

Episode #002 – Beyond 93!

The Infinite and the Beyond

An esoteric podcast for the introspective pagan mind hosted by Chris Orapello
www.infinite-beyond.com

❖ Show Introduction

- It's Saturday, February 14th 2009 Thanks for joining us once again! MM, BB, 93, Its Valentine's Day and welcome to the second episode of "The Infinite and the Beyond," an esoteric podcast for the introspective pagan mind. Where we explore a variety of topics which relate to life and one's unique spiritual journey. I am your host Chris Orapello.
- Intro music by George Wood.
- Allow me to thank you and the many listeners who have already downloaded the first episode. The response from the pagan community has been outstanding! Thank you very much! Please be sure to drop me a line and let me know what you thought of an episode and if you have any comments or ideas regarding the show or any topics that you may like to hear me talk about. Allow me to offer you a fresh perspective on an issue or subject, or offer some insight in regards to a question that you may have.
- One of things I would like this show to be is a dialog between me and you out there in the podiverse. Community is important and personal interaction adds value to one's sense of community and the community as a whole. Speaking of community there has been a lot of talk of community on some of the other pagan podcasts, and in this episode I'm going to offer my perspective on community. Also in this episode, we'll meet a common friend of heavy metal albums covers and anti-mason propagandists in the regular show segment "A Corner in the Occult." We'll learn just what I mean when I refer to Occultism and the occult. And I offer some friendly discourse by elaborating on Thelema, it's Laws, and how I personally apply it in my life as we go Beyond 93!

❖ As of Late...

- Happy belated Imbolc to those of you in the northern hemisphere and happy belated Lughnasadh if you are listening to us in the southern hemisphere. Winter for those of us in Southern New Jersey has finally begun living up to its reputation at least for a week or so as we had snow briefly blanketing the yards and I have had my real first illness of the season. Yay! If my voice sounds off to you there are two reasons. 1) I have a cold after recovering from the flu and 2) I have a new microphone! It would figure that I get sick when I get a new microphone for the show. *sigh*

- Our ranking in the Religious and Spirituality category on Podcast Alley by the end of January was at a surprising #20. Thanks so much to everyone who voted for the show! We’ve only had one episode so far and the pagan podcasting community has already shown the love. Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone for voting!
- Speaking of voting and podcast alley, it’s a new month and all previous standing votes have been removed so I could really use your continued support by you voting for the show on podcast alley and leaving a comment.
- Along with Podcast Alley, The Infinite and the Beyond can be found on The Pagan Podcast Index, The Proud Pagan Podcasters, iTunes, Podbean, Blubrry, Feedburner, Digital Podcast, and Podcast Pickle. Links to those sites can be found on the links page of the show website. And if you use any of these services please be sure to leave a review and spread the word about the show. Let others know about us and what they have been missing!
- I’ve also realized that I tend to use the word “Awesome” a lot so bear with me as I make an effort to expand my vocabulary and refrain from using “awesome” and “cool.”
- In the last episode there were several music pieces I neglected to mention. They were listed in the show notes but I just forgot to mention them at the end of episode #001. After show introduction by George Wood you heard “The Eternal” by Lumiloop played several times before “A Corner in the Occult” began. During the Pagan Podcast shout outs you heard “Drum and Bass” by Ted Tunes and during the ending segment on Pantheism you heard “Eternal” by 1.
- My mistake, Tahlea from the GeekWitch Podcast turns 21 in February. In Episode #001 I thought she already had her birthday.

❖ Thank Yous!

- Thank you to Hedonsdog from the Pagan Podcast Index which can be found at paganpodcastindex.wordpress.com for indexing episode 001 so quickly.
- Thank you Greywolf Moonsong for A Pagan Heart in Maine for your support on Paganspace and Facebook.
- Thank you Mojo from The Wigglian Way for joining the frappr map found on the show website, for welcoming the show to the pagan podcasting family and for all the support you have shown us so far like on Podcast Alley and Facebook. And Thank you for The Wigglian Way Promo which I will be playing later in this episode.
- Thank you to the gentleman of Haunted New Jersey for mentioning this show on your 72nd podcast and for playing the personalized promo I sent to you for your show! If any of you listening would be interested in a podcast regarding paranormal phenomenon then please check out the Haunted New Jersey Podcast at www.hauntednewjersey.com these guys have over fifty years of combined experience in the field of paranormal research and investigation and they really know their shit so check them out. And by chance if you’re a big fan of any of the paranormal reality shows on television I just want to warn you that the HNJ podcast will certainly

educate you and possibly sour your enjoyment for these shows because believe it or not these shows are not real. Sorry. I know, you may be thinking, but Chris they’re reality TV, yes and like all reality TV it is fabricated because real paranormal investigation is so boring that it would never make a good TV show unless they spiced it up in some way. So if you’re interested in the real thing check these guys out at HNJ! And if you were a big fan of the show “Sightings” then please do check out this podcast and rekindle your old flame with Al Rauber because he was the paranormal go-to guy for the show.

