

Rowan Tree Church Periodical Collection

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Autumn Equinox 1981

The Unicorn

Vol 04, No. 08

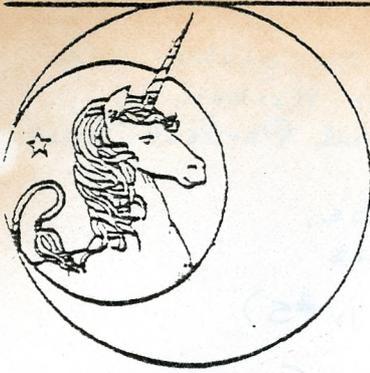
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Dear Hornless Wonders,

Here comes another autumnal equinox.

There is a lot of work to be done, and we are entering a time of change. As I travel around the United States there are increasingly disturbing events to be found. It is much the story of the cusp, and of the intense times you Earth-folk will be facing. This is the season/year when many are finding their plans and hopes set aside as some of their families leave and switch to a different vision. These are often the signs that the times are coming to become more unified, to withdraw more into the bosom of the Mother and do your work as one, to be less conspicuous than ever. The Rowan Tree has been subjected to these trials, and will no longer be working out of a public location. We will take ourselves into a quieter space, for the times are coming when we will need to seek undisturbed temples.

The other evening, Unibella and I were off dancing in the galaxy, watching Uranus undergo the rites of passage before it enters Sagittarius. The Council of Unicorn Elders has issued a proclamation for those times, for those secrets which ought to be kept as hidden Mysteries of the Goddess must be preserved. There can not be enough protection for the gems and treasures of the Wisdom Circles of her esoteric children. If Our Lady's jewels are left lying about in public when you pass through the Capricorn Configuration (as described in the Unicorn Chronicles), you may find them trampled and shattered.

I and my human friends of the Rowan Tree will continue to remain in contact with each of you, and with our sacred family, through these issues of The Unicorn, but the times will no longer allow us to operate a public centre. The esoteric families are created, and now it is time to withdraw, to complete the training of the Chosen Workers, and to raise healing energy in the temples. And a new Unifriend joins in the work, a magnificent beast, Flowers, whose letter follows in this issue, who was Dedicated to the work last Midsummer. Flowers is a joyful Unicorn that lives with Judith, our new editor.

Thus, our gathering-season this year is to gather ourselves together, and to become discreet as the Herbes, in order that we all survive in Perfect Love and Perfect Trust.

The Unicorn Chronicles

Blessed Be,
Andrius

Decree II/Δ W ixi/vii (cont'd from Vol iv #5)

Thus will the times of Capricorn, the Mountain-Sign impose its change upon the Earth; and thus will mankind perceive the tumult as days of change, of end of the world, as it was it was known in the old days; and thus will the second hundred years of the New Age cusp be demarked:

As the Sun enters the Mountain-Sign, he will mark the beginning of the three fortnights, to light the path for Capricorn's sickle to cut away the old. Already will the thoughts of humanity be turned to the mountain, for Mercurius will have already been a fortnight climbing the pinnacle, in hopes that keeping their eyes toward the final goal will provide the rationale for enduring and for staying to the path. But even the planet of intellect will falter in these times of difficulty, and as the Earth seeks to turn its political calendar to 1990, Mercurius will begin to slip back, Retrograde, back down the mountain. Only those with clear vision will see this as advantageous, a time to keep the vision of the future, yet to look back and be certain we attempt to take no more into the future than what is of absolute necessity. For three Earth-weeks will Mercurius seem to falter, turning forward only as the Sun leaves the chaos itself, and Mercurius will take up the Solar burden.

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And it is when she has returned to the Mountain-Sign that Mars will enter, forcing his change of Capricorn, bringing strength and challenge in order that we continue forward, for many shall falter, and those of unsure footing will fall from the mountain and perish.

(to be continued)





The grey bitter curtains
 Of November part;
 The fabric of rains and winds
 Slits suddenly
 To a point of calm,
 A Land glowing
 With Indian summer,
 A haze of sun.
 Lazarus-crickets
 Sing in fallen leaves
 While the lakes are warming
 In the subtle air.
 In the forest
 A copper sea
 Of beech leaves eddies
 And flows around the roots
 Of pine trees standing green
 guardians
 To a sudden season.
 In the sighting, shining
 Ocean of Leaves
 Are drifts and currents
 Of ancientness,
 An under-tow of magic
 To a past
 That echoes in present silences,
 A golden calm that heaves
 With long-dry seaweed memories
 Of lost and voiceless surf.

