individual into an unbalance toward one side or another; we see raising our children with no visible religion as a way to let them avoid one more "difference" between themselves and everyone else. Or we have decided that rather than bring up our children "strict craft", we want to expose them to our own and everyone else's religion, so as to equip them (we hope) for an intelligent choice later on.

All valid reasons, in their own situation, for not bringing up our kids in Pagan religious practice. Where we go too far is in supposing that we have to allow our kids to grow up normal.

For one thing, a thought pattern ("the Earth is my Mother, and to be worshipped as Goddess") is not the same thing as a habit pattern ("the Earth is my home; a minute ago I picked a beer can up off the sidewalk and put it in the dumpster"). Even if our children don't do rituals to Demeter, they can follow the very pagan precepts of Woodsy Owl. And so forth, not just in relation to ecology but in relation to all the other areas of life.

If we believe our children have chosen to be born into the Craft, we must believe they will find their way into Craft practice eventually even if we can't teach them ourselves. Our job is to try to teach Pagan habits and attitudes so they'll be open to the religious possibilities when they can be made available. And, be it said, to keep ourselves open to any chance to change our lives so the possibilities can be available sooner.

The real art of Pagan parenting is, whether we can raise Pagan children or not, to parent as Pagans, open to all the potential in ourselves and our children, and thinking of whatever situation we may find our families in as a challenge for growth. So mote it be.

NEONATAL NOTES

By Robin

WHY CIRCUMCISION?

Here are some facts regarding circumcision. This information has been taken from a variety of articles on the subject. Most parents who have their child circumcised never consider that there is an alternative. In all I have read, I have not found ONE valid reason why a normal foreskin should be removed, and I would like to share this information with you, to inform you and to shock you, so that you are aware of this cruel moneymaking gimmick the Patriarchial s society tries to inflict on its children.

1. In an infant, the foreskin protects the head of the penis from ammonia in the urine. Irritation sometimes results in a meatal ulcer, a condition found only in circumcised children.
2. Ritters disease (a staph skin infection) and meatal stenosis (narrowing and/or obstruction of the opening) are also seen only in circumcised children.
3. While it is important that the foreskin retracts EVENTUALLY, it is common for the skin to stay in place until the child is a year or two old. It should NOT be pulled back for cleaning until it is easily retractable. Though many uninformed doctors advise forcible retraction prematurely, this practice often causes phimosis, a condition which then demands circumcision. The forced retraction causes the foreskin to adhere to the head of the penis permanently.
4. It was once thought that women of circumcised males were less prone to cervical cancer. This theory has since been disproven.
5. Studies have also shown that cancer of the penis (which is rare to begin with) cannot be prevented by circumcision; cleanliness however is an important factor. The argument that every child should then be deprived of all the benefits of the foreskin because that is easier than teaching proper hygiene is as absurd as the removal of ears to prevent ear infection.
6. Since the foreskin protects and lubricates the glans, its removal then obviously causes the glans to toughen and desensitize.
7. A baby's foreskin may become inflamed due to frequent urination, BUT the irritation generally is easily curable, whereas in the case of the circumcised male, the head of the penis is the target and the hard to cure meatal ulcer forms. (NATURE DOES NOT MAKE MISTAKES)
8. The operation itself is cruel and painful. The infant is tied down and operated on WITHOUT anesthetic. Consider, for a moment, five to ten minutes of someone slicing away at ANY part of your body, much less your genitals.
9. The operation is dangerous. Babies tend to bleed more freely in the first six days of life. Death from hemorrhage is not as uncommon as one is led to believe. Infection is a COMMON complication of circumcision, which in itself can cause untold damage.

10. Other complications are those mistakes made by doctors, which result in dysfunction or deformity of the penis. These are not as rare as you may think, since the LEAST experienced doctors (interns) are frequently allowed to circumcise.

11. The infant receives pain as the first awareness relating to his penis, an awareness which REMAINS IN THE BRAIN SYSTEM FOREVER.


12. Once the foreskin retracts by itself, it is necessary to clean under it to prevent infection. There is no cause to be concerned unless the foreskin has not retracted by the age of three.

13. Only six per cent of the world practices this crude ritual so the uncircumcised child will have 94% of the world population as his companions.



Hagar



Lullabye 

Sleep, my child,
Let your troubles dissolve
All the world's problems
Your dreams shall solve.
Close your eyes,
Let your spirit stray,
Calling it back
At the break of Day.

