

Episode #013 – A Little Bit of Bohemia

The Infinite and the Beyond

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

❖ Pre-introductory piece:

- Offenbach – “Orpheus in the underworld”

❖ Show Introduction

- (Introduction: “Proteus” by George Wood)
- It’s (day, date, and year). Happy belated Beltane! MM, BB, 93, hello and welcome to the #? 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.
- In this episode... (88 words)
 - We look into Bohemianism and its similarities to modern Paganism. We learn about famous author, psychic and magickian Dion Fortune in Corner in the Occult. We explore the Principle of Gender in our journey through the Kybalion. I read listener email, see which two lucky listeners will win copies of Stacey Fitzpatrick’s album Forever More, and to close we talk about Gender and Deity.

❖ Announcements

- (Background Music: “White Rabbit” by Jefferson Airplane)
- Hey welcome back to the show. Nice to have you. I hope you enjoyed Ken’s lecture in the last episode and I hope you enjoy this edition’s look into Bohemianism.
- Snapvine Widegt is gone...
- The show is now one of a few podcasts to be listed and the Disinformation website which can be found at disinfo.com.
- It’s once again time International Pagan Values Blogging Month! So, If you’re interested in participating or in seeing what this event is all about check out the Pagan Values website at <http://paganvalues.wordpress.com/>
- In my private news Tara and I have new 6 month old kittens roaming our domicile as the two cats we’ve known for years and who have made background appearances on the show have both passed on since the last episode. They were both very old with the one being 17 and the other almost 23 years of age and both lived very long and very full lives and we will miss them. The two new kittens are not a replacement, but are just great and are so named Timothy and Henry Lee both of which are very rambunctious. It’s been mostly kitten time for the last

#? weeks since we brought them home. Now I’ve never had to deal with kittens before and these two are a riot and pictures of them can be found on my Facebook page and on the NING Network site.

❖ Thank You!

- NING Network
 - Jeremy
 - Shadowraven
 - Ran
 - Amergin
 - Freya
 - For Joining the NING Network!
- Yahoo Group?
- Forum?
- Facebook?
 - 250+ members
- Thank you to Anphivena for the wonderful review on iTunes.
 - Others post reviews on iTunes
 - Great way to help support the show!
 - And another great way... Remember to vote every month on Podcast Alley.

❖ Promo

- Media Astra Ac Terra with Oraia the Sphinx

❖ As of Late...

- (Background music: “Telepathic Interplay” by Alexandre Falcao)
- I hope everyone had a fun and safe Beltane or Samhain!
- As of late... being the odd arty people that we are...Tara and I have actually been consulting with the world of The Green Fairy, or better known as Absinthe, well she has always been interested in Absinthe and I’m not a huge drinker, but the history, ritual, and lore surrounding it makes it appealing. And it’s actually one of the reasons for the theme of this episode, (a little bit of bohemia) because it kind of led me into exploring bohemianism as a subject for the show.
- Right now, you might be thinking, isn’t absinthe illegal? Well, if you didn’t know, in the last several years it has actually become conditionally legal and available in the United States, and other countries, because it was

discovered that previous understandings about the spirit were actually wrong, so through the gift of modern science and understanding the legendary green fairy is now available online and in many liquor stores, being usually found within the cordials section.

- Now, if you don't know what absinthe is, absinthe is a distilled spirit made from a neutral tasting alcohol to which star-anise, fennel, and wormwood are added and distilled. Specifically *Artemisia Absinthium* which is the species of wormwood through which the spirit's name is derived. Typically speaking absinthe comes in three styles, many are green in color known as *verte'*, though some brands are clear or *blanche'*, and some are even rouge or red in color. Among the other ingredients generally employed in its production are angelica root, sweet flag, dittany leaves, hyssop, mint, and even lemon balm for added flavor.
- And before you think to ask... No, absinthe doesn't make you hallucinate or go mad, but alcoholism, dementia, and poisoning may which are some of the theories as to why hallucinations and delinquent behavior became associated with absinthe. It is thought that before absinthe was banned back around the start of the 20th century some substandard producers of absinthe allegedly included poisonous chemicals in their product to help aid in the green color of the drink. And actually the more popular component of absinthe, thujone which comes from the wormwood, was also thought to have been a culprit to absinthe madness because in extremely high doses it apparently functions as a dangerous neurotoxin and convulsant, however one would die of alcohol poisoning before any effects would be noticeable from the thujone. So, as a result of this new understanding absinthe is conditionally legal, provided that it is “thujone free” which means that the thujone content is less than 10 parts per million which all absinthes are and even most if not all bottles of pre-ban absinthe are as well since bottles of pre ban absinthe can still be found and purchased.
- Another theory as to the reason absinthe developed such a bad reputation which resulted in it being banned may be the result of smear campaign ran by the grape growers of the day who's businesses were suffering as a result of the problems they were having with grape production. This campaign was to blame for absinthe becoming known as the “devil's brew,” and is also the reason for a lot of the dark poster art that came out of the day depicting devil like creatures looming over young vulnerable woman, or the word “Sin” found in the name abSINthe being accented by a devil while a skeleton maiden carries a full glass of green liquid.
- Like many beverages of today, absinthe was originally made to be a patent remedy made by a doctor in Switzerland in the late 18th century who later passed the recipe onto the Henriod sisters who began selling it as a medicinal elixir. After changing hands again the recipe found itself in France by the early 19th century where a distillery was opened which became the producer of the famous pre 1914 ban French Absinthe Pernod Fils. After being given to French troops as a malaria remedy, absinthe was popularized by the troops upon returning home and soon became the drink of choice by the 1860s.