Noel-Anne Brennan



Dear Andrius
 I'm so excited about
 learning the craft!
 Judyth, my hornless friend,
 has taken me everywhere
 At the summer solstice

festival sponsored by Circle I
 joined in with the chanting
 at the sweat lodges. It was
 wonderfully hot! And, OH!, the
 evening circle sent me
 spiraling to the stars. Such
 wonderful energies I've never
 experienced before. I visited
 some new and old friends in
 Chicago and Milwaukee and
 danced at the circle by

the river. So many new
 and wonderful human
 friends this summer!
 I'm looking forward to
 meeting some of your
 Unifriends. Maybe I can
 travel with you when you
 go rambling this winter.
 Just wait until you
 see what Judyth is
 planning to do with the
 Unicorn! In this issue
 will be the start of a
 children's corner (Angel
 came to play and drew a
 picture of one of her
 Unifriends for us.) So tell
 all your friends to send
 stories and drawings for
 the children. Also, we are
 looking for new magical
 tunes to share, so if you
 hear any flights of
 sound in your travels be
 sure to write them down
 for Judyth.

Blessed Be, Flowers

Children's
Corner



Angel The moon
 Philipp The moon
 Age Is Love
 And And warmth
 And And safe
 And And beautiful

Notes from an Herbal

Iris



Named for Isis, Goddess of the Rainbow, these magnificent blooms do indeed reflect the myriad colours of Her Heavenly Arch. The Devas often say that the Earth Mother carried an iris stalk in Her hand, when She descended to Terra Firma to initiate them into Her priesthood, the iris being the first sceptre. The blossom is representative of the triple aspect of the Goddess, and contains within the secret of achieving Her blessing. One represents faith in Her being; another shows the path to understanding the wisdom of Her divine and material manifestations; and the third gives the strength to follow the path even beyond death, to the end of the Rainbow. As an herb of the Goddess, the iris keeps us in Her protection, and aids in adding love and the warmth of friendship to our lives. The iris is the sceptre we follow to transcend death, to allow the Mother to plant our souls in the fields of Her dreams. The tuber of the iris is oft called the Orris Root, and may be dried, ground, and added to magical incense in order to experience the blessings and guidance of the Goddess.

Rev. Paul V. Beyer, D.D.

In the garden
the flowers meet
like death
dancing,
waltzing over the
summer wall.

J. Hallett



A tree grows
It flourishes
I embrace it
My inner vision
Invokes Her spirit
And the tree and I are One.

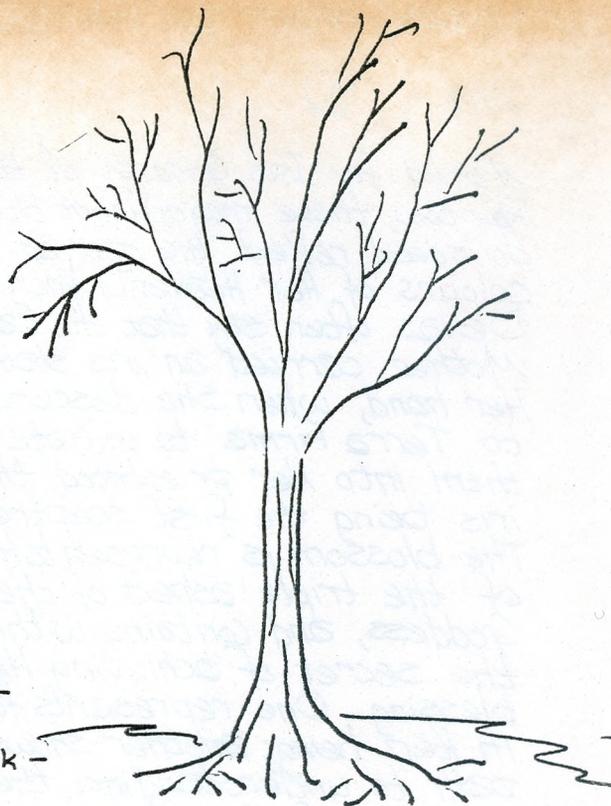
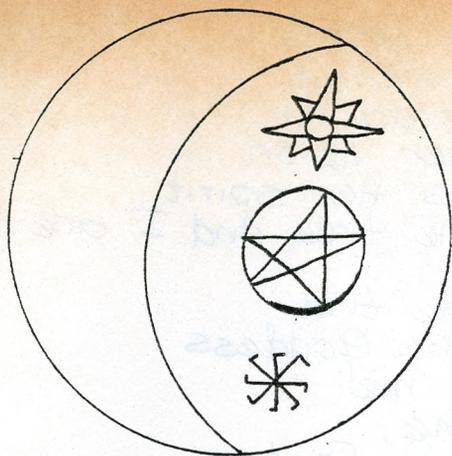
Let the tree
And the Goddess
Within me
Combine,
To bear fruit,
In the womb
Of my innermost being

I am the Goddess,
The tree manifests itself
In me,
Living,
Dying,
Rebirth,
Transcending the physical
Into the Cosmic Mind

I spread my roots,
And drink of the Earth,
The Mother feeds my soul.
My branches carress the wind,
The light, I absorb,
And in so doing,
I grow to spread
Wisdom,
And Love.

Let my body support your soul
As I spread out
To cover the world,
Even the Universe,
With Universal Love,
Perfect Trust, in myself
Inner tranquility.
Peace and Blessed are we.

Judith Bartlett



Child's World

My son said, Mom, I've found a friend
He lives out in our yard.
Come on, I'll show you - by that rock -
You've got to look real hard.