-Tara

reprinted with
permission

Cloud reports that the co-operative child care at the CSE Pan Pagan went well, as did her workshop on Parenting for Freedom. At the workshop, she provided the following true - false - why? quiz to start discussion. It is reprinted here, for those of us who had to miss the festival. Definitely will provoke thought; I hope it also provokes articles.

Parenting for Freedom

To each statement, answer to yourself, true? false? especially, why?

1. "I am a Pagan Parent" = "I am raising Pagan Children" Why (not)?
2. There is no conflict between a religion of sexual polarity and the conscious application of non-sexist childrearing ideas and techniques. Why (not)?
3. Inside every little kid there is a grownup trying to get out. About half the childrearing assumptions we learned from our parents and society are designed to keep the grownup locked in. Why (not)?
4. Nobody under ten is old enough to clearly understand what adults mean by God(s). Why (not)?
5. I understand my own sexuality differently since I chose to become Pagan. Why(not)?
Special trick bonus question: How has that affected my understanding and guidance of my child(ren)'s sexuality?
6. It is inconsistent with Pagan attitudes on reincarnation and evolution to mold a child's personality from scratch. Why (not)?
7. My kids can learn the theological implications of ecology later; for now it's enough that they learn not to be litterbugs and trillium-pickers. Why (not)?
8. Children are born pagan; it's my job as a Pagan parent to keep them that way. Why (not)?
9. Protective rules are consistent with Pagan parenting. Why (not)?
10. It will be my fault if my kids turn out damaged, mentally, physically, or spiritually, when they grow up. Why (not)?
11. It would be good if we could learn to apply the laws of personal responsibility and karma a little more consistently with our kids. Why (not)?
12. The main reason our kids chose to be born to us is because they wanted to grow up to be Pagans. Why (not)?
- 12½. My kids should be exposed to a variety of religious experiences and systems in the course of growing up. Why (not)?
13. The best way for me to parent is to apply the same Pagan precepts I apply in my dealings with other adults in my dealings with my children. Why (not)?
Special trick bonus question: Apply your answer to question #13 to the following areas of childrearing, at leisure or as they come up in the next 18+ years: sex education; sexual equality; corporal punishment; trust; death; family finances; conformity; peer relations; popularity; social substances; the throwaway culture enculturation. OH, YES....religious education.

“DANCE OF THE ELEMENTS”

by Clytemnestra

A long time ago, when the earth was young, great clouds would spread across the sky and all would be dark.

All despaired because the light of the Lady and the Lord were hidden.

One day, when all was dark, the salamanders looked at the layer of clouds and said, “We are the element of fire and fire brings light. Let us go into the sky and lighten the gloom.” So the salamanders leaped into the sky and danced and whirled and caused great streaks of blue-white lightening to flash from their bodies.

Meanwhile, working hard on the earth below, the gnomes (and others of the earth) saw the lightening flashing above. They were so happy to see the light that they said, “Let us give the salamanders some music to dance to.” And with this they grabbed their drums made of bark, wood, and leather, and decorated with the beautiful things of earth. They beat their drums and sent a huge thunder up into the air, and the salamanders hearing this were delighted with the music and danced more.

All this thunder and lightening soon awakened the sylphs who were overjoyed to find the darkness gone. They were so overjoyed that they too leaped into the air to dance with the salamanders. The sylphs beat their wings to the gnomes thunder and soon a great wind was stirred up that roared thru the air and down to the earth. All the trees danced and swayed to the sylphs wind and soon the wind found its way thru the branches to the earth below stirring up the grasses and rippling the surface of the waters. Below the waters the undines were soon aware of a great disturbance in the world above. They swam to the surface and poked their heads above the waves. The sight which greeted them was one of great merriment. The lightening flashed, the thunder roared, and the wind whipped the trees into a frenzy. “The darkness is gone,” they cried “and it has been replaced by a celebration. Let us join the others.” And with a great laugh they too leaped into the air to dance. As they left their ponds, lakes, and streams the water ran from their long hair and slick bodies. It fell back to the earth in a life giving rain.

The four elements sang and danced for hours, traveling across the land. Soon the clouds were blown away by the activity in the sky and the Moon and Sun again reigned. And it wasn't until this happened that the celebrators finally returned to their elements to rest and to await their next chance to break the darkness with a thunderstorm.

A Child's Dedication

Dana

We're a semi-hierarchical eclectic group, and one of the kids turned out to be too old for a Wiccaning, and not quite old enough to make a permanent commitment, so the Child's Dedication was created, for hereditaries and other well-informed juveniles. This is not seen to be permanently binding. Adult dedication should probably be offered at puberty.

Cast Circle.