- By the 1880s the availability of absinthe made the price drop significantly which more than likely created the opportunity for poor quality and cheap producers of absinthe to make a quick buck which resulted in what is now suspected as being the mild poisoning of the lower class who partook of the cheaper forms of absinthe available and believe it or not by the time it became banned absinthe was out favoring wine over 7 to 1 in its yearly consumption and was enjoyed by everyone in French society from the bourgeoisie down to the poor artists. Some of the well known drinkers of absinthe were Edouard Manet, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Vincent Van Gogh, Oscar Wilde, and Aleister Crowley who actually referred to absinthe as The Green Goddess and he even wrote an article by the same name in 1918.
- Primarily in the last 40 years it was thought that Thujone was similar to the chemical THC, the primary component found in Marijuana, which further added to the stigma surrounding absinthe. However discoveries in the last 20 years revealed that 1) Thujone is nothing close to THC and 2) as mentioned earlier, the amount of Thujone one would have to ingest for there to be any effect would have surely caused someone to die of alcohol poisoning long before they would experience any effects from the Thujone. Also it should be further stated that Thujone is neither a psychedelic nor narcotic despite what you may have heard.
- Another interesting thing about absinthe is its short preparation ritual. Absinthe is never enjoyed neat because of how strong the flavor is, not to mention having an average alcohol content of 60%, calls for other measures to be taken before it becomes fit to drink. So, it is always diluted with ice cold water which helps open up the flavors of the drink not to mention stretching out the life of a single bottle to more than five glasses and at \$60 to \$80 a bottle, trust me that's a good thing.
- Now, to prepare a glass of absinthe using the French method, pour one ounce of absinthe into an appropriate glass, meaning one used for a liquor or spirit and not wine, take your slotted absinthe spoon available at fine retailers and lay it across the top of your glass being sure that it locks into place so there are no mishaps. (describe the spoon) With your spoon locked in place, put a sugar cube on the paddle end over the mouth of the glass. Then slowly and carefully pour or drip ice cold water over the sugar so that it dissolves into the absinthe. They actually make fountains that are designed to drip water over a glass in order to prepare it. Continue to add water until the louche effect rises to the top of the drink. The louche effect is the milky opalescent change which occurs in the absinthe as a result of the dilution and chemical separation which manifests from adding water to the spirit. (Video examples of this will be found on the NING network site)
- I imagine that the herb based spirit is as much a fascination with counter cultures groups today as it was in the years before it was banned and the idea of herbs being used to form an alcoholic drink has to hold some level of appeal for those of you listening, well at least those of you who are of legal drinking age. And I don't promote underage drinking, irresponsible drinking, or even drinking and driving.

- It’s important for the absinthe to be a blend of herbal flavors and scents as a result of distillation and to not be colored or flavored to simply taste like licorice which in a quality absinthe should not be the only smell or taste experienced by someone. Also, if you’re looking to try absinthe, be aware that some makers from some countries will color and flavor vodka or some other alcohol and market it as absinthe of which it is not.
- Unfortunately, there is no set standard for what makes absinthe other than the three common herbal components and the neutral alcohol base which in itself has even been replaced with brandy for added color and flavor. One absinthe in particular that I enjoy is made in California and it called St. George and it’s a verte or green Absinthe and it has a Brandy base instead of a neutral alcohol. St. George runs around \$80 a bottle. Most absinthes run around \$80 a bottle well at least the better stuff does. And actually distilleries are popping up all over the country to take hold of this growing trend. There’s the Philadelphia Distiller company who makes Vieux Carré Absinthe a reputable absinthe, there’s Pacifique Distillery in Washington State, and Delaware Phoenix in New York State just to name a few and some cities even have absinthe bars where people can drink and enjoy absinthe.
- As a responsible drinker I must say that the inebriating effect of absinthe is pleasant and mellow and not goofy like that of beer and I can understand why artists and poets had a fascination for it. Not only is there an unusual natural beauty about the color, the louche effect found in some absinthes is even more beautiful bearing clouding whites along with shimmering greens, yellows, blues, and oranges depending on how the light shines through.
- If by chance you’re interested in finding out more information on absinthe and what others think about the brands you may find at your local store or online, visit The Wormwood Society founded by Gwydion Stone at www.wormwoodsociety.org.
- When I go shopping for a new bottle of absinthe, I always have the browser on my cell phone linked to the wormwood society website so I can read about what I may buy. And at roughly \$70 a bottle I’d like to be confident in what I’m purchasing. So, if you’re interested in absinthe, heed the opinions over at The Wormwood Society because as a result of there being no regulations regarding what is and isn’t absinthe, makers don’t need to heed the history or quality of what they produce and call absinthe; and there are many brands that try to pass themselves off as being absinthe, while other brands may qualify as absinthe, but are lacking in taste and quality. And before you become seduced by packaging, do your homework or you may wind up with an expensive bottle of green mouthwash.
- So, if you’re looking to hallucinate, which I am not recommending, absinthe won’t provide you with such an experience and you should stick to more conventional means like LSD, Mushrooms, Peyote or the licking of certain species of toads.
- Chris: Isn’t that right Jeremiah?

- :Croak:
- **LICK**
- :Croak:
- *Start Song: "Ina-Gadda-Da-Vida" by Iron Butterfly
- Chris: You're such a good friend of mine (stoned and trippy with echo effects)
- In a bit we are going to continue with our journey through the Kybalion, but first let hear from one of the podkin.
- :Croak:

❖ **Promo / Bumper**

- Witchesbrewhaha! with Velma Nightshade
- Dr. Dean Radin Bumper

❖ **Segway:**

- Thanks Velma and Thank you to Dr. Dean Radin who is not only the author Entangled Minds: Extrasensory Experiences in a Quantum Reality, but is also Senior Scientist at the Institute of Noetic Sciences in California who I will be speaking with in episode 14 about his work and how his findings relate to magick. Be sure to check that out!
- But in light of theme of this episode let's now take a look into Bohemianism and Paganism.