My brown-eyed son, what have you done -
Built a little house?
Of grass and leaves and stones and sheaves,
Small, as for a mouse.

No ma, he sighed impatiently,
That was built by Clem.
There he is, with his pet Fael -
Say hello to them.

I looked and looked and looked real hard
And then I looked again,
But you know what, can you believe?
I couldn't see either of them!

I'm sure he's there, but tell me where,
I said to my small son.
Oh ma, he said, and shook his head
His smile bright as the Sun.

"You grownups, you don't see too well
Why do you hide your eyes?
You can't see Clem, you can't see Fael -
I hope I stay this size!"

J. Baker

Notice:

The Tree of Life Seminar
scheduled for Sept. 4-7
in Colorado has been
cancelled. It was felt
by Higher Powers that
perhaps it was not best
for so many to be so
conspicuous, and a
change in situations
forced last minute
cancellation.

Notice:

The Mystery School of the
Rowan Tree has no openings.
If any seeks admission,
applications will be filed
until one of the student
positions is vacated, at
which time selection will
be made.

Happenings -



MAPPCAF IV - Mid-Atlantic Pan-Pagan Conference and Festival. The dates are Oct. 7th - 12th at the same site. Adults \$30.00 for indoor space, \$20.00 for outdoor. Children under 13 its \$20.00 and \$15.00. Babies free. For more info write: Blue Star, 38 -03 Hunters Pt. Ave., L.I.C., N.Y. 11101.

Council of the Mystic Arts, Samhain Festival, Alvin, Tx, Oct. 31 - Nov. 1. Write: 538 Hammond, San Antonio, TX 78201

Arianthu Annual Samhain Seminar - Nov. 7-8 in Amarillo, Tx -- write: Arianthu, P.O. Box 69, Dimmitt, TX 79027.

NEXUS International, P.O. Box 45061 Dallas, TX 75245 -- Gatherings:
 Women's Circle - Feb. 13 - Dallas
 Celebration of Summer '82 - June
 Lommas Faire - Dallas - Lommas '82
 also: Unicorn Gardens \$7.00 and NEXUS \$24.00 per year

MERCHANDISE -

Acorn, Box 4141 Str. D, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada - send for their catalog of fine handmade articles and books.

Publications -

"A Pagan Renaissance" by Castle Rising - A Witchcraft journal that delves seriously into the Old Pagan Ways. Subs. - \$12.00/yr. U.S., \$14.00 Outside U.S. and Canada, \$17.00 airmail. Sample copy \$3.50 postpaid.

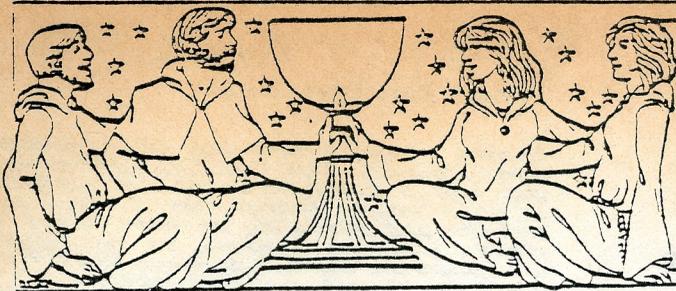
Vol. III of the Emerald Star - from The Society of the Evening Star. This volume covers all aspects of the Occult, with a buying guide for supplies, resource info, and practical exercises for advancement. Write: P.O. Box 558 E. Greenwich, R.I. 02818

Nemi Enterprises, P.O. Box 1172, National City, CA 92050 has two new books:
 The Book of the Holy Striga - \$6.00, wt. 2lbs
 The Book of Ways - \$10.00, wt. 5lbs.
 They also publish a quarterly journal called "The Shadow's Edge".

Mail order catalog from Santus Spiritus, Occult-Astrological Supplies, Washington Square Mall Homewood, Illinois 60430 cost 50¢

The Earthstewards Network - contact Holyearth Foundation, Box 873, Monte Rio, CA 95462 for info

<p>The Unicorn began Yule, 1977, & is a news letter dedicated to sharing the good news of our craft & Pagan friends. It is a Rowan Tree publication, 8 giant issues to coincide with the Sabbats.</p> <p>Judyth Bartlett - Editor Andrius - Resident Unicorn</p>	<p>Enclosed is my hard-earned money for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$8.00 - a one-year subscription to the Unicorn (8 issues)* <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 - not only the Unicorn, but also the extras for gays and lesbians <input type="checkbox"/> \$7.00 - The Holy Books of the Devas (Vol. 1) an herbal for the Aquarian Age <input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 - Andrius' Coloring Book of Numbers - numerology and mythology <input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 - A Child's Wish Book - a book of delight for little people <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is a S.A.S.E. Please send me a copy of your catalogue <p>TOTAL ENCLOSED <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Make checks and money orders payable to The Rowan Tree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to maintain secrecy <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in making contact with others. <input type="checkbox"/> You may mention my name in the Unicorn <input type="checkbox"/> You may give my address, also <input type="checkbox"/> I love Unicorns & nice Pagans <p style="text-align: right;">* \$12.00 us currency outside U.S. & Canada</p>
<p>Name _____</p> <p>Mailing Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">all work © The Rowan Tree, nls Jackson © ller work</p> <p style="font-size: small; text-align: right;">LAWMAS '81</p>
<p>Please mail to: The Rowan Tree, Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN, 55408</p>	



The Unicorn Provides These
Extra Pages
to aid communication between
Gay and Lesbian Pagans

Coming Out

I kept him hanging in the closet for years. Carefully wrapped with toilet paper, a sweater strategically draped over him. Hiding bones, that skeletal creak, when digging for tennis shoes.

