

THEBLACKETANCE

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THE BEACK FLAME FALL WINTER XXVI

THE BLACK FLAME Volume 3, #3 & #4

International Forum of the Church of Satan

Editor

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ANY AND ALL ARTICLES,
LETTERS, ESSAYS OR
COMMENTARY SUBMITTED TO
THIS PUBLICATION YET
DEMONSTRATING AN
IGNORANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES
AND IDEAS IN THE SATANIC BIBLE
BY ANTON SZANDOR LAVEY
WILL BE IGNORED.

COVER IMAGE: Peter H. Gilmore

STRATIFICATION: A HARD REALITY

by Peter H. Gilmore

STRATIFICATION SEEMS TO BE A DIFFICULT CONCEPT for many Satanists to apply, especially to themselves. This principle is in operation worldwide and also within the confines of the Church of Satan. The meaning of stratification is that individuals end up on the level of achievement that they deserve via their capabilities and their application of them. This is an example of justice in action, another important principle for Satanists to work towards. It can be visualized as the pyramid described in *The Satanic Bible*. At the top are the few creators, those individuals who advance our race through the synthesis of new ideas applied to reality and brought into existence. Next below them are the more numerous producers who generally keep things going through their diligent work. Finally, below them are the vast numbers of the believers who simply consume the products offered and live their lives according to whatever principle dominates the society they inhabit. We see these same proportions in the membership of the Church of Satan.

Just because someone joins the Church of Satan, or even reaches a point where they consider themselves to be Satanists, does not mean that they have bought a ticket into the top rank of creators. No, they have simply opened the door to grasping the possibility that they can move into a higher strata of human worth. It is up to their application of their abilities, developed with hard work, that will determine where they stand. Each person is endowed with a different level of raw talent and thus some people are intrinsically worth more than others. No men are born equal! However, the cultivation of these abilities determines an individuals worth, as compared to other humans. This must not be confused with a person's self-evaluation. You alone can determine how you are fulfilling your chosen life goals, and this must be by your own standards, if you mean to be a Satanist. Judging yourself by others' standards is for the rabble.

We receive many letters which ask "How can I advance in the Church of Satan?" Well, here's the answer that you've all been waiting for. We judge our members with ruthless cruelty, equating their achievements in the real world to their worth. Thus to advance in the Church of Satan, you must be applying your talents toward measurable achievements in your chosen fields of endeavor. After all, Satanism is an elitist religion, so if you desire our recognition, you must prove to us that you are a being who excels.

It is not our intention to encourage members to seek position in our organization. Ambitious new members should look to advancing their own lives, for by so doing they will be living proof of the superiority of Satanists to the general masses. This is how you can help the Church of Satan, not by starting some grotto, which really exists solely for the pleasure of the participants. By demonstrating that you can live a joy-filled and productive life through the Satanic philosophy you will help to spread our ideas to the worthy few whom you will contact in your day to day life. Let those who respect your achievements know you are a Satanist and you will will be doing something for the Church of Satan. Such successful members who keep us apprised of their doings will be granted recognition, which will be a fringe benefit, not an end in itself.

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Those who come to us eager for titles are generally those who have failed in meeting the demands of the real world, have no significant achievements, and seek some form of ego bolstering to make up for this lack. Such folks do not meet our criteria for advancement.

Contributing Members to prove anything to us. The desire to join indicates that you stand out from the herd enough to want to call yourself a Satanist, which is no small step. But this does not mean that you are automatically part of an elite. All kinds of individuals join our organization for their own reasons, and some of them demonstrate to us that they have only a rudimentary grasp of the philosophy of Satanism. For each individual to be successful as a Satanist, they must live their lives in a manner that is as full of pleasure as they are able. If your life is joyful, you have achieved an important goal. However, as a member of the Church of Satan who wishes to be elevated, you must measure up to very high standards to take a place among a real cadre of superior individuals.

New Registered Members receive a questionnaire to fill out, an application for active membership, which is our way of getting a picture of you as an individual, at least of what image you wish to portray of yourself. We do not initially know what is fact or what is fiction from our first reading. After submitting this, we wait for the member to prove their claims by submitting evidence of their abilities. Sometimes we will request a sample of something that you have mentioned that seems of interest. We also wait to see whether you are working to move on with your life towards your stated goals, because static people are not material for advancement in our organization. If this application is accepted, you now become an Active Member, which is our acceptance of you as a Satanist, in our terms.

The first advanced level one can attain is to become an Agent, which is a recognized representative of our organization, usually signified by the bestowal of a Sigil of Baphomet lapel pin. Our Agents must first of all be masters of the theory of Satanism as outlined in the writings of Anton Szandor LaVey. Agents must then be articulate spokespersons who can effectively communicate their understanding to whomever requires information, whether it be on an informal or surface level on up to discussions of the highest and most complex ramifications of Satanic philosophy. Also, our Agents must be exemplars of living as Satanists, being accomplished in some field and having garnered the respect of their peers. That is how mastery of Satanic practice is recognized. Their lifestyle must be one directed towards reduced contact with the human herd, demonstrating increasing levels of control concerning your degree of isolation/participation with people in general. Also a sense of aesthetics and style must be in play regarding one's appearance and how it is varied depending on circumstances. Our representatives must have a personal style, and demonstrate panache when making an official appearance.

Our next level of achievement is to be elevated to the **Priesthood**. This is characterized by even greater mastery of the elements that an agent has achieved and, in addition, they must be true "movers and shakers" who are able to influence people on a wide scale through their finely honed talents. If you can demonstrate that you are reaching people on a national, or better, a global scale, then you have got what it takes to enter the Priesthood of the Church of Satan.

Why join? That depends on what being a member means to you personally. Avenues are provided for further information on Satanism. Members show their allegiance to the organization that embodies the philosophy that has galvanized their lives, and they are part of a legally recognized church. We are most emphatically not a means for socializing. We do not put individuals in contact with each other. We think that it is important for Satanists to be able to locate other individuals in their own locales who are Satanists, or at the very least individuals who share points in common philosophically. If you are not able to find people with whom to socialize when you want to, then you are failing at a basic human skill. We do, on very rare occasions, place individuals in contact if they are working on complementary projects that could be improved by such contact. This only goes for our most productive and advanced members, however. Should you wish to socialize, there are other groups with that purpose.

So let us review what has been covered. There are two points of view being discussed: first is your self-image as to how successful you are living as a Satanist, whose measure is your degree of satisfaction with your life; second is our evaluation of you as an exemplar of Satanism which will determine your rank, measured by our exacting standards of accomplishment. Thus, if you want to live as a Satanist, learn to satisfy yourself. We demand no other obligation. If you