❖ **Segment: Bohemianism and New Age Paganism**

- (Background music: "?????")
- One thing I am surprised to have not noticed or find is a declared link between the ideals and developments of bohemianism with modern paganism. Which if you know anything about bohemianism and its values is that a lot of what makes up the mindset of most pagan communities have been derived or adopted through the influences of bohemian ideals that formed in Paris during the 19th century.
- The American College Dictionary defines a bohemian as "a person with artistic or intellectual tendencies, who lives and acts with no regard for conventional rules of behavior," and it is a term which was also often associated with the gypsies who immigrated to Paris during the 19th century. This type of free spirited lifestyle was naturally practiced by musicians, artists, actors, journalists, poets and other writers who, like the gypsies of France, settled in the lower rent districts of Paris. Those individuals who become known as bohemians in French society were an unusual sort, because they most often chose to live an impoverished lifestyle so that they could

fully pursue their passions, whatever they happen to be despite some of them having been from wealthy families.

- Imagery from then that illustrates the bohemian lifestyle depicts a person focused and working on something in a poorly furnished and often dirty and disorderly room; the idea being that they were too wrapped up in what they were doing to need furniture, bath, or clean their home.
- (Song: Bert Williams: Save a Little Dram For Me)
- As Bohemianism spread across the world due to immigration, bohemian communities formed in the some of the major cities of the United States, such as New York and even San Francisco where an organization by the name of the Bohemian Club was established in April of 1872 for journalists who wished to promote a fraternal connection among men who enjoyed the arts. Apparently the club still exists to this day and it is where celebrities, politicians, and even presidents convene on a yearly basis which conspiracy theorists love to attack and ridicule because of the pagan like ceremonies practiced at the club for communal purposes of its members. Theorists claim that this is where major decisions that affect the world are made by its leaders. Similar to claims made about the Freemasons, Skull and Bones, and the more mythical Illuminati by these same theorists.
- (Sound Clip: So I Married an Axe Murderer “A well known fact... Pentaverette”)
- In the 19th and early 20th centuries, some bohemians also practiced free love and the bohemian movement even gave way to gender bending with woman donning shorter boyish hair styles. This trend even effected woman’s clothing which went from elaborate, heavy, and uncomfortable dresses typical of the Victorian era, to trousers, braziers, and to more simple economical attire which were not only more comfortable, but were also practical for the financial hardships of the times. Also in keeping with the period and opening social consciousness it was the perfect time for Naturism to come to the United States after having started in Europe years earlier where bear bottoms, bums, breasts and other such fancies began to respectably see the light of day at retreats and private gatherings in the States.
- With Bohemianism settling in the U.S. its arty carefree quality became more mainstream which filtered into the roaring 1920s and then into the post world war beatnik, art deco, and jazz movements. The Beatniks of the 1950s gave way to the Hippie Movement of the late 1960s with its flower power, free love and psychedelics. It was at this time in history where many modern pagan ideals and popular new age perspectives grew forth from.
- Starting in San Francisco, California in 1967, the Hippie Movement spread across the globe similar to its predecessors revealing it as a staple of the times. Books like *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* series by J. R. R. Tolkien and *Stranger in a Strange Land* by Robert A. Heinlein were very influential during this time though their initial publishing occurred years prior during the Beatnik period of the 1950s.
- And typical of such a large counter culture movement which was initially rejected and looked down upon, over time, it became common place as the old ways gave way to those of the new. Such a shift in consciousness

became evident in television, music, and film as the once treasured sanctity of the counter culture got devoured and consumed by the media as an offering to new way of life.

- Other significant aspects of the Hippie Movement was its exploration of drugs like marijuana and various psychedelics; art, music, and other forms of self expression; the promotion of peace and protesting; embracing and exploring eastern philosophies and alternative religions; environmental awareness; Gaia consciousness; as well as the occult and those interests and practices which are often associated with the New Age Movement of today. Not to mention the common theme of hippie names which bear a striking similarity in content and style to the many magickal names chosen and used today by Pagans of today. A majority of Pagan festivals and events can even be viewed as the reliving of the famous rock festivals of the 1960s with their music, celebration, nudity, crafts, and public sex.
- I think by now you’ve already begun to recognize the similarities between the ideals, practices, habits, and fascinations of the pagan community with those of Bohemianism as it has evolved and moved through the generations. Not to mention how some pagans even have a hippie quality about them whether that is evident in their appearance, level of personal hygiene or both and if you don’t know if this applies to you don’t worry your friends most likely do. After all, who wouldn’t acknowledge or state that paganism is a counter culture movement, and that in many situations people have had to make familial, social, and even career sacrifices or adaptations in order to pursue their path. Though many of us haven’t chosen a life of poverty in order to be pagan, social and personal sacrifices have been made by many if not all pagans since they chose to be pagan.
- So it’s plain to see that many bohemian ideals have made their way through the course of time and have found a warm friend within paganism and in those who call themselves pagans. Similar to the Hippies of the 1960s we can be sure that if paganism continues to grow it may one day be regarded and treated as a social norm.
- South Park Clip “Hippie Infestation”
- Song: “Don’t You Want Somebody to Love,” by Jefferson Airplane

❖ Promos

- New World Witchery with Laine and Cory
- Commercial Chris Orapello.com
- Sound clip: Bill Clinton Bohemian Grove comment from 2007

❖ Featured Music: “Green Man” by Type O Negative

- Welcome Back. That was President Clinton dealing with an audience member who was shouting conspiracy theories at him one of which being about the Bohemian Club. I wonder if the Bohemian Club has any problems

with Hippie Infestations being located in San Francisco and all? In a bit we’ll be taking a look into the Kybalion, but first I just want to touch upon something unexpected that occurred during the middle of last month....