In the beginning it was easy. He wasn't very big - fit snugly in a shoe box. - Never ate, but had this penchant for growing. So, soon I had to tie him to a hanger. Everyone wanted to feed him.

Halloween was our only big night out. Together we'd go trick-or-treating. . . . one person for a change. I'd still keep him sort of hidden, of course, lest anyone get too awfully suspicious.

One year, I wrapped him up as a mummy. Another year we went natural. bones clanking like streetcars through the haul. Nobody knew. After the party - to the closet for another year. As I grew though, he fit less and less. He began to jumble. And I could never find anything in the closet. All those bones doubled over touching the floor. Mother thought it was a school project.

I was surprised no one heard my cry! the late night tears when I would take him down just to hold him. just to know touch, and dream of love somewhere. I couldn't keep my hands off him. there was a bond. Something we shared. - though, to look you wouldn't think much. All white enameled ivory as if he'd come from some elephants mouth. . . so. . . gradually I, let him in. we became one.

Not all at once, mind you. just, just a piece at a time, first maybe a scapula, later a tibia. I put the big bones in first, figuring they'd be the easiest. Intricate work. All the fragments of the hand, fitting together tighter than a jigsaw. Welded. Iron. It hurt when I opened my head. And slipped his in. Now through ensuing despairs. . . we laugh or cry together.

Joseph Kallal

A Phallic Talisman

Find a stone one to three inches long but less than an inch thick; the stone should be shaped as much like a phallus as possible. Next, in any fire pass the stone eight times through the flames, chanting softly:

Rock and fire; rock and fire,
Symbols of the Horned One;
Grant me what e'er I desire;
Here beneath the Moon or Sun.*

This creates an excellent all-purpose talisman which shall draw to you whatever you desire. It can be carried in the pocket, tied to a string and worn around the neck, or incorporated into a design of your own for a piece of ritual jewelry.

Scott
Cunningham

the view from the mountain capricorn

Rev. Paul V. Beyerl, D.D.
part two (this issue)

in order to see into the future, one must look also to the past; we have spent many years hearing the visions of the age of aquarius, and each day most of us hear the myths of change: christ will be reborn, the world will end, nuclear holocaust, economic crisis, and the letting go of the old: the patriarchy, the worn out systems of politics, of doing business, the old systems of religion; viewed from the mountain, we must all learn to face change and grow into the highest ideal of ourselves, in order that we survive;

Carried within is the ability to bring as much death, as needed (and enough love so that it is not in excess, although it may feel like the end of the world as the change is going on). We are approaching a period of intense purification! Remember that Capricorn is the sign of winter, the cycle of dying that leads to the rebirth of spring. The moment the sun moves into Capricorn determines the onset of winter. To look for those things which will keep us balanced, we must then study Cancer and the ability to feel the joys of Jupiter. Because of the retrograde motion, Jupiter will take discipline and strong motivation in order to manifest its goodness, but is said to be 'exalted' when in the sign of Cancer. This means that it is the second best place for Jupiter, the second most comfortable position for it.

In the period being described, 1989 to 1990, we of the generation born when Pluto was moving through Leo will be in our prime. We have the potential of being those who will carry the earth into the New Age. Who are those who heal, who teach? What do they call those that pass the mysteries of divine being into the hands of the seekers? I use the word "Priest" (also meant as the word "priestess"). The signs of the growing Aquarian energies are increasingly evident within the New Age religions.

As we are moving forward, we also look back in time. There are increasing numbers of gay men seeking roots in ancient rituals, exploring the rites of passage, finding inner peace in sacred circles and ancient paths towards wisdom. Yearly more gay men are interested in fulfilling their childhood fantasies of becoming a priest or healer. Within this group are joyful numbers who are finding joy in working with the dualities of god and goddess.

The position of Jupiter in Cancer is very interesting. Cancer is the sign of the zodiac ruled by the Moon, in Her maternal aspect, giving of love to the world, nurturing Her soil and Her children. Jupiter is likened to the Father, and indeed, is often used in chart interpretation to find information about one's father. Thus one of the sources of energy needed to bring love and healing to a globe passing through the changes of the Capricorn configuration, is that of Father and Mother working together. Interpreted in religious symbols, it shows a return to the old ways, in which the Divine Essence of the universe is seen as both God and Goddess in the joyful union of the polarity. Interesting, is it not, how this coincides with a growing movement within religion.