East: Mighty Ones of the East, bring us Wisdom!
South: Mighty Ones of the South, bring us Strength!
West: Mighty Ones of the West, bring us Love!
North: Mighty Ones of the North, bring this all to Be!

Officiant (can be divided between P & PS) : We gather to witness the Dedication of _____, will you step into the center of the Circle? (Child steps forward.) Do you realize that Dedication is a very serious step to take?

Child: replies. If yes, continue.

O.: Do you know that the God and Goddess will remember what you say here today?

C.: replies. If yes, continue.

O.: This is my third and last question. Are you sure that you want to be Dedicated to the God and Goddess?

C.: replies. If yes, continue.

O.: Then hear the Laws the Goddess gave us. She is the Earth beneath us and the Moon above us. She is the Mother of all living things, and Her greatest gifts to us are Life and Love. We have to remember that everything on the Earth is Hers, and so we love plants and animals. And when you see the Moon at night, you must greet Her, and remember that She is your Heavenly Mother. Will you do this?

C.: (in own words) yes.

O.: Then hear the Laws the God gave us. He is the Sun, bright and strong, who gives His strength to the Goddess so She can create Life. His greatest gifts to us are strength and warmth. And if you ever need to call on Him, remember - His name is Love. He commands us to celebrate the eight Festivals of Life each year. Will you do this?

C.: (in own words) yes.

O.: Now put your hands down on the ground. Feel the Earth, your Mother. (child does.)

O.: Now stand up and stretch. Feel the warmth of the Sun, your Father. (child does.)

O.: (places hands on Child's head or shoulders)
 O Mother of All, Creatress of all Living;
 O Father of the Woodlands, Master of Death;
 Please guide and teach _____, that s/he may learn of Thee
 And become wise in the love of the Gods, strong in the aid
 of Man, Learned in Thy arts, and skilled in Thy ways.
 All: SO MOTE IT BE!!!

At this point, either Godsparents or Officiants may step forward
 to act as channel for the Child, or the Child may stand alone.
 All dance around Child in blessing; use chant of choice.

O.: Go in Peace, Child of Light! (bless w/ pentagram)
 The Gods be ever with thee! (bless w/ pentagram)

Close Circle in your usual manner, SO MOTE IT BE! General feasting.

Acrostics

by Kimberly Mueller, age 8

Nature is filled with songs
 And birds flying; nature is
 Truly wonderful, lying
 Under a
 Redwood tree or
 Elm is where I like it most.

Soon it will be here
 Prepare for spring
 Receiving easter eggs
 In the spring
 New clothes and
 Green grass
 Sitting
 Under a
 Miniture
 Mulberry tree
 Everyone likes the
 Rose bush but I like the Mulberry

Good to all people
 Of
 Different lands
 Everyone that likes her can
 See and hear Her
 She loves us

Falling, falling
 All around
 Leaves falling to the ground
 Lovely leaves of fall

a
 n
 d

When
 It comes a
 New Time
 Everyone get ready,
 Ready for winter, a fun time.

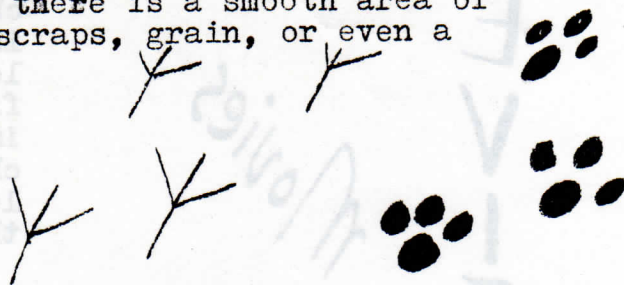
Good to the Godess
 of Love. He loves a lot of
 Different people

Tractivity

Here's an experiment that kids and grownups can enjoy doing: On your next camping trip (or in your backyard, a vacant lot, nearby woods, whatever you have access to), take along a hoe and a broom. Find a small clearing and scrape clear an area five or six feet in diameter. Sweep it so that there is a smooth area of loose dirt. In the center, leave meat scraps, grain, or even a pile of salt. The next morning, come on back and check the tracks to see who came to dinner. Once all the tracks have been identified, clean up any remnants, sweep again, and try it with different bait. There should be different types of tracks the next morning.

The Petersen Field Guide series has a good book on identifying tracks. You can find out the kinds of critters in the neighborhood, and build your powers of observation.

- Hephaestus



Sabbat Cookies

Cloud

My kids are too young to participate in circles, but they love to help get ready. Arne wanted me to share this recipe for spicy cookies that he and Herne cut out for Sabbats. You can change the spicing, etc., as you like; this is the way Scorpio Arne likes them.