- I never intended for this podcast to have music so regularly in it, though last several episodes have been an exception along with this one and no, I don’t consider this show to be a music podcast, but from time to time I do like to play music that is relevant to the show or the season or what have you. But what I’m going to play now, is being played to memorialize the passing of Peter Steele who was singer from the gothic metal band Type O Negative. Among the vast array of music that I listen to, from Black Sabbath to David Bowie and others, the music of Type O Negative is one of my favorites. And recently the lead singer, Peter Steele suddenly passed away on April 14th at the age of 48.
- Besides being the singer he was also the bass player and writer of much of band’s music. He stood at 6’ 7”, long strait black hair, and had an extremely deep melodious voice which was a signature aspect of the band’s unique gothic sound and identity. I don’t know of his religious or spiritual path, or if he even had any, but this song at least is very pagan in subject and content. So, in keeping with the coming of summer here in the northern hemisphere and in honor of the unusual yet talented late Peter Steele, here is “Green Man,” by Type O Negative.
- Song: “Green Man” by Type O Negative

❖ Commercial

- Title Goes Here:

❖ Segway:

- I hope you enjoyed that song. Type O Negative is not for everyone and they are one of many bands that you will probably never hear on regular FM radio. Now, before we visit a Corner in the Occult or I read some listener email, it’s time for our look at the final Principle in the Kybalion.

❖ Segment: The Kybalion: Principle of Gender

- (Background Music: “Exodus” by Alexandre Falcao)
- As we continue with our journey, let’s now look at the eighth section of this segment as we make our way through the Kybalion by looking into the seventh principle being The Principle of Gender.
- In Chapter Eighth of the text we are presented with the idea that *Gender is in everything; everything has its Masculine and Feminine Principles; Gender manifests on planes.* As we read it becomes clear that what the authors are referring to as Gender and as Male and Female is more than an inherent balance of opposites and not actually Male and Female in a biological or an entirely social context, but is instead using the term ‘gender’

in a broader sense and eventually clarifies the issues by stating that *the office of Gender is solely that of creating, producing, generating, etc., and its manifestations are visible on every plane of phenomena*. Meaning that which comes into being is a union of opposing elements, similar in concept to the Taoist Yin Yang or Eliphas Levi’s drawing of Baphomet as discussed back in episode two.

- This principle also relates to the previous principles of Polarity and Rhythm in its inherent rooting in opposites, but it differs in its focus in which it explains that manifestations are the result of opposing elements coming together to make new ones and that for one to create, opposing aspects have to come together or become utilized in order for a thing to come into being. Also illustrating that nothing comes into being without some form of exchange occurring to permit a thing to manifest whether it be a union, utilization, or sacrifice meaning an offering or donation made to enable a thing to develop, much like in human procreation which employees all three. Each person being the result of a union between male and female is a perfect physical example of this act of creation through union, but much of what makes each of us up is based upon a reconciliation of opposites. Our appearance, mannerism, vocalizations, and even thoughts are in many ways contingent upon who our parents were as even our genetic makeup was attained by half of our chromosomes coming from our mother and other half from our father. The individual is a direct result of two separate beings which allows for uniqueness and growth to occur through the mixing of genes over time. The contrary being in opposite practices where similar genes are paired with similar genes resulting in the degeneration which occurs in the selective breeding of animals and in the inbreeding of humans.
- This principle also alludes to the necessary presence of the vital parts which make up the whole to always be a part of a thing and balance to ensure its continuance. For example the influx of water to an organism could cause its demise while the removal of water can produce similar results though with different effects.
- To relate this principle to Science the authors of the Kybalion use the make-up of an Atom to exemplify the presence of positive and negative elements as a necessary aspect to the composition of the Atom. However the authors then explain that the use of the term negative is not meant to imply something wrong or bad, but is simply a classification or role which the element fulfills in contrast to the role of the positive element, further emphasizing the generality of the use of the term gender in relation to the idea of the Principle and how it’s not about Male and Female, but is more a means to refer to opposing elements, which in their combined presence, enable a thing to come into being.
- In regards to philosophy and psychology we see this principle evident in the ideas of the objective and subjective minds and the conscious and the subconscious. In the union of the knowledge and awareness of the two perspectives and aspects of being we may be able to determine the state of a thing in question, but to remove either would discolor or dramatically bias our understandings and misconstrue our knowledge of the whole.

- In regards to society, to make society as holistic and beneficial for all involved the opposing elements must reconcile their opposing roles to allow all to exist peacefully. The perpetuation of separation by emphasizing differences only serve to break apart the unit as a whole and may in turn elude to a reconciliation that may manifest if one side is oppressed or removed from the equation which, however appealing to the oppressor, may simply result in a new division to occur within the seemingly resolved scenario. Once again harkening the resolution of conflict without resorting to removal or annihilation, but instead beckons a situation of understanding and acceptance. Though due to the often unenlightened stubbornness of humankind, conflicts are rarely resolved through rational measures though some points in history have revealed otherwise. For example, peaceful sit-ins, concerts, and none violence have illustrated such victories in the face of persistent ignorance and domination by counter balancing aggression and oppression with peaceful submission and willing victimization to achieve balance.
- So, in closing the Principle of Gender is a lesson which recognizes the necessary existence for opposing elements to occur harmoniously in order for balance and success within a given system to come to fruition and to flourish as a whole, and that single minded systems are most often prone to degeneration and extinction as they are not in keeping with the principle.
- In our next and final installment we'll be recapping the text itself and bringing an end to this long and insightful journey. Thank you.