- Last but certainly not least, I want to thank the subscribers, it’s great to have you all aboard! Thank you for subscribing as your support helps the show to grow!

❖ **Announcements**

- I’d like to remind everyone that this show has a forum that can be found by visiting the show website at www.infinite-beyond.com. There you can submit topics and discuss show content with other listeners. Or if you would rather contact me directly, visit the contact page on the show website and send me a message there.
- Also I have to say that I am a big fan of Battlestar Galactica. My girlfriend and I were watching the latest episode the other night and as usual it always ends with you wanting more. I mean what the Frakk! The amount of plot turns and layers to this series is unreal and now that we’re in the last season everything is getting hyped up and super intense! Now, if you haven’t been watching don’t start with the new episodes. What you need to do is go back and watch it from the beginning as every episode is intrinsic to the story and the development of the show. This shit will suck you in, I promise if you only give it a chance! Dare I say it, but the show is Awesome!

❖ **Segment: Seeking Community**

- At the end of January I attended an Imbolc celebration conducted by the Pennsylvanian pagan group I worship with. As always it was a wonderful production full of great people and good music with many bodies dancing and chanting around the fire to raise energy. They are a group that I had been wanting in my life for a long time. I have been attending their circles for over a year and have yet to be disappointed. I don’t even mind the small children that can be found at these circles as they are well behaved and really do add a positive element to the environment and the community. An infant of one of the members was even blessed on that night as a new member of the community. It was a wonderful evening and to think I almost didn’t go? For some reason I have a tendency to not go to an event that I had been planning for all week. I don’t know if it’s the drive to the event that seems so unappealing at the last minute or that I just prefer the instant comfort of my home, computer, and microphone, than to a comfort which has to be sought out by driving 40 minutes to another state usually alone, but not always, and without the company of my girlfriend, which is always troublesome. I know it sounds odd, but the thought of forming a bond with a completely separate community outside of my relationship and

home state almost feels a little uncomfortable to me on some level. Though I take comfort in that my girlfriend has attended one of the gatherings with me in the past and her presence is never edited out of any relevant conversation that I may be having with some of the lovely woman who also attend the circles. It's just that running away to be with seemingly complete strangers is always a little uncomfortable, but at least they are very welcoming strangers; some of which are not even all that strange while others you expect to find wearing some form of ID bracelet. But let me clarify that these ID bracelet people are very few and very far between and I'm more joking than anything else. The circle community itself is a great group of people and I make it a point to learn more names at every event, though only seeing them one evening every month and a half does make getting to know them difficult. So, you must be thinking why do I go to another state to find community? That's a good question, but it's not that there is no pagan community in South Jersey because there is. We have our own Pagan Pride Day, though I missed it this year due to a prior commitment, I make it appoint to attend when I can, but like said I'm not always able to. I even gave a lecture at it years ago on being pagan in the modern world. So, it's not that there is no community where I live, I just found the one in Pennsylvania and I enjoy being a part of it. They are very organized and the circles they do are like mini festivals and there is always a potluck afterwards where people gather and talk. It's always a great evening and the age range among the attendees is varied, as the event is primarily hosted by an outer court group from a local family of covens made up of mostly traditional lineaged Wiccans. It's not that being lineage or traditional is the key, but that such a things shows in what they do. The professionalism, the detail, the elaborateness, the structure of the ceremonies, all reveals their experience and personal dedication to the craft and to the sabbats. As you can probably tell, I'm not one to form a coven because if I was I would have by now, and the group I ran years ago was a public religious discussion group which I formed to find community and to meet people. I ended it after five years, because my life was changing and it's just what I needed to do at the time. The email list for that group still exists on yahoo and can still be utilized by the members from the group, but the list has been closed to the public since the group ended. Some of the members of it have started their own groups and as far as I know they still continue to function to this day.