Combine: 4 C. whole wheat flour, 1 tsp. salt, $1\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. ginger, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. cloves, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. nutmeg, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. allspice, 1 tsp. soda, $\frac{3}{4}$ C. brown sugar (or $\frac{1}{2}$ C if you're using honey).
2nd (bigger) bowl: $\frac{1}{3}$ C. water, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. rum or black walnut flavoring, 1 C. molasses or honey, $\frac{1}{2}$ C solid shortening (not oil, sorry, try crisco or margarine, maybe butter or lard). Mix well.
Add half dry ingredients to the liquid, beat, then stir in the rest and mix well. You should have a fairly heavy dough.
CHILL dough at least 4 hours, overnight is better.
Roll dough (about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick) on floured surface. (a kid can flour the board) and cut with patterns or cutters. If you use cutters, your kids can do this part. Arne likes to cut stars and Herne makes-crescents. It may be necessary to chill dough between re-rollings; try leaving half the dough in the refrigerator till you need it.
BAKE on well oiled cookie sheets at 375° for 10-12 minutes. Cookies will have browned edges. --
Makes enough for a lot of people: 3-4 dozen cookies.

REVIEWER

Movies

EXCALIBUR! Reviewed by Isabel

This is a beautifully made film about the King Arthur legend. The photography and scenery are breathtaking, and the characters are very believable. The film is given an R rating because of some nude love scenes and because of the realistic fight scenes. The dialogue and much of the imagery may be over the heads of very young children, but older kids will enjoy it a lot. It's a movie you'll want to see more than once.

CLASH OF THE TITANS Reviewed by Isabel

Don't let the title fool you. This is not one of those "muscle man myth" movies. The cast includes the likes of Laurence Olivier, Maggie Smith, Claire Bloom, and Burgess Meredith. It is the story of Persius and his quest to save Andromeda from the Kraken and how he was helped or hindered by the Gods and Goddesses of Mt. Olympus. The special effects are pretty good. After seeing the movie, my oldest son (7 yrs.) had me look up the Medusa, the two-headed dog, and other of the mythical characters in the encyclopedia. This film is given a "PG" rating.

Books

WITCHES, by Therese Ruth Revesz, Raintree Publishers Ltd., Milwaukee, Wisc. Reviewed by Hephaestus

Giving a positive treatment of Witches at a fifth grade level, WITCHES is a simple, easy to read guide to Witchcraft past and present, historical and mythological. While it seems half the book is concerned with people on less-than-positive paths (LaVey, Circe, etc.,) at least the difference IS pointed out between them and practitioners of the Old Religion.

This would be a good book for kids to leave out when their friends come to visit, or to give as a gift, to help educate the open-minded but uninformed.

More Books

GROWING UP FREE: Raising your Child in the 80's, by Letty Cottin Pagrebin, McGraw Hill, 1980.

-review by Cloud

I have a confession to make...I've read Pagrebin's work in Ms. Magazine, I waited for this book, and I bought it in hardcover. It may end up on the shelf next to the Mother's Almanack, and be looked-up in almost as often. I'm almost ready to tell you not to wait for the paperback.

This one's important. Non-sexist parenting is important. Pagrebin has thought through, and laid out in comprehensible form, all the limiting effects of this culture on all our kids, boys and girls alike. She tells us what we can do about some of them, suggests what society should do about some others, and then reminds us that parents can't be and do everything about how our kids grow up - do what you can, and don't kick yourself for what you couldn't do.

Not only is this an important book for those of us who are coming from a feminist base and concerned with countering sex role stereotypes, it is also valuable to all of us as parents in a situation not usual in our society. Pagan parents can be just as reassured as feminist parents by Pagrebin's suggestions as to children's developmental phases (almost all children go through a conformist phase - our job is to help them not get stuck in it), and as challenged by her position that this society is set up to promote prejudice of all kinds and that's what we need to work on. For those of us who are both Pagan and feminist, this book is not to be missed...and if you're a Pagan parent but don't consider yourself a feminist, read it anyway; there are many points raised that will be of value to anyone trying to raise children outside the cultural norm.

A STORM UPON ULSTER, by Kenneth C. Flint, Bantam Books, \$2.50 paper.
Review by Isabel.

A STORM UPON ULSTER is the retelling of the Tain Bo Cuailgne (the Cattle Raid of Cooley) done in a more modern style. The Gods are not mentioned as much as in the original, and there are a few differences in the characters, but if you like Irish mythology, you will enjoy this book.