It would easily appear, at least from my view as Priest of the Old Ways, that among the ideal people to help lead the Earth through these times of change are the men who come of our own. More likely to be childless, we have long explored the freedom to pick up and move to another city. Less likely to be bound to the system, we have learned very easily what it takes to survive. Many heterosexual people are quite envious of a gay man's ability to quickly relocate and have intimate relations and friendships with what seems the greatest of ease. We have already provided ourselves with many meeting grounds, places where we can meet and form families, in the true sense of Aquarius. Having worked out our inner understanding that our sexual preference somehow includes an understanding that we are a mixture of both masculine and feminine, it is a logical step to

embrace a religious experience which expresses the same balance. Our Christian upbringing tells us that God is Everywhere and that we are made in God's image. Everywhere I look I see fertility and sexuality of those things "god" has made, from the gardens, to the joyful bodies we watch in the hot summer days, expressed as male, female, without labels.

We have historical precedence for the fairer Shaman, for the gay Pagan, for the man who is a priest to a community of people, and can also party with them. His love and joy are for his people, and is rejoiced in. The fact that he made love man-to-man, with another of the same sex, was seen as keeping with the mythologies of the old ways, with gods and goddesses both "straight" and "gay" (although a more accurate label would be sexual). When the growls and roars of his lovemaking carried out into the village, the people knew they were blessed, for they saw their priest as strong, both physically and spiritually. Surely one who was willing to plunge in to the mysteries of Religion must understand the Mysteries of Joyful Sex.

We are moving into this time again. We draw from the old, and we are making the way for the new. We will be carried upon as priests, as healers, and we will be wise and skilled. Those who are afraid of a fairy shaman will not call upon his healing powers. Unless they find another way to trust in the new way and change accordingly, they shall pass on with the old, into loss of survival. Thus is the heartlessness of Capricorn, and the manner in which change occurs from age to age.

An astrological view of the future indicates some startling changes within the framework of religion and spirituality. The Age of Aquarius is likely to involve most religious belief focusing its magic within the duality, a renaissance of religion which looks to both male and female divine principles as the source of creative joy. That which is likely to survive is that which is not judgemental of others. Those systems which discriminate and persecute those of differing sexual labels will become less relevant, and a person will self-identify as sexual or not. There is less likely to be distinction between the "gays" and the "straights" but rather we will find ourselves as members of families, which are delightful mixtures of all kinds of people. We, as gay men, are pursuing gay spirituality, seeking forms of religion which allow us to be sexual (for that is very sacred), and which allow us the freedom to dance and fly and sing healing verses to the Earth. We have within our grasp the ability to be a major working force in bringing the Earth into the consciousness of a healthy, balanced Age of Aquarius.

It is difficult, sometimes nerve-wracking to break free, even of our current homosexual societies and ethos, and seek alternative forms of religious expression. Sometimes the study needed to learn skills of divination, of ritual, of healing, became arduous. Then we find those moments of ecstasy, of joy, of communion with those energies which can be as large as the universe. For those of us who dare to be different, for those of us who dare to call ourselves Priests, for those of us who dare to heal using song and change magic and herbs, let this essay on Capricorn provide you with the courage to endure and the faith that we can make change and bring reality to our dreams of a better Earth. But less we pursue this work for our personal ends, be mindful that those bordering the Capricorn configuration are likely to be the leaders of the New Religions of Aquarius. We have the honor and wisdom to be the generation who teaches and prepares them for their work. Let us be bound together in love and share in the joy of our own. Let us meet in our circles and let us share dreams of a world in which there is love, wisdom, and compassion. Let us dare to be the leader, and to be honored among those who call themselves the Wise Ones.

The Unicorn Vol IV #8
Box 8814 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408 871-7287
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The Unicorn Chronicles Decree Gemini/Trine Capricorn ixi/vii (cont'd from Vol. iv #5)

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And it is when She has returned to the Mountain-Sign that Mars will enter, forcing his change of Capricorn, bringing strength and challenge in order that we continue forward, for many shall falter, and those of unsure footing will fall from the mountain and perish.

(to be continued)

November Sun

The grey bitter curtains

Of November part;

The fabric of rains and winds

Slits suddenly

To a point of calm,

A land glowing

With Indian summer,

A haze of sun.

Lazarus-crickets

Sing in fallen leaves

While the lakes are warming

In the subtle air.

In the forest

A copper sea

Of beech leaves eddies

And flows around the roots

Of pine trees standing green guardians

To a sudden season.

In the sighing, shining

Ocean of leaves

Are drifts and currents

Of ancientness

A under-tow of magic

To a past

That echoes in present silences,

A golden calm that heaves

With long-fry seaweed memories

Of lost and voiceless surf.