- I think that one of the main problems with this idea of community is that in such a diverse religion, one which encourages one's personal path and relationship with divinity, can we really have a solid pagan community to be a part of in a religious sense? Or should our desire for a sense of community be found in our other interests? Like art, philosophy, knitting, reading, writing or what have you? Maybe our best place to find community is in our other interests, but under the umbrella of paganism. Like in having a Pagan knitters society or Pagan artists or musicians or pagan mommies... It's just a thought. Maybe we're taking ourselves too seriously as pagans and stripping joy from our ability to enjoy community? Maybe we just need to be able to sit down, shoot the shit, over a cup of coffee or a meal instead of bickering over who's running the show, what was done wrong at

the last event, and what else can be done and why? Does this make sense to anyone or am I just rambling? No, one religion outside of a single church or group has a community that many of us think we are missing as pagans. Most people’s communities are found in their everyday lives unless they belong to a specific group or club. There is a Masonic community which is the result of masonry’s statewide organization and the last time I checked there aren’t any statewide pagan organizations other than the online email lists or what one may find at meetup.com. The pagan pride days offer light to the existence of a pagan community so let’s not forget them and the more I think of it, there are more opportunities for the existence of a pagan community than one may first realize. Email lists and meetup.com are a tremendous resource and perhaps to find community one may need to establish community by organizing a group or club under some other heading like a knitters society, or a pagan diner meet-up, or pagan coffee chat night for example. Sometimes when you don’t see what you need in the local area, you need to make yourself because chances are there are others like you in the area who only need a reason or a place to gather. If you so choose to start a group, keep it public and in a public place try and have people contact you before you inform them of when where the meet-up is happening that way you have a better idea of who will be attending. When your information about the meetings is too public this can attract trouble as I have experienced in the past. Anyone can and may attend and for the peace of mind of the regular attendees, random strangers could pose a problem or be seen as a threat or be a source of discomfort. This may sound absurd, but I am speaking from experience and have had such problem in the past.

- If you do decide to start some kind of pagan interest group it can be a wonderful and fulfilling step, yielding benefits and opportunities that you may never have anticipated and you may be the answer that your community has needed for some time.
- If you have any questions please be sure to contact me via the show website at www.infinite-beyond.com.

❖ Pagan Podcast Bumper

- Geek Witch with Tahlea

❖ Show Segway

- The other week when I was celebrating Imbolc I was watching one of the much younger children in attendance repeatedly run out into the circle, turn around, run back to gentleman seated next to me, and fall into his lap. The child did this over and over. Each time with the same interest and enthusiasm as the time before, with the same carefree grin that only a child, or a highly medicated adult, could have. After witnessing this for most of the ceremony I turned to the gentleman beside me and said, “It’s been a long time since I was able to have the time of my life by simply walking around.” I still get a kick out of the thought as it is very insightful to the life of an adult as opposed to that of a child. We often take ourselves too seriously, and if you know me, my girlfriend

often makes fun of me for doing just that, but it’s true I do take myself too seriously at least when I’m not dancing for her while she cooks dinner or when acting like an enraged gorilla in the living room. Trust me, the cats love it.

❖ Letters and Messages

- I’ve received some messages from the listeners since the first episode the show
- PAX wrote:
 - “Chris, you have a fantastic show here, and I am really impressed with your work on it and I look forward to your blog here and your podcast! Am recommending you to all my folks and (5 or so) of my regular readers!”
- Thanks PAX I’m glad you enjoyed the show and for taking time to let me know. And thank you for posting about the show in your blog and for the support! I really appreciate it.
- LancelotduLac wrote:
 - “I enjoyed your cast this morning. I love the organization of the cast. Great voice.”
- Thanks LancelotduLac. Glad to hear it and thank you for your Frappr message. You really like my voice? Hmm. You don’t think it’s too raspy?

- ❖ Later on one of our topics is going to be about the Laws of Thelema and some of my favorite teachings from the Book of the Law, what they mean to me, and how I apply them in my life as a person and as a pagan, But first it’s time for the sounds of classical delightfulness accompanied with a splash of occultism with A Corner in the Occult.