More Books

THE SACRED HOOP - A Cycle of Earth Tales, by Bill Broder, 1979,
Sierra Club Books, \$12.95 ISBN 87156-260-X
-Review by Arwen Fae

This book was inspired by Black Elk's famous quotation "...I saw that the sacred hoop of my people was one of many hoops that made one circle..." Beginning with the creation of our galaxy, Broder presents a series of stories, all based on archaeological or historical fact, from prehistory to American immigration. He ties all the stories together by their common subject - people and the Earth. Each story is illustrated with photographs of archaeological findings and drawings of historical relation to the tale. This makes the stories come alive for the readers.

Both Pagan adults and their children will enjoy these selections- especially "Chernobog's Daughter", which includes much Slavonic magic, along with an interesting Pagan/Christian encounter, and "Tearless Before the Maker", based on the true Witch-trial of Johann Kepler's mother.

Broder, author of Sierra Club Almanac for Young People, 1979, writes with simple but moving grace, and leaves one with a feeling of unity for all who have ever loved the Earth.

LITTLE WITCH, By Anna Elizabeth Bennett, Illustrated by Helen Stone.
Harper Trophy, 1981. \$1.95. ISBN0-06-440119-7
-Review by Gretchen, age 10

Madam Snickasnee was a witch. She had a daughter called Minx. Minx hated the house she lived in, which was old and ugly. And she wished she wasn't a witch's child. In the 1st chapter, Minx's mother punished her for not wanting to come flying with her. She told Minx to make a brew she called Black Spell Brew. But Minx couldn't wait to start her experiment - to make a fairy appear with her mother's magic powder. She tried so many times before but failed. This time she made a centaur appear who was very ignorant, knocked her cat, Scorcher, out with his hoof and called the fairies dumb. Minx was happy to see him fade away. Then she was tired so she didn't make the Black Spell Brew and didn't get anything to eat the next day. That day she decided to go to school. 9 years old in first grade, but she was going to learn.

At the end, her mother turns herself into an anteater and Minx finds out her mother is really a nymph.

We had promised a few newsletters reciprocal advertising - and lost the list. And a lot of folks we hadn't promised had run announcements for us. So we decided to list all the newsletters who have announced, reviewed, etc. CotE, in hopes that they will continue to do so. Not all of them have much to do with parenting but they're all pagan and we sure enjoy them.

Voyage of the Dawntreader, 1017 Dartmouth, N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87016, Quarterly, \$5.
The Deva's Advocate, % Ringmaker, 521 N. 8th Ave., Sturgeon Bay, WI, 54235, send donation and stamps.
Circle Network News, P.O. Box 9013, Madison, WI 53715, Quarterly, \$5 bulk mail, & \$7 if first class.
The Unicorn, Box 8814, Minneapolis, Minn. \$6, 8 issues.
The Bard, 4332 N. Longview #1, Phoenix, AZ, 85014, Quarterly, \$8.
The Georgian Newsletter, 1908 Verde St., Bakersfield, CA 93304, 12 issues, \$5.
Temple of the Phoenix Rose, 62 E. College Ave., Yardly, Pa. 19067, \$6, Quarterly.
The Wise Woman, P.O. Box 19241, Sacramento, Ca. 95819, \$ 4/ 4 issues
K.A.M. Newsletter, P.O. Box 34464, Bethesda, MD. 20034, \$2/issue, \$4/year.
Magical Unicorn Messenger, P.O. Box 1302, Findlay, OH 45840 \$5/year
Runestone, 3400 Village Ave., Denair, Ca. 95316, Quarterly, \$5
Pegasus Express, 433 Chew Ave., Philadelphia, Pa., 19120, \$5/yr.
Thunderbow, 4385 Hoyt St., Wheatridge, CO 80033, \$6/12 issues
Pagana, 4130 Piper Drive #5, San Jose, Ca, 95117. \$5/5 issues.
and
The Crystal Well, P.O. Box 3145, Seal Beach, CA, 90740, \$8, who haven't printed an issue since we started, but promise they will as soon as they can afford to.

And Which Way? RR1 Box 601 C Pompano Beach, Fl. 33067
\$12

Contacts

Clytemnestra needs any and all info on Herbs for medicine, cosmetics, food & flavor, spells, etc. (her mini-pagan's almost 3 now.) % CotE.

Kalinda RoseStar, P.O. Box 513, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, 83814, is interested in Pagan parenting, Dianic Wicca, Celtic folklore, herbs.

Robin Robbins, 1305 Marion, Denver, Co, 80218

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