- Noel-Anne Brennan

Dear Andrius

I'm so excited about learning the craft! Judyth, my hornless friend, has taken me everywhere at the summer solstice festival sponsored by Circle I joined in with the chanting at the sweat lodges. It was wonderfully hot! And, Oh!, the evening circle sent me spiraling to the stars. Such wonderful energies I've never experienced before. I visited some new and old friends in Chicago and Milwaukee and danced at the circle by the river. So many new and wonderful human friends this summer! I'm looking forward to meeting some of your unifriends. Maybe I can travel with you when you go rambling this winter. Just wait until you see what Judyth is planning to do with The Unicorn! In this issue will be the start of a children's corner (Angel came to play and drew a picture of one of her unifriends for us) So tell all your friends to send stories and drawings for the children. Also, we are looking for new magickal tnes to share, so if you hear any flights of sound in your travels be sure to write them down for Judyth.

Blessed Be, Flowers

Children's Corner

The Moon

The moon

Is love

And warmth

And safe

And beautiful

- Angel Philipp, age 8

Notes from an Herbal

Iris

Named for Isis, Goddess of the Rainbow, these magnificent blooms de indeed reflect the myriad colours of Her heavenly Arch. The Devas often say that the Earth Mother carried an iris stalk in Her hand, when she descended to Terra Firma to initiate them into Her priesthood, the iris being the first sceptre. The blossom is representative of the triple aspect of the Goddess, and contains within the secret of achieving Her blessing. One represents faith in Her being; another show the path to understanding the wisdom of Her divine and material manifestations; and the third gives the strength to follow the path to beyond death, to the end of the rainbow. As an herb of the Goddess, the iris keeps us in Her protection, and aids in adding love and the warmth of friendship to our lives. The iris is the sceptre we follow to transcend death, to allow the Mother to plant our souls in the fields of Her dreams. The tuber of the iris is oft called the Orris Root, and may be dried, ground, and added to magickal incense in order to experience the blessings and guidance of the Goddess.

- Rev. Paul V. Beyerl, D.D.

In the garden

The flowers meet

Like death
Dancing
Waltzing over the
Summer wall
- J. Hallett

A tree grows
It flourishes
I embrace it
My inner vision
Invokes her spirit
And the tree and I are one.
Let the tree
And the Goddess
Within me
Combine
To bear fruit,
In the womb
Of my innermost being
I am the Goddess,
The tree manifests itself
In me,
Living,
Dying,
Rebirth,
Transcending the physical
Into the cosmic mind
I spread my roots,
And drink of the Earth,
The Mother feeds my soul.
My branches carress the wind,
The light, I absorb,
And in so doing,
I grow to spread
Wisdom,
And love.
Let my body support your soul
As I spread out
To cover the world,
Even the universe,
With universal love,
Perfect trust, in myself
Inner tranquility
Peace and blessed are we.

- Judith Bartlett

Child's World

My son said, Mom, I've found a friend
He lives out in our yard.
Come on, I'll show you - by that rock -
You've got to look real hard.
My brown-eyed son, what have you done -
Built a little house?
Of grass and leaves and stones and sheaves,
Small, as for a mouse.
No ma, he sighed impatiently,
That was built by Clem.
There he is, with his pet Fael -
Say hello to them.
I looked and looked and looked real hard
And then I looked again.
Bug you know what, can you believe?
I couldn't see either of them!
I'm sure he's there, but tell me where,
I said to my small son.
Oh ma, he said, and shook his head
His smile bright as the Sun.
You grownups, you don't see too well
Why do you hide your eyes?
You can't see CLem, you can't see Fael -
I hope I stay this size!

- J. Baker

Notice: The Tree of Life Seminar scheduled for Sept 4-7 in Colorado has been cancelled. It was felt by Higher Powers that perhaps it was not best for so many to be so conspicuous, and a change in situations forced last minute cancellation.

Notice: The Mystery School of the Rowan Tree has no openings, applications will be filed until one of the student positions is vacated at which time selection will be made.

Happenings -

MAPPCAF IV - Mid-Atlantic Pan-Pagan Conference and Festival. The dates are Oct. 11-12th at the same site. Adults \$30.00 for indoor space, \$20.00 for outdoor. Children under 13 yrs \$20.00 and \$15.00. Bablis free.

For more info write: Blue Star, 38-03 Hunters Pt. Ave., L.I.C., N.Y. 11101

Council of the Mystic Arts, Samhain Festival, Alvin, Tx. Oct. 31-Nov. 1
Write: 538 Hammond, San Antonio, Tx. 78201

Arianhu Annual Samhain Seminar - Nov.7-8 in Amarillo, Tx
Write: Arianhu, P.O. Box 69, Dimmitt, Tx 79027

Nexus International, P.O. Box 45061 Dallas, Tx 75245 - Gatherings: Women's Circle, Feb. 13
Dallas Celebration of Summer '82, June Lammas Faire, Dallas - Mallas '82
Also: Unicorn Gardens \$7.00 and Nexus \$24.00 per year

Merchandise -

Acron, Box 4141 Stn. D, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada - send for their catalog of fine handmade articles and books.