❖ Segment: A Corner in the Occult “Baphomet”

- (Background Music: “Piano Quartet in g 3rd Movement by Mozart” performed by Linda Holzer)
- Hello and welcome to “A Corner in the Occult” Where we will focus on one part or person from the history of occultism. In these regular segments, I hope to introduce and touch upon many aspects of the occult and I hope to offer you something new or at least something to think about. There is a lot in occultism that one may never choose to look into, and here you have the opportunity to learn about something that you may have never bothered to investigate or read about. And oddly enough there a lot of people who may not be aware of what today’s topic is on ...
- The Sabbatic Goat or The Goat of Mendes, call it what you like it’s still BAPHOMET! The supposed being worshipped by the ancient Knight’s Templar and the Freemasons by the misinformed, Baphomet actually has misconstrued origins, which is what makes it interesting and one of my favorite aspects of occult history.

- The origins of Baphomet are unclear, but the earliest mention of it goes back to the days of The Knights Templar, a monastic military order, which formed at the end of the First Crusade. They were accused of heresy by Pope Clement V who was put up to it by King Philip IV, and these accusations lead to the orders down fall. The heresy charge was said to be a conspiracy by King Philip IV to get a hold of the money that the Templars possessed and to erase his debt with them. Whether or not these allegations were true is unclear to this day. It was said that one of the heresy charges held against the Templars was for worshipping an idol referred to as Baphomet. It has been said that Baphomet could have been mistaken for Mahomet (Mohammed) and the various descriptions of Baphomet given by the Templars varied too greatly to suggest any truth to their confessions, which were given under torture, to which only a small number of them even admitted to worshiping the estranged idol. Among the many descriptions, Baphomet was described as, a human skull as well as the painting of a man, which shows the vast inconsistency in the confessions given by the Templars.
- When often referenced in modern day media, the most famous image of Baphomet often portrayed was drawn by the French oculist and magickian, Eliphas Levi who lived from 1810 to 1875. Levi was and still is a well known author on magick and the occult and he was believed to be one of Aleister Crowley's previous incarnations as so claimed by Crowley.
- Rumor has it that Levi's inspiration for his famous image came from three sources. One being a famous painting done by Francisco Goya titled, "Witch's Sabbat" depicting a prominent goat headed man being surrounded by woman, another source being the ancient Egyptian god "The Goat of Mendes" (Harpocrates, the Ram of Mendes, as the form of the god Osiris as the generator), and the final source being the devil card from a traditional tarot deck of which many decks have since referenced Levi's Baphomet in their devil cards.
- The image drawn by Levi contains many themes. Darkness and light, ebb and flow, the five elements, human and animal, male and female, illumination, the fire of the alchemists, and more, are all represented in this one image. On the right arm, the word "Solve," meaning Solution, is written, and on the left appears the word "Coagula," meaning Coagulation further emphasizing degeneration and configuration. The phrase Solve et coagula was used in the study of alchemy, a subject Lévi wrote about many times in his books, and translates to "Analysis and Synthesis" or "To Divide and To Unite." The Caduceus, an ancient symbol of fertility, neutrality, wisdom, and healing, rises from the lap of the seated goat headed transgendered figure and the fish scales that line the belly are an indication of the element of Water.
- One of the best descriptions of Lévi's Baphomet comes from Lévi himself:
 - *"The goat on the frontispiece carries the sign of the pentagram on the forehead, with one point at the top, a symbol of light, his two hands forming the sign of hermetism, the one pointing up to the white moon of Chesed, the other pointing down to the black one of Geburah. This sign expresses the perfect harmony of mercy with justice. His one arm is*

female, the other male like the ones of the androgyn of Khunrath, the attributes of which we had to unite with those of our goat because he is one and the same symbol. The flame of intelligence shining between his horns is the magic light of the universal balance, the image of the soul elevated above matter, as the flame, whilst being tied to matter, shines above it. The rod standing instead of genitals symbolizes eternal life, the body covered with scales the water, the semi-circle above it the atmosphere, the feathers following above the volatile. Humanity is represented by the two breasts and the androgyn arms of this sphinx of the occult sciences."

