

Afterword

"It's the worst of times...it's the best of times!"

We live in the Nuclear Age. We are armed to the teeth. On the global scale we have thousands of nuclear weapons stockpiled and at the other end it is the rage for individuals to "conceal and carry" guns. Dreadful fear is without a doubt the primary emotion of those who hold to the Lone Male Earthpeople way of living. In so many ways, everything continues to get worse. Every supposedly great invention is turned into a military weapon or project. Like the Manhattan Project, our academics and intellectuals are adjuncts of the military if not actually owned by military funded corporations.

What corporation does not pursue lucrative military contracts? What university passes on Department of Defense grants? Who in the media ever criticizes our endless wars—even when we invade a country, an act that violates Just War theory and international law, making our country and our leaders culpable as war criminals? Why aren't there public discussions about the (im)morality of our ever-increasing robot army? Where are religious leaders the ilk of Martin Luther King who speak out about America's "madness"?

What has the much touted indicator of the greatness of our human brain wrought—the computer? The pornographic internet. Drone bombers. Robotic soldiers. Star Wars Defense. Basically, today's soldier is merely an adjunct to weapons he/she cannot control. They are the firing pins, so to speak. There is so much death and maiming by "friendly fire" because the explosions and devastations caused often kill or maim our own soldiers or the individual who fires the weapon.

Is there any hope for the future? Not in the Lone Male Earthpeople vision. One way or another the Lone Male apocalyptic vision (resident in biblical stories and secular one, such as the story of the Manhattan Project) will come to fruition. Either through nuclear or chemical or biological or genetic warfare, the god of the Lone Male will consume Himself in an Earth-America destroying ritual of species suicide.

Bummer, dude!

As I engaged in several Earthfolk practices, such as "living as if I am no one's enemy" and creating preciousness through a nurturing embrace, I "discovered" what my Lone Male eyes were blinded to at mythic birth. When He and She, Mother and Father, male and female, me and you embrace what is realized is a peculiar, special and amazing energy—the energy of creation itself. On the Earthfolk website www.earthfolk.net I discuss this "vital zest" and related rituals and practices in more detail. From a theological perspective, it was vital zest that the biblical Rib account wanted to drive out of our mythic memory. The Rib basically said that vital zest did not exist, that only one God had the creative energy—"....no other gods before me." This is a cornerstone Lone Male lie.

So the best of times is right now! Through Earthrise and ecological discoveries, among other factors, our human awareness (subconsciously and consciously) has been awakened and we plainly see Her, Mother Earth, the Living Earth. We not only grasp the Lone Male Earthpeople vision but we have a countering Earthfolk vision. We have reclaimed the Shadow realm and we practice ways of moving Shadow experiences into Sunlight experiences that render us real human persons. But most of all, we have reclaimed our intimacy. The horror of *Poof!* is replaced, everyday, by the joy of experiencing our own and our beloved's preciousness. We realize that "as below, so above" means that what we do in the most personal realm, our intimacy, impacts every other human person...and the cosmos, to boot. What could be more wonderful?

You and I are the creators of the human family. We shall live forever as part of the Living Earth. We shall celebrate forever as family, for while the individual passes over and is transformed the human family perdures.

This is the best of times because you are here, present as precious and beloved, able to make manifest what it means to be fully human. Start *Imagine*-ing that!

Hurrah!