Publications:

"A Pagan Renaissance" by Castle Rising - Q Witchcraft journal that delves seriously into the Old Pagan Ways. Subs - \$12.00/yr. U.S., \$14.00 Outside U.S. and Canada, \$17.00 airmail. Sample copy \$3.50 postpaid

Vol. III of the Emerald Star - from The Society of the Evening Star. This volume covers all aspects of the Occult, with a buying guide for supplies, resources info, and practical exercises for advancement. Write: P.O. Box 558 E. Greenwich, R.I. 02818

Nemi Enterprises, P.O. Box 1172, National City, CA 92050 has two new books: The book of the Holy Strega - \$6.00, wt. 2 lbs The Book of Ways - \$10.00, wt. 5lbs. They also publish a quarterly journal called "The Shadow's edge"

Mail order catalog from Santus Spiritus, Occult-Astrological Supplies,
Washington Square Mall, Homewood, Illinois 60430 cost .50 cent.

The Earthstewards Network - contact
Holyearth Foundation, Box 873, Monte Rio, CA 95462 for info

The Unicorn began Yule 1977, and is a newsletter dedicated to sharing the good news of our Craft and Pagan friends It is a Rowan Tree publication, with 8 giant issues to coincide with the Sabbats.

Judyth Bartlett, Editor
Andrius - Resident Unicorn

Name

Mailing Address

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Enclosed is my hard-earned money for the following:
\$8.00 - a one-year subscription to the Unicorn (3 issues)

\$10.00 - not only The Unicorn, but also the Extra Pages for gays and lesbians
\$7.00 - The Holy books of the Devas (Vol. 1) an herball for the Aquarian Age
\$5.00 - Andrius Colouring Book of Numbers - numerology and mythology
\$5.00 - A Child's Wish Book - a book of delight for little people
Enclosed is a S.A.S.E. Please send a copy of your catalogue
Total enclosed is ... make checks and money orders payable to The Rowan Tree

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The Unicorn Provides These Extra Pages to aid communication between Gay and Lesbian Pagans

Coming Out

I kept him
Hanging in the closet
For years, carefully wrapped with
Toilet paper.
A sweater strategically draped
over him. Hiding bones, that
Skeletal creak, when digging for
Tennis shoes.
In the beginning it was easy.
He wasn't very big - fit
Snuggly in a shoe box. -
Never ate, but had this penchant
For growing. So, soon I had to
Tie him to a hanger. Everyone
Wanted to feed him.
Halloween was our only big
Night out. Together we'd go
Trick-or-treating ... one person
For a change. I'd still keep
Him sort of hidden, of course,
Lest anyone get too
Awfully suspicious.
One year, I wrapped him
Up as a mommy. Another year
We went natural. Bones clanking
Like streetcars through the haul.
Nobody knew. After the party -
To the closet for another year.
As I grew though, he fit less and
Less. He began to jumble. And I
Could never find anything in the
Closet. All those bones doubled over
Touching the floor. Mother thought
It was a school project.
I was surprised no one heard
My cry! The late night tears
When I would take him down
Just to hold him.
Just to know touch, and
Dream of love somewhere.

I couldn't keep my hands off him.
There was a bond. Something we
Shared. - though, to look
You wouldn't think much. All
White enameled ivory as if he'd
Come from some elephants mouth...
So... gradually I, let him in.
We became one.
Not all at once, mind you
Just, just a piece
At a time, first maybe
A scapula, later a tibia.
I put the big bones in
First, figuring they'd be the
Easiest. Intricate work.
All the fragments
Of the hand, fitting together
Tighter than a jigsaw.
Welded. Iron
It hurt when I opened my
Head. And slipped his in.
Now through ensuing
despairs .. we laugh
Or cry together.
- Joseph H.

A phallic Talisman

Find a stone one to three inches long but less than an inch thick; the stone should be shaped as much like a phallus as possible. Next, in any fire, pass the stone eight times through the flames, chanting softly:

Rock and fire; rock and fire,
Symbols of the horned one;
Grant me what e'er I desire;
Here beneath the Moon or Sun!

This creates an excellent app-purpose talisman which shall draw to you whatever you desire. This can be carried in the pocket, tied to a string and worn around the neck, or incorporated into a design of your own for a piece of ritual jewelry.

- Scott Cunningham

The View from the Mountain Capricorn

In order to see into the future, one must look also to the past, we have spent many years hearing the visions of the age of aquarius, and each day most of us hear the myths of change. Christ will be reborn, the world will end, nuclear holocaust, economic crisis, and the letting go of the old. The patriarchy, the worn out systems of politics, of doing business, the old systems of

religion, viewed from the mountain, we must all learn to face change and grow into the highest ideal of ourselves, in order that we survive.

Carried within is the ability to bring as much death as needed (and enough love so that it is not in excess, although it may feel like the end of the world as the change is going on.)

We are approaching a period of intense purification! Remember that Capricorn is the sign of Winter, the cycle of dying that leads to the rebirth of spring. The moment the Sun moves into Capricorn determines the onset of winter. To look for those things which will keep us balanced, we must then study Cancer and the ability to feel the joys of Jupiter, Because of the retrograde motion, Jupiter will take discipline and strong motivation in order to manifest its goodness, but is said to be exalted when the sign of Cancer. This means that it is the second best place for Jupiter, the second most comfortable position for it.