- It's amazing how much information one image can offer. The name Baphomet itself carries even more for there are several ways upon which one can go about understanding it.
- According to Levi, 'Baphomet' is a reversed composition of three abbreviations: Tem. Oph. Ab., standing for the Latin Templi omnium hominum pacis abhas 'The Father of the Temple of Peace Of All Men.
- Crowley claimed that the name came from a Greek phrase for "baptism of wisdom".
- Chaos Magick author Peter J. Carroll says that Baphomet probably arises from the Greek word Baph-metis which means "Union with Wisdom."
- On Templar History.com in an article titled "Baphomet: A 'Mystery' solved at last?" The author, Kevin Bold, mentions once reading an idea that, "Baphomet" was derived from an Arabic term, _abufihamet_, meaning 'Father of Understanding.'"
- To non-occultists Baphomet is a favorite tool for anti-occult propaganda and in some cases anti-masonic propaganda as well because of its association with the Templars who are often associated with Freemasons. Jack T. Chick, of Chick publications, uses Baphomet in an unfounded way as a means to show the evils of Freemasonry in one of his religious pamphlets titled "The Curse of Baphomet." Where it's sole basis is the use of a mis-represented quote from Albert Pike, a southern Scottish Rite Freemason who lived during the 19 century. The quote in question was revealed long ago to be a hoax concocted by Leo Taxil as a part of an Anit-Masonic campaign, but it still remains to be a favorite tool by anti-mason propagandists.
- References to Levi's Baphomet have been used by Swiss artist H.R. Giger in some of his paintings as well as being a center piece on many Heavy Metal music albums to earn them spooky points in the eyes of unknowing teenagers. A version of Baphomet even appeared in Clive Barker's 1990 movie Nightbreed and was depicted as the God of the Tribe and referred to as being the baptizer and creator of Midian, which was the underground city where the Nightbreed dwelled.
- Regardless of the lengthy analysis of its origin and implications, the history and mystery behind Baphomet is far more involved than what I was able to address here, but I hope to have shed a significant amount of light on the matter. It can be expected that Baphomet will continue to be an alluring image and concept to occultists,

magickians, and non magickians alike. May Baphomet and the controversy surrounding it, be a reminder to seek out insight to achieve knowledge in the hope of attaining wisdom.

- Thank you.
- This has been another Corner in the Occult
- Suggestions for A Corner in the Occult are welcomed and encouraged so please be sure to contact the show online via the website at www.infinite-beyond.com or through our forum which can also be found on the website.

❖ Segment: What is Occultism?

- The other day, it occurred to me that perhaps I should discuss and explain what the occult and occultism was. After all, we have the show segment on the occult so it should only be fitting that others know what I mean by occultism.
- According to Dictionary.com the word occult is of that which *pertains to magic, astrology, or any system claiming use or knowledge of secret or supernatural powers or agencies, that which is beyond the range of ordinary knowledge or understanding; meaning that which is mysterious, secret; disclosed or communicated only to the initiated, or that which is hidden from view. The origins of the word date around 1520 CE.* And judging from this definition I would be careful to not confuse the word occult with the word paranormal which this definition almost does in stating that the occult is *that which is beyond the range of ordinary knowledge or understanding.* I tend to feel that the occult has a history and tradition associated with it while the word paranormal, to me is more a describer of anomalous phenomena and that which science is currently unable to explain. I can see how the two terms could be easily interchanged, but I strongly advocate a difference between them and I will use them separately during the course of this podcast in regards to separate issues.
- Now, occultism, being the study or practice of the occult, in my opinion, can simply be regarded as being a form of ancient science. It is, what science was before it became what we now know science to be and many of the forms of science that exist now tend to have their roots in ancient occult practices. Sciences such as Chemistry and Astronomy have their roots in Alchemy and Astrology and the Medical field mirrors herbal and healing practices of the past with the notion of creating changes in the body with the use of substances to establish better health. Science much like occultism is ultimately trying to understand and control existence as both disciplines are simply an outward expression and desire for humans to exert control over their own lives and to make accommodations for their own size and fragile nature in a much larger and seemingly dangerous and daunting world. Like with occultism, nature was the basis for the early forms of science as to establish a foundation of knowledge, truth must be found on the most rudimentary of levels, that being nature. Leonardo Da Vinci spoke greatly of nature as a base for science because the human *senses are of the earth* and as he put

it, *all true sciences are the result of Experience which has passed through our senses*. As he also stated, *all our knowledge has its origin in our perception*. However, the prevailing difference between science and occult thought was the influx of superstition and theology which made the world of the occultist much more grandiose and seemingly more infinite. It was the perpetuation of superstition and the recognition of the vast realms of existence woven throughout reality which continued to enable the world of the occultist and their pursuit into the great mystery of existence which has produced fascinating results, practices, texts, and people which will all be material for A Corner in the Occult. To close, I have chosen a quote from Marie D. Jones’ book *PSIence*:

- *If science is about the structure of the universe, then spirituality is about the essence. We can never really understand the nature of reality unless we find a theory that encompasses both... The macrocosm and the microcosm. As above, so below.*

❖ Pagan Podcast Bumpers

- The Wigglian Way with Mojo and Sparrow
- I also want to say thank you to Mojo and Sparrow (or is it Sparrow and Mojo?) of the Wigglian Way for supplying me with that bumper.
- If you haven’t listened to either of these podcasts (Geek Witch or The Wigglian Way) please check them out by visiting the links page on the show website or the Religion and Spirituality category on Podcast Alley.

❖ Podcast Shout Outs!

- I would also like to give a shout out to some of the other podcasts out there.
 - Darkly Fey from the Darkside of Fey
 - Dee and Heather from Pagan FM
 - Garrett, Al, and Gordon from Haunted New Jersey
 - Greywolf from A Pagan Heart in Maine
 - Kia Dragon from Pagan Chaos Magick
 - Tommy Elf From the Edge of the Circle
- What you all do for the podcast community is wonderful! Thank you so much and keep podcasting!

❖ Segment: Beyond 93!

- (Background Music: “spaces” by 3vr3n)
- Hello, welcome back and 93!
- Now you may be wondering what the hell is with this number 93? I said at the end of the first episode. I said it in the beginning of this episode. And I said it just now...

- Saying the number 93 is a way in which a Thelemite says “Love and Will.” Since both words equal 93 in a numerological sense, by saying 93 upon greeting and parting with someone a Thelemite is saying “Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law. Love is the Law, Love under will.” So when you hear me say 93 on this show that is what I am saying to you.
- In my journey over the years, I have adopted some of the core elements of Thelema into my personal faith, those elements being, “Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law,”(1:40) “Love is the Law, Love under Will”(1:57) and “Every man and every woman is a star,”(1:3) which to me is a very beautiful quote from the Book of the Law as it is full of personal meaning and conveys a great visual impact to the reader and the practitioner.
- Now, I would like to offer some friendly discourse on the Laws of Thelema, their implication, their place in the world, and how I personally apply them in my daily life.
- As I have stated previously on the show, I am a Thelemic Wiccan. I consider myself one because I’ve merged the above mentioned Thelemic teachings into my Wiccan philosophy, which some of you may not think is too much of a stretch since Wicca’s “Do what thou wilt, shall ye harm none” was after all based on the Thelema’s, “Do What Thou Wilt.” However, what I prefer about the Thelemic version is that it considers the entirety of existence and not just the physical plain, it defines actions and one’s life on a cosmic scale in regards to all time and being. It’s not just a Law or belief, it’s a quest and a constant pursuit on the part of the individual and it’s not about doing what you want as many people seem to think it is or the act of simply being conscious of all your actions and reasons for committing them. Your Will, as implied by the Law, is your destiny or purpose in life, it’s your calling, it’s that which you set out to do prior to being born, it is the reason you are here in this life. It’s the thing which fits you into the great cosmic machine of life as we are all a part of.
- To pursue one’s Will is a constant effort and is thereby a conscious act and cannot be accidentally fulfilled. The finding and fulfilling one’s Will is an act of introspection, an acknowledgement of the intuition, not one’s instinct or sense of desire, but it is the inner voice, a deeper feeling held within which is always speaking to us. To me this is the voice of the Will for if the divine were going to be heard or felt it would be in the core of my being.
- The listening to this voice is a constant act of still contemplation or the momentary clearing of the mind to allow the voice to be heard. Usually what I receive as a response occurs in the form of a feeling of one answer over another or one course of action as opposed to another. Do I think every act is vital and that every response needs to be right in order for me to fulfill my Will? No, not really. I feel that misdirection always gets corrected in time with continued careful attention. I also feel that it is not the goal of the Thelemite to necessarily cause a reaction or outcome or to desire a particular response, but that to follow their Will to the best of their ability. This then nearly outcasts the need for magick as a means to gain as the result of desire, but instead allows magick to be used for more personal and spiritual growth and such higher purposes. For if one is directly involved with Deity most needs are taken care of as a result of this relationship.