❖ **Promo**

- Website commercial
- Bill Clinton Bumper

❖ **Show Segway**

- The other day Tara and I were out at one of the local malls and of course she had to stop into one of her favorite clothing stores so and as a good boyfriend I obliged her and simply occupied myself while she spent time looking around. Now, sometimes when she's shopping I'll help out as I do have an eye for fashion and have been known to pick out some nice outfits for her in the past *LOL* but this particular time instead of helping her shop, I kept my self occupied as only a man can do in woman's clothing store and as it turns out my head is an H Cup. Go figure?
- ***rim shot or boos***
- In a bit we'll be looking into Gender and Deity, but first I have some messages I would like to read.

❖ **Letters and Messages**

- Since the last episode, we've had some great feedback on Show's NING Network which can be accessed via the show website and I want to say thank you to those who left comments for the show. Your support and messages are always appreciated.
- **Kat Noble left this comment on the blog:** Wonderful interview/discussion with Ken! Simply fascinating!
 - (Response adlibbed)
- **Shadowraven left this comment for me on the NING Network:** Thank you Chris, merry meet! I am addicted to your podcast. After listening to a large variety of the pagan podcasts available, some truly excellent, yours is by far the best. Good work. I look forward to each one eagerly and have come to expect a thought provoking experience every time. I'm never disappointed. Blessed be!
- **Amergin said this about episode 11 on the NING Network:** I particularly loved this episode cus it featured archetypes and Jung. I have a somewhat manic need to connect comics and godforms, and Jung helps me to realize I may be only slightly mad LOL. My college professors were almost always Freudian, and the thought that everything boiled down to craving sex with your parent was depressing and icky. My Gods wear spandex, and Jung makes it ok.
 - (Response adlibbed)
 - Amergin wants me to note that "Gods Wear Spandex" was the title of a book by Chris Knowles.
- **And in regards to episode 12 Amergin had this to say as well:** Texas metal and King Arthur, and archetypes in the last show. If the next show is about Alan Moore, I may start to think you're reading my mind. It's like you customized the show for me LOL. It's interesting that Ken took his NDE as a cue to find enlightenment. Most protestants I know would see this as encountering the Devil or something. :-) Good show.
 - (Response adlibbed)
- **Ran said this about episode 11 on the NING Network:** Ah, yes, the ol' is-it-synchronicity-or-is-it-coincidence question. If I may informally offer a couple concepts for your consideration; 1) just let it be or "Don't worry 'bout it." 2) Some of this stuff is sacred stuff; you just can't question every little thing that happens (so...refer to #1). 3) You just can't put a microscope on some of this stuff; and if you do, it's going to disappear. Take a step back and enjoy the view. 4) My experience is that over the years and decades, one can become less analytical and one's attitude is to just go with it (again refer to #1). I often take consul from the Tao Te Ching: "...The ten thousand things rise and fall without cease, Creating, yet not possessing, Working, yet not taking credit. Work is done, then forgotten. Therefore it lasts forever." –Regards, Ran
 - (Response adlibbed)
- Thank you to Kat, Shadowraven, Amergin, and Ran for your messages!

❖ **Contest:** Last 2 Copies of Forever More by Stacey Fitzpatrick

➤ Who Won?

❖ **Featured Music: “Don’t let Go” by Stacey Fitzpatrick**

➤ And now for....

❖ **Segway**

➤ And that was *Don’t let Go* by Stacey Fitzpatrick from her album *Forever More* which (winners) just won a little bit ago and for those of who didn’t win, but are interested in Stacey’s album just visit the show notes for a link to her Myspace page at <http://www.myspace.com/staceyfitzpatrickmusic>.

➤ Later in this episode we’re going talk about Gender and Deity, but first I bid you welcome to *A Corner in the Occult.*”

❖ **Segment: A Corner in the Occult: Dion Fortune** (approx. 1300-1500 words)

➤ (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 focus on one part or person from the history of occultism. In these regular segments, I touch upon many aspects of the occult and I hope to offer you something new or at least something to think about. The information presented is always done so in the best manner possible in regards to its content and accuracy depending on the available sources. There is a lot in occultism that one may never choose to look into, and here you have the opportunity to learn about something which you may have never bothered to investigate. And oddly enough there are a lot of people who may not be that aware of whom today’s topic is on...

➤ The well known and respected 19th century occultist and author Dion Fortune was born as Violet Mary Firth on December 6 of 1890. Her well known pseudonym, Dion Fortune, is actually derived from her family motto which was “Deo Non Fortuna” which was Latin for “by God, not fate.”

➤ She was born in Wales and was a part of a very strict Christian Science family. Growing up she was claimed to have mystical experiences from an early age and was known to have had visions of the lost city of Atlantis in which she believed that she was a temple priestess of in a former life. As an adolescent she became aware of her mediumistic abilities and after moving to London she briefly joined the Theosophical Society in 1906, but left due to the organization’s reliance on eastern thought which bothered her due to the Indian revolt against the British Empire.

➤ Prior to World War one she suffered a nervous breakdown as a result of what she felt were “psychic attacks” coming from a woman with whom she worked. In her early twenties she worked as a counselor at a Medico-Psychological clinic in London and was a student of Professor Flugel at the University of London, who happened

to be member of the Society of Psychical Research. During this time in her life she was also interested in the works of Carl Jung and Sigmund Freud, but preferred Jung’s work due to some of his more esoteric concepts like the archetype and the collective unconscious.

- During World War I, it is said that she worked with a government agency on the development of protein supplements from the usual and versatile soybean plant of which she advised her father in a business venture to manufacture and sell dairy substitutes derived from the plant.
- Her first formal exploration into occultism was through her interactions with a Dr. Theodore Moriarty who specialised in astro-etheric psychological conditions and whom she would later use as a basis for a series of short stories entitled the Secrets of Dr. Taverner. Though in time she would come to disregard the study of psychology and the work of both Jung and Freud feeling that they were unable to realize the full capabilities of the human mind.
- It should be noted that Dion Fortune was not a member of the original Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, but instead joined the Alpha et Omega in 1919 which was the order that the Golden Dawn became after its ordeal in the early years of the 20th century. She joined the order roughly a year after Samuel Mather’s death in 1918, when it was under the instruction of Samuel’s wife Moina so reports that Dion studied with Samuel Mathers are more than likely inaccurate.
- Dion eventually received the Grade of Portal and with the approval of Moina founded an outer court group for the order called the Christian Mystic Lodge of the Theosophical Society which later became known as the Fraternity of Inner Light. But in 1922 her publishing of the Esoteric Philosophy of Love and Marriage was felt to be betrayal to the Alpha et Omega by Moina as she felt that it revealed secret teachings from the Order. Moina was also fearful of Dion’s mediumistic abilities and her ability to receive messages from the *Masters of the Western Tradition* which may have been just another name for the Secret Chiefs. As a result Moina began to regard Dion as a threat to her role as leader and expelled her from the Order.
- Though she was expelled from the Alpha et Omega, Dion still had The Fraternity of Inner Light which she then changed to The Society of Inner Light which still exists in some form to this day. Their website says that *its principle work is the expansion of consciousness into the psychic and spiritual realms, commonly known as "the inner planes". This extended experience is not regarded as an end in itself, or a means to personal power or knowledge, but as a way of dedicated service to God and all evolving life.* Some of the members from her order were Gareth Knight, W.E. Butler, Colonel C.R.F. Seymour and Christine Hartley. Dion focused the rest of her life on the Society and its developments and established lodges for the Society in both London and Glastonbury.
- During this latter part of her life she published several novels and occult books like *The Goat Foot God*, *The Sea Priestess*, and *Moon Magic* were among her fiction releases and *The Mystical Qabalah*, *The Cosmic Doctrine*, *Psychic Self-Defense*, and *What is Occultism* were some of her nonfiction titles. She even edited her own

magazine from 1927 to 1940 called *The Inner Light* which reflected her interests in King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. In his introduction to his book *Aspects of Occultism*, Gareth Knight, states that *she maintained a deep sympathy for the renaissance of native tradition, where she felt this tradition had its heart, combined with an early form of Christianity via the legends of Joseph of Arimathea and of the Holy Grail.*

- During World War II, like many magical practitioners of the time, she organized *The Magical Battle of Britain* which was a magical war effort orchestrated via letters to other groups to fend off the Nazi invasion of Britain. In an effort of mindfulness, Dion ordered that the focus be on safety of Britain and not necessarily on the destruction of Germany or the attacking of the Nazi leadership which she felt was unethical illustrating her advanced understanding of magical intent and the obtainment of one’s desired results can easily still be pacifistic while still effective and to the point. She even published this effort as a book by the same name.
- Though several years later upon returning home from Glastonbury in January of 1946 a tired and ill Dion was admitted to the Middlesex Hospital in London where she died a few days later from leukemia at the age of 55. Her body was buried in the municipal cemetery at Glastonbury where it remains to this day.
- Her writings and influence continue to shape western occultism and members of her order have continued her legacy with books and esoteric Orders of their own by keeping her teachings and life a part of modern occultism.
- 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 or through the show forum.

❖ Pagan Podcast Promo/s

- Commercial Title Goes Here:
- Promo: Standing Stone and Garden Gate
- (Background Music: “Drum and Bass” by Ted Tunes)

❖ Podcast Shout Outs! (Pick 6)

- I would also like to give a shout out to some of the other podcasts out there.
 - Dee and all the ladies from Pagan FM
 - Ki’a Dragon from Pagan Chaos Magic
 - Greywolf Moonsong From A Pagan Heart in Maine
 - Ruth and Gary from the Celtic Myth Podshow
 - Raymond and Joe and from The Disinformation Podcast
 - And Tahlea Moonwater from the Geek Witch
- All Your hard work does wonderful things for the podcast community! Thank you so much and keep podcasting!

- If you haven't listened to any of these podcasts, then please check them out by visiting the links page on the show website.

❖ **Segway:**

- And now for a rhetorical discussion on gender and deity in paganism.

❖ **Segment: Gender and Deity in Paganism**

- (Background Music: “Natures Dreaming” by Alexandre Falcao)
- In our discussion of gender as so sparked by the Kybalion, I thought it would only be fitting if we explored this topic further in regards to everyday life and religion because in a typical polytheistic approach to divinity, gender is often a part of an individual's understanding and relationship with the divine.
- Now in a social context, gender has nothing to do with what a person may or may not have going on underneath their clothes and we apply this understanding usually without even consciously noticing it. Our brains have a habit of instinctually categorizing someone; I know I've noticed this with myself while walking through the city. I'll often find myself thinking man, man, woman, man, woman, woman, man, in the back of my mind as I pass people, which are purely based on my impressions of them. This is what gender is in a social context. It is how one presents them self to the world as conveying either a female or a male role through which others perceive and relate to them by. It is through our understanding of these gender roles that enable us to develop feelings and associations with them, whatever they may be, which filters into different jobs, careers, and activities which are often only associated with particular genders, for example at my high school, lacrosse was only available as a female sport and has only become available as a male sport at the school within the last ten years. These associations are further emphasized when we come across a situation which conflicts with our understanding, like years ago male flight attendants and female police officers were unusual for the time and in today's world male librarians and female tattoo artists tend to be unusual, but this is changing. The issues surrounding gender roles and what role applies to which gender has changed throughout time and continues to change along with society. These roles and our understanding of them are formed by our elders through socialization as we grow up. A common belief being that girls play with dolls and be submissive while boys play with guns and be domineering. Though the times are always a changing and the older we get the more we realize that the way we were brought up is never how life is suppose to be, but the way in which we were brought to see and convey them is merely a part of a silent tradition that has been passed down through the generations.
- In conjunction with the Kybalion segment on the Principle of Gender, we come to recognize that two parts are typically needed to create a whole. And like many pagans, I acknowledge a female and a male component of the cosmos. I view these components as the Goddess and the God, and they are my proverbial divine parents so to

say. I’m not entirely a supporter of the *all gods are one god and all goddesses are one goddess* in that I honor an aspects of the cosmos and not specifically an assortment of divine beings whom I simply view as being different faces of the same whole. I do believe that *the All is mind and that the Universe is mental*, but that in the Universe’s creation, and for it to manifest, it had to separate or divide itself into aspects which reflected one another.

- It’s interesting when one thinks about how gender stereotypes have played a role in ancient perceptions of deity. That for some reason gender roles and their associations were necessary enough for ancient peoples on a social level that they felt the need to place or recognize these ideals in their faiths, in their perceptions of divinity and deity, and in their cosmologies. Why was this done and I wonder how intentional this was? Was it a natural formation? Did doing so help their understanding with divinity? Did this simply help to reinforce or convey gender stereotypes in their own cultures or did the roles that they contain really depict ancient ways in that they developed out of and reflected the society and culture from which they came?
- And if this is the case, in that these ancient deities have more relevance to the ancient world than they do today, why are so many of us today delving into the distant past to find deity even though we are practicing a religion that is so contingent upon the current seasons and the present world? If the roles that these ancient deities conveyed and taught, and the real roles that they served in the lives of the people from which they developed, it would only follow suit that the deities one honors today should reflect one’s own world and roles and not those from thousands of years ago. I imagine resurrecting the ancient pantheons is easier because the deities are familiar, they are very established with stories, iconography and history; and come from a time that tends to be very inspirational for many pagans, but what relevance does the past have in the modern day other than in historic or scholarly value?
- But allow me to further put this in perspective with this example, why would a Wiccan who practices living without causing harm to the best of their ability, have a need for a war Goddess or God even if they are intentionally overlooking the more harmful aspects of these deities like war and instead embrace their association with fertility like in the case of Artemis? How could one so easily ignore the history of bloodshed or other practices that took place in the deity’s name? Doesn’t that all matter in relation to the energy invested in the deity over time and how others may perceive that deity in today’s world? I imagine it would matter, which would imply that the only alternative to possibly aligning with energies and unfavorable histories would be to find new faces and names for the deities’ one chooses to honor which shouldn’t be difficult if one is already acknowledging the essence behind the deity and not the deity itself. Readdressing deities and how one relates to divinity from a pagan perspective wouldn’t make one any less of a pagan and may actually infuse their path with a more sense of reality and relevance for the lives they live in today’s world.

- If one stepped up to this challenge to realize deity in the modern world what would they find? Would one be better for doing so and would their path as a pagan be better for it? Would it make their approach to paganism more realistic and indicative of their current lives? Or is there an allure to the past which, like many religions, we possibly depend upon for significance and legitimacy? Keeping in mind the list of things that we have moved on from in related to the past and that the most informed understanding of life and existence that we have will always be in present. After all we know that frogs don't spontaneously generate from puddles or maggots from old exposed meat and it would only follow suit that since we have grown as a species so should our faiths and practices.
- I'm not suggesting that any action be taken; on the part of the practitioner, but when one puts these issues on the table the relevance for the old concepts of deity, although alluring in their mystique and pertinent in their history reveal a severe generational handicap in regards to the modern day. And as pagan of the modern day should we consider doing something about this?

❖ Closing

- Hope you enjoyed the episode and remember that in episode 14 I will be speaking with parapsychologist Dr. Dean Radin about his work and how what he has learned relates to magick. Keep your podcatchers tuned and be on the lookout for that episode. And before we go...
- ****CROAK****
- Oh What do you want?
- ****CROAK****
- No, I said I'm not licking you anymore
- ****CROAK****
- No
- ****CROAK****
- *sigh* Fine one last time
- ****CROAK*CROAK*CROAL*CROAK****
- Calm down calm down....
- ****LICK**** Whoa
- Cue, *Start Song: "Ina-Gadda-Da-Vida" by Iron Butterfly *** QUICK FADE OUT***

❖ Episode wrap up

- Well, this concludes this episode 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 contacting me through the show website which can be found at www.infinite-beyond.com.
- If you like this show and are interested in hearing more or subscribing, then visit the show website where you can find links to where this show can be found online for you to subscribe, download, and friend.
- To find an index of this show and other pagan podcasts visit The Pagan Podcast Index at <http://paganpodcastindex.wordpress.com/>
- Remember that all notes for the show can be found on the blog which can be accessed through the show website.
- Be sure to visit the show's online library found on the manuscripts page of the show website for any available texts related to this episode.
- A list of the regular music used on this show and a manuscript of this episode can be found on the show website and links for the other music played in this episode can be found listed in the show notes.
- "Some of the music provided tonight is from the PodShow Podsafe Music Network. Check it out at 'music.podshow.com'"
- This show is happy to be a member of the Proud Pagan Podcasters which can be found at paganpodcasting.org
- The other opinions expressed in this episode are not necessarily the opinion of Chris Orapello.
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- Thanks for listening, thanks for subscribing, and until next time Merry Part, Blessed Be, and 93!