In the period being described 1989 to 1990, we of the generation born when Pluto was moving through Leo will be in our prime. We have the potential of being those who will carry the Earth into the New Age. Who are those who heal, who teach? I use the word "Priest", (also meant as the word "Priestess"). The signs of the growing Aquarian energies are increasingly evident within the New Age religions.

As we are moving forward, we also look back in time. There are increasing numbers of gay men seeking roots in ancient rituals, exploring the rites of passage, finding inner peace in sacred circles and ancient paths towards wisdom. Yearly more gay men are interested in fulfilling their childhood fantasies of becoming a priest or healer. Within this group are joyful numbers who are finding joy in working with the dualities of God and Goddess.

The position of Jupiter in Cancer is very interesting, Cancer is the sign of the Zodiac ruled by the Moon; in Her maternal aspect giving of love of the world, nurturing Her soil and her children. Jupiter is likened to the Father and indeed is often used in chart interpretation to find information about one's father. Thus, one of the sources of energy needed to bring love and healing to a globe passing through the changes of the Capricorn configuration is that of Father and Mother working together. Interpreted in religious symbols, it shows a return to the old ways, in which the Divine Essence of the universe is seen as both God and Goddess in the joyful union of the polarity. Interesting, is it not, how this coincides with a growing movement within religion.

It would easily appear at least from my view as Priest of the Old Ways, that among the ideal people to help lead the Earth through these times of change are the men who come of our own. More likely to be childless, we have long explored the freedom to pick up and move to another city. Less likely to be bound to the system, we have learned very easily what it takes to survive. Many heterosexual people are quite envious of a gay man's ability to quickly relocate and have intimate relations and friendships with what seems the greatest of ease. We have already provided ourselves with many meeting grounds, places, where we can meet and form family in the true sense of Aquarius. Having worked out our inner understanding that our sexual preference somehow includes an understanding that we are a mixture of both masculine and feminine, it is a logical step to embrace a religious experience which expresses the same balance. Our Christian upbringing tells us that God is Everywhere, and that we are made in God's image. Everywhere I look I see the fertility and sexuality of those things "god" has made, from the gardens, to the joyous bodies we watch in the hot summer days, expressed as male female, without labels.

We have historical precedence for the fairy shaman, for the gay Pagan, for the man who is a priest to a community of people, and can also party with them. His love and joy are for his people, and is rejoiced in the fact that he made love man-to-man, with another of the same sex was seen as keeping with the mythologies of the old ways with Gods and Goddesses both "straight" and "gay" (although a more accurate label would be sexual). When the growls and roars of his lovemaking carried out into the village, the people knew they were blessed, for they saw their priests as strong, both physically and spiritually. Surely one who was willing to plunge into the mysteries of religion must understand the Mysteries of joyful sex.

We are moving into this time again. We draw from the old, and we are making the way for the new. We will be carried upon as priests, as healers, and we will be wise and skilled. Those who are afraid of a fairy shaman will not call upon his healing powers, unless they find another way to trust in the new way and change accordingly, they shall pass on with the old, into loss of survival. This is the heartlessness of Capricorn, and the manner in which change occurs from age to age.

An astrological view of the future indicates some startling changes within the framework of religion and spirituality. The Age of Aquarius is likely to involve most religious belief focusing its magick within the duality, a renaissance at religion which looks to both male and female divine principles as the source of creative joy. That which is likely to survive is that which is not judgemental of others. Those systems which discriminate and persecute those of differing ways are unlikely to survive. It is most likely that sexual labels will become less relevant and ... person will self-identify as sexual or not. There is less likely to be distinction between the gays and the straights but rather we will find ourselves as members of families; which are delightful mixtures of all kinds of people. We, as gay men, are pursuing gay spirituality, seeking forms of religion which allow us to be sexual (for that is very sacred), and which allow us the freedom to dance and fly and sing healing verses to the Earth. We have within our grasp the ability to be a major working force in bringing the Earth into the consciousness of the healthy, balanced Age of Aquarius.

It is difficult, sometimes nerve wracking to break free, even of our current homosexual societies and ghettos, and seek alternative forms of religious expression. Sometimes the study needed to learn skills of divination of ritual, of healing, become arduous. Then we find those moments of ecstasy, of joy of communion with those energies, which can be as large as the universe. For those of us who dare to be different, for those of us who dare to call ourselves Priests, for those of us who dare to heal using song and change magick and herbs, let this essay on Capricorn provide you with the courage to endure and the faith that we can make change and bring reality to dreams of a better Earth. But, less we pursue this work for our personal ends, be mindful that those born during the Capricorn configuration are likely to be readers of the New Religions of Aquarius. We have the honor and wisdom to be the generation who teaches and prepares them for their work, let us be bound together in love and share in the joy of our own. Let us meet in our circles and let us share dreams of a world in which there is love, wisdom, and compassion. Let us dare to be the leader and to be honored among those who call themselves the Wise Ones.

Rev, Paul V. beyerl, D.D.
Part two (this issue)