- In regards to Love. It is, after all, under the power the Will and is then dictated by the Will. *Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law. Love is the Law, Love under Will. There is no Law beyond do what thou Wilt.*
- And as a Man, I am a Star just as is every Woman. We are all the centers of our own Universe. When you look up at the stars at night, each one shines in its own place, and you see them because the light they emit has traveled in a strait path, through the universe and into your eye, without crossing or interfering with one another. This is what is meant by “*Every Man and Every Woman is a star.*” We all have our own paths of light to follow. This does not imply a lack of conflict, but that conflict which occurred in conformity with Will shall resolve itself in conjunction with that Will. Regardless of the seeming result, the apparent conflict could just as well be a manifestation of one’s Will. One pursues Will without knowing the outcome. Will is pursued because the desired outcome is simply the pursuit, but not the result of the pursuit. Understand? It is not entirely a means to an end, but it is a means to a means to an end. The end of the journey is not the goal, and to quote artist Dan Eldon “The Journey is the Destination.” This problem is akin to the individual who wants to be in a relationship. Because all they do is think about having a significant other and as a result they focus all their energy towards having one and what they get are relationships that are self-destructive. This individual forgets to live their life and allows their obsession to run their existence and as a result they sabotage any and all meaningful relationships that could come into their life naturally if they only let go and allowed things to manifest on their own without a forced interaction.
- Another idea about Thelema and the following of one’s Will is like the current of a river. If we go with the flow then we have the momentum of the river to carry us along and if we fight the current of the river then our course becomes a struggle, one which we may be consumed by.
- How do I apply Thelema in my life? I said it earlier, I listen to my intuition and I allow it to guide me through out each day. Sure sometimes the direction I get lead into may seem irrelevant at first, but I can usually see the value of it in time.
- As a Wiccan, the Laws of Thelema simply enhance the Wiccan rede as it is in itself a derivative of the Law.
- You may now be thinking what about the threefold Law? What do I do with that?
- Well, I have never been a fan of the threefold law and I always viewed it as a safety feature for new magick users, a kind of default mechanism to keep new practitioners in check. After all, magick is the art of manifesting of one’s intent and creating change to occur in conformity with one’s Will. If someone, who is new to magick, has this idea of the threefold law in their head, then they will by default cast the threefold effect into their magickal workings, thereby fulfilling the law of three by their own hand. Since I regard the threefold law in the way that I do, I don’t cast it into my magick because I see through its effects.
- Now, do I believe in karma? Not in a typical western way as if it were a cosmic system of checks and balances. Any view I have of Karma is in a more practical sense, meaning if you step in shit then your foot is going to smell

like shit. If you do harmful things then that is going to upset those around you and may reflect on your person and cause others to take action in some form or another. If you hang around with contagious people then you’re likely to catch what they have. Understand? My view of Karma is more natural and more practical than how it is often explained. I think westerners often embellish karma to be some great cosmic force when it really seems to be more of a common sense thing and a natural result of one’s actions and not a smiting by God giving you what you are due.

- So despite all that, I still consider myself a Wiccan and I do because I have a reverence for the Goddess and the God, I honor and respect the wheel of the year, and I celebrate the sabbats. Besides my thelemic and ceremonial interests, I identify with Wicca as a spirituality and religion. I don’t wear my religion on my sleeve, but I did take my Masonic oaths on the Book of the Law and I use my real name in conjunction with this show. My name is Chris Orapello, I am a Thelemite, I am a Wiccan, and I am a Pagan and I live in Southern New Jersey.

❖ Episode wrap up

- Well this concludes Episode #002 of The Infinite and the Beyond.
- If you have any thoughts about this episode or about what I’ve said in one of its segments please let me know by sending me a message through the website. www.infinite-beyond.com simply visit the contact page, fill out the form, and be sure to click the submit button when you’re done. I may even read what you have to say on the air. Or if you prefer a public venue then, visit and join our online forum by clicking on the link at the top of the show website. I look forward to hearing from you!
- If you liked this show and are interested in hearing more, check us out on podcast alley, podcast pickle, on iTunes, or visit our website where you can find links to where we can be found online, links to the show blog and show forum as well as a means to contact me directly if you have any show feedback or suggestions to help make the show better.
- Be sure to find me online at myspace, paganspace, coven-space, facebook, or even challenge me to a game on chess.com. Let me know you’re out there!
- **Show credits**
 - To find an index of this show and other pagan podcasts visit The Pagan Podcast Index at <http://paganpodcastindex.wordpress.com/>
 - The several music tracks heard in this episode were
 - “Proteus” by composer George Wood
 - “The Eternal” by Lumiloop
 - “Voices from the ether” by ASCIAN
 - “Piano Quartet in g 3rd Movement by Mozart” performed by Linda Holzer