Show Notes: Episode #013 – A Little Bit of Bohemia

❖ **Show Summary:**

- We look into Bohemianism and its similarities to modern paganism. We discuss absinthe the famous mythic bohemian drink, along with its brief history, how to prepare it, enjoy it, and how to buy it. We learn about famous author, psychic, medium, and magickian Dion Fortune in Corner in the Occult. We explore the Principle of Gender in our journey through the Kybalion. We memorialize the recent passing of Peter Steele from the band Type O Negative and we hear a song from them as well. We read some of the listener email that has come in since the last episode. We play some great music and see which two lucky listeners will win copies of Stacey Fitzpatrick’s album Forever More. To close we talk about Gender and Deity and look into the issues that they reveal about modern paganism. And more in this fun episode!

❖ **Breakdown: (1:16:36)**

- (00:00:00) – Introduction
 - Music : “Proteus” by composer George Wood
- (00:02:02) – Announcements and Thank yous!
 - Music: “White Rabbit” by Jefferson Airplane
- (00:04:38) – Promo
 - Media Astra Ac Terra with Oraia the Sphinx
- (00:05:15) – As of Late: Absinthe, The Green Fairy
 - Music: “Telepathic Interplay” Alexander Falcao
- (00:15:38) – “Ina-Gadda-Da-Vida” by Iron Butterfly
- (00:17:44) – Promo / Bumper
 - WitchesBrewHaHa with Velma Nightshade
 - Dr. Dean Radin
- (00:18:53) – Bohemianism and Paganism
 - Music: “Ambient Thought” By g
 - Sound Clip from South Park (TV)
- (00:25:24) – “Don’t You Want Somebody to Love” by Jefferson Airplane
- (00:28:17) - Promos
 - New World Witchery with Laine and Cory
 - Chrisorapello.com commercial
 - Bill Clinton Bohemian Grove sound clip from 2007
- (00:30:45) – PSA: RIP Peter Steele
- (00:32:00) - “Green Man” by Type O Negative
- (00:37:46) – Commercial
 - Title Goes Here:
- (00:39:15) – The Kybalion and The Principle of Gender

- Music: “Exodus” By Alexandre Falcao
- (00:44:52) – Promo
 - Infinite-beyond.com commercial
 - Bill Clinton Bumper
- (00:47:11) – Letters and Messages
 - Music: “No More Hectic Days” By Alexandre Falcao
- (00:52:29) – Contest - Forever More CD Give Away!
- (00:53:19) – “Don’t Let Go” by Stacey Fitzpatrick
- (00:57:13) - A Corner in the Occult: Dion Fortune
 - Music: “Piano Quartet in G, 3rd Movement by Mozart” performed by Linda Holzer
- (01:04:06) – Promo
 - Standing Stone and Garden Gate podcast with Juniper Jeni and Dr. Brendan Myers
- (01:04:26) – Shout Outs!
 - Music: “Drum and Bass” by Ted Tunes
- (01:05:00) - Gender and Deity
 - Music: “Natures Dreaming” by Alexandre Falcao
- (01:12:37) – Closing
 - Music: “White Rabbit” by Jefferson Airplane
 - Music: “Ina-Gadda-Da-Vida” by Iron Butterfly
- (01:13:57) – Wrap-up
 - Music: “Universe inside you” by Persian Paladin

❖ Featured Music

- Stacey Fitzpatrick - <http://www.myspace.com/staceyfitzpatrickmusic>
- Iron Butterfly - <http://www.ironbutterfly.com/>
- Jefferson Airplane - <http://www.jeffersonairplane.com/>
- Type O Negative - <http://www.typeonegative.net/>

❖ Background Music

- George Wood - <http://podsafeaudio.com/jamroom/bands/1454/>
- Jefferson Airplane - <http://www.jeffersonairplane.com/>
- Linda Holzer - <http://www.ualr.edu/lrholzer/bio.shtml>
- Guy David - <http://www.guydavid.com/>
- Ted Tunes - <http://podsafeaudio.com/jamroom/bands/939/ted-Tunes.php>
- Alexandre Falcao - <http://www.soundclick.com/bands/default.cfm?bandID=613461>
- Persian Paladin - <http://podsafeaudio.com/jamroom/bands/2644/>

❖ **Links**

- The Wormwood Society - <http://www.wormwoodsociety.org/>
- Philadelphia Distilling Company - <http://www.vieuxcarreabsinthe.com/>
- Delaware Phoenix Distillery - <http://www.delawarephoenix.com/>
- Pacific Distillery - <http://pacificdistillery.com/>
- St. George Spirits - <http://www.stgeorgespirits.com/>
- Gnostalgic Spirits, Ltd. - <http://www.absinthemarteau.com/>
- The Society of Inner Light - <http://www.innerlight.org.uk/>
- The Virtual Absinthe Museum - <http://www.oxygenee.com/>
- Disinformation – <http://www.disinfo.com>

❖ **Show Library (PDFs)**

- Dion Fortune –
- Crowley - <http://www.oxygenee.com/Crowley-Green-Goddess.pdf>

❖ **Promos/Commercials**

- Media Astra Ac Terra - <http://sphinx.libsyn.com/>
- WitchesBrewHaHa - <http://witchesbrewhaha.podbean.com/>
- Standing Stone and Garden Gate - <http://stonegatepodshow.net/>
- New World Witchery - <http://newworldwitchery.wordpress.com/>
- Title Goes Here: - <http://www.titlegoeshere.com>
- Chris Orapello – <http://www.chrisorapello.com>

❖ **Credits**

- PodsafeAudio - <http://www.podsafeaudio.com/>
- Podsafe Music Network - <http://music.podshow.com>