

International Alchemy Guild Bulletin

International Alchemy Guild (IAG), P.O. Box 22309, Sacramento, CA, 95822-0309 USA

www.alchemyguild.org

Editor: Paulette Dager-Harris

Template Design: Marissa Newell

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Winter Solstice - December 21, 2012

Announcements

THE ALCHEMY STUDY GROUP is a full-featured online community of alchemical practitioners and students of alchemy. It is intended for serious students of alchemy and covers all aspects of the Great Work, including spiritual and practical paths, and both ancient and modern traditions.

The website is an unlimited-bandwidth, unlimited-storage site where members can upload videos, photos, eBooks, audio files, music, fonts and other files. Members can also create a profile and post their links and events, invite friends, auction items, and join special interest groups.

Members can publish their own blogs, pose questions and create polls, make suggestions, participate in forums and chat rooms, and publish their writings in the Alchemy Wiki.

This is a great opportunity to get answers, exchange techniques, and find information about alchemy. With interest in alchemy at an all time high, there is much to communicate and share with our colleagues. And it is all in one place! To sign up for a free account, go to the **AlchemyStudy Group** at <http://Alchemergy.grou.ps/signup>

Alchemy is the art and science of accelerated evolution. - Anonymous

FOR YOU EGYPTOPHILES:

The Legend of the Book of Thoth

Tatiana Matveeva, President of our **Russian Chapter** has offered a free download of a translation of the 1st demonic Papyrus of Khamuas. Tatiana tells us that it's definitely a must read by everyone who seeks the knowledge of Thoth and is a key to understanding the essences of All Things. To download go to:

www.4shared.com/office/h9CjEBg/Setnes

IAG now has 501(c)3 status. Your tax-exempt donations support our spiritual and practical work and enable us to spread the ancient wisdom at a time when it could prove crucial on both personal and global levels.

To learn more about the important projects your contributions will support and three quick choices for making your donation visit: www.alchemyguild.org

Meetings/Conferences/ Workshops

For the latest updates on Lectures & Workshops and Alchemy Guild sponsored conferences, visit the IAG homepage: www.alchemyguild.memberlodge.org/

Publications

A BOOK REVIEW:

The Encyclopedia of Hell; an Invasion Manual for Demons Concerning the Planet Earth and the Human Race Which Infests It

By Martin Olson, Illustrated by Tony Millionaire and Mahendra Singh ©Martin Olson, 2011 All Rights Reserved

Reviewed by R. W.

I became aware of this book when I heard a rumor that the author, Martin Olson, is a member of the International Alchemy Guild and, in fact, used the Guild Archives for some of his research for this book. That got my attention, and being pretty comfortable with the dark side, I had to check it out.

The Encyclopedia of Hell is more than just a book. Actually, it purports to be written by Lord Satan as an invasion manual of planet Earth for his demons. The format is reminiscent of a medieval grimoire or perhaps alchemical record book, with its page design and lavish and bizarre illustrations. Interspersed with the demonic dictionary entries are various correspondences from Lord Satan and other agents of his demonic forces.



Upon glancing through the first several pages of this book I realized “This is not a book for the faint of heart.” There is something in it that will offend just about everyone, except maybe the author himself and/or Lord Satan. The odds are that readers will either laugh or cry themselves into oblivion, which may be what Satan wants, actually. From the one viewpoint, the book is a hilariously funny look at the dark side of human (and demonic) creativity. From another viewpoint, it is a powerful and tragic social commentary on the lives and times of humans.

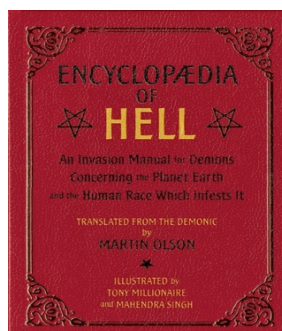
For instance, an excerpt from the definition of *Alchemy*:

Alchemy \ 'al-kə-mē\ n. The process of transforming one illusory form into another.

Although all things arise from Lord Satan's consciousness, the concept of alchemy exists as a Perpetual Illusion. So, too, in the human world. The science of alchemy in the disgusting human body constitutes the transmuting of sweet-smelling foodstuffs into ghastly-smelling excretions. Humans also transmute food into the energy used to create and maintain thought, and thus Mankind is the ungainly, if not repulsive, meat machine for transmuting the immaterial from the material. See Elimination.

In my humble opinion, the true value of this book is not in the brilliance of the dark humor and social commentary, nor in the lavish format and illustrations. It is pure Calcination, a true catalyst in the alchemy of consciousness. When one turns the first few pages and views the first image of Lord Satan, for instance, all manner of deeply buried issues about religion, religious dogma and the matters of heaven and hell may come to the fore. Reading the definition of America, for instance, or Lawyer, especially in this US election year, may evoke angry feelings of either deep patriotism or deep grief at how our social evolution compares with our technological evolution. Anyone who still has issues with Adolf Hitler and World War II will also experience those "in your face" while reading this book. Impurities of thought, word and deed will be popping out like popcorn for potential transmutation. Perhaps this is the author's real intent.

Like I said, this book is not for the faint of heart. For those of you who like to be shocked or offended, or possibly to think about the state of our world, this is your book. When you reach the end, you will not be the same.

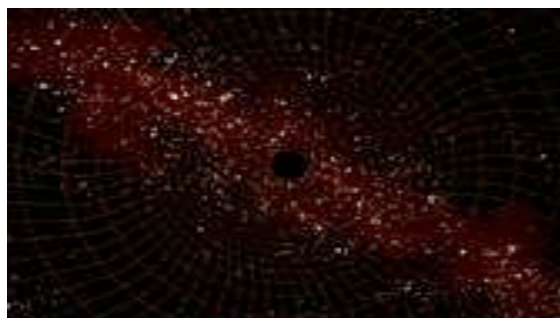


A TIME TO CHOOSE

Fifty two days, as I write this, to December 21, 2012 and there is still surprisingly little attention being paid by most people to the highly anticipated and discussed end date of a Mayan calendar thought by many to predict the end of our time. Why is this?

The steady increase in debunking of this belief as a myth without basis by some quarters of the social media world and the staff of a few federal agencies like NASA and NOAA certainly plays a role. Could it also be that we are in the end game of a presidential election? The competing campaign staff would certainly like to think so, but attention to this cultural phenomena has just spiked in the last month or so. I believe the answer lies at a much deeper level of our consciousness.

Most of us would agree, I believe, that beginning a year or two ago, significant changes have taken place in the experiences of our daily lives. The passage of time seems to have speeded up, not just for special periods or events but permanently. Life is just coming at us faster. Possibilities in our lives – both positive and negative – have expanded at an unprecedented rate. Often it seems that we just have too many options. Energy levels available for us to draw on have increased but this may allow us to move faster during the day or keep us up at night. All of this seems evident not only in what we see or read in the news, “hear” from our social media contacts, but feel in our gut. Big changes are happening.



Here's what my gut is telling me. The changes predicted for this time of our lives are taking place. But our date with the galactic center of our solar system on December 21, 2012 is not the beginning and end of our lives as we know it now. This Winter Solstice and alignment with the energies of the Black Hole in the

center of the Milky Way galaxy is part of a cycle – an enormous, cosmic cycle that we can understand by using our knowledge and experience of the Seven Phases of alchemy. As members of the Alchemy Guild, we all have an intense interest in alchemy and an understanding of these Phases. But, how often do we actually apply them to our daily experience? I'd like to explore that with you.

The Azoth shows us the Seven Phases:



Calcination
Dissolution
Separation
Conjunction
Fermentation
Distillation

As alchemists we use these Phases in our laboratories, in our thoughts and in the way we see the spiritual aspects of our existence. I believe we also live these Phases each day. In the alchemical laboratory, the Phases are actions we perform on the material we are working with to achieve The Stone. We can take these Phases out of the laboratory and apply them to ourselves to achieve the Stone of Transformation in our lives. If we do this, the Phases can be seen as continuous cycles that affect our spiritual, physical and mental experience. As we move through these cycles and achieve the coagulation or transformation of one part of our lives, new possibilities are born and we have the opportunity to begin a new cycle. Seen in this way, our daily experiences are the result of living in several significant cycles at once. As such, we can use them to create the transformation we want in our lives.

To help me see this connection between my life and the Seven Phases, I've identified transformative steps and related questions associated with each of the

Phases to prompt me to remain aware of the energy and power of these cycles in my life. The Alchemical Transformation chart below shows these relationships.

Calcination	Ignite	What do I fear?
Dissolution	Liberate	What am I ready to release?
Separation	Choose	What or who do I choose?
Conjunction	Unify	What do I want now?
Fermentation	Embrace	How do I open myself to the world?
Distillation	Elevate	What is my Essence?
Coagulation	Transform	What can I imagine in the world?

How is this all related to the Winter Solstice of 2012? If I apply the seven Phases of Alchemy to the last two or three years, I see a series of global **calcinations** that are taking place in the form of long lasting wars, uncontrolled famine and vast changes in the financial landscape of the world's economies. While this Phase is still taking place, signs of **dissolution** are evident in the vast political changes that are taking place in the Middle East and appearance of much needed, strong feminine energies emerging in the fields of business, entertainment and politics in the West and individual women taking strong stands for human rights in the East.

The act of **separation** is what is taking place now. An examination of what is happening and choosing that which is most important is necessary now to move to the next Phase of the cycle – **conjunction** or the bringing together of the necessary elements and energies to create what we want as a global community. The **fermentation** and **distillation** of these first four cycles and the **coagulation** of this community await the choices we make now.



Here's a story from my current experience that illustrates this.

My daily life is now and has been for more than a year accompanied by a Cloud of Choosing. My days are not lived under a grey sky but a brilliant blue one with white puffy cotton balls drifting through it. They are a constant reminder that I

have a choice to make. I know what it is now. It is to write and publish. And I do write. I have binders, files and online documents filled with ideas, notes, scenes from several stories and links to important research articles. I've even created an expanded outline of a book on transformation. My issue is that I also have an outline and several chapters written about a fiction related to alchemy. And, recently I confess to creating the beginning of another fiction on how the interaction made possible by social media is terraforming our consciousness. So, you see, I still have a problem with choosing. There are so many possibilities. This is the nature of our times. My partner and wife, Nancy, continually asks me a question that helps me get further down the road to actualizing my choosing: "What do you want, Duane, and what do you really want?" I haven't answered the question yet. If I had, my life would be more influenced by the next Phase of Alchemy – conjunction – or uniting the essences of my life that were discovered by the earlier Phases of calcination and dissolution in a unique way that is the alchemical signature of Duane. Even downsizing my decision of what I want in my life to which of my writings to complete doesn't make this type of decision any easier. I still have to let go of the other possible books that are also parts of me. Did someone just say dissolution? I thought I completed that Phase already. Oh well, that's another story. Now, I choose to write a book for publication and recognize that I have work to do to finish one of several that I've started.



I realize I'm not "singing to the choir" but singing with it. We are in this together, each with a personal experience and view of the great cycles of the Work. So, I believe sharing our views will help us all focus the energies in these cycles and use it to make the differences we want to create in our lives. I'm interested in what you think about the ideas and concepts I've presented in this brief article and ask for your feedback. You can do this by sending me an email with your comments at djsaari@ouroboscycle.com or posting a comment on my blog at: <http://ouroboscycle.com/blog> A copy of this article is posted on it.

I'm also very interested in your experience of the cycles of alchemy during this period of time. I invite you to send me a description of what you feel comfortable sharing. My email or my blog are options to do this, and if you prefer to just talk,

you can call me at: [518-506-6286](tel:518-506-6286). If there is a large response to this article, I will create and moderate an Alchemy Guild forum so we can continue to talk about this important issue.

The remainder of this year will be filled with increasing energy and possibilities. Yes, we will continually be surprised, distracted and overwhelmed by what we experience. And, we will also see more clearly the possibility to create the life we want. Asking ourselves the questions that can make a difference in our lives and talking about our answers to them with others is so very important now.

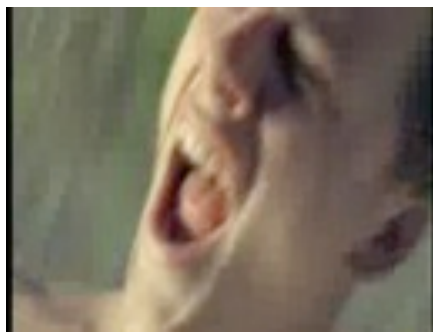
It is a time to choose.

By Duane Saari
October 29, 2012

Dennis William Hauck posted on the Alchemergy forum a very true and funny video with the following comment that most of us likely can identify with:

“I have found that this feeling of ‘not enough time’ is a hidden motivation in many alchemists' lives. Simply to extend life to have time to complete the Great Work or at least to pass on significant contributions to it.”

To view the video, go to <http://alchemergy.grou.ps/> click on the video tab. On page 3 is **Evolution – Life is Too Short**.



Send me your experience on how time has sped up for you, and it will be published in the next issue of the Bulletin.

Paulette Dager-Harris, Editor

The viewpoints in this section of the Bulletin are those of the writer and not necessarily that of the International Alchemy Guild. Please submit your opinion to paulette.harris@alchemyguild.org

The Wisdom of Humor