- “Drum and Bass” by Ted Tunes
- “Spaces” by 3vrn3n
- “Universe Inside You” by Persian Paladin
- "Some of the music provided tonight is from the PodShow Podsafe Music Network. Check it out at 'music.podshow.com'"
- Remember that all notes for the show can be found at our blog which can be accessed through our website. And the links for the show can be found on the links page of our website as well.
- This show is happy to be a member of the Proud Pagan Podcasters which can be found at paganpodcasting.org
- The Infinite and the Beyond and its segments are copyrighted by Chris Orapello.
- Subscribe to the show through our website at www.infinite-beyond.com or find us on iTunes, Podcast Alley, Blubrry, Podbean, or Podcast Pickle.
- Thanks for listening, thanks for subscribing, and until next time Merry Part, Blessed Be, and 93!

Show Notes: Episode #002 – Beyond 93!

❖ **Show Summary:**

- In this episode we talk about community, we will meet a common friend of heavy metal albums covers and anti-mason propagandists as we learn about Baphomet in the regular show segment “A Corner in the Occult.” We will learn just what I mean when I refer to Occultism as learn about it and the occult. And I offer some friendly discourse by elaborating on Thelema, its Laws, and how I personally apply it in my life as we go beyond 93!

❖ **Breakdown:**

- (00:00) – Introduction
 - Music : “Proteus” by composer George Wood
 - Music: “The Eternal” by Lumiloop
- (10:50) – “Seeking Community” by Chris Orapello
 - Music: “Voices from the ether” by ASCIAN
- (23:25) – “A Corner in the Occult: Baphomet” by Chris Orapello
 - Music : “Piano Quartet in g 3rd Movement by Mozart” performed by Linda Holzer
- (32:15) – Geek Witch Promo
- (32:45) – “What is Occultism” by Chris Orapello
 - Music : “The Eternal” by Lumiloop
- (36:49) – The Wigglian Way Promo
- (37:24) – Podcast Shout Outs!
 - Music: “Drum and Bass” by Ted Tunes
- (38:39) – “Beyond 93!” by Chris Orapello
 - Music: “Spaces” by 3vrn3n
- (47:17) – Episode Wrap Up
 - Music : “Universe Inside You” by Persian Paladin

❖ **Music:** (in order of being heard)

- “Proteus” by composer George Wood - <http://podsafeaudio.com/jamroom/bands/1454/>
- “The Eternal” by Lumiloop
- “Voices from the ether” by ASCIAN - <http://www.garageband.com/song?%7Cpe1%7CS8LTM0LdsaSkYVmxZW4>
- “Piano Quartet in g 3rd Movement by Mozart” performed by Linda Holzer - <http://www.ualr.edu/lrholzer/bio.shtml>
- “Spaces” by 3vrn3n

- “Drum and Bass” by Ted Tunes - <http://podsafeaudio.com/jamroom/bands/939/ted-Tunes.php>
- “The Eternal” by Lumiloop -
- “Universe Inside You” by Persian Paladin - <http://podsafeaudio.com/jamroom/bands/2644/>

❖ Links

- Peter J. Carroll - <http://www.specularium.org/>
- Chick Publications: The Curse of Baphomet - http://www.chick.com/reading/tracts/0093/0093_01.asp
- Leonardo Da Vinci, Notebooks online - <http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/5000>
- Dan Eldon - <http://www.daneldon.org/>
- GeekWitch – <http://geekwitch.org/>
- Haunted New Jersey Podcast – <http://www.hauntednewjersey.com/>
- PSilence by Marie D. Jones - <http://www.mariedjones.com/>
- The Pagan Podcast Index - <http://paganpodcastindex.wordpress.com/>
- Proud Pagan Podcasters - <http://www.paganpodcasting.org/>
- Templar History.com: “Baphomet: A ‘Mystery’ solved at last?” by Kevin Bold, 1995 - <http://www.templarhistory.com/solved.html>
- The Wigglian Way – <http://thewigglianway.libsyn.com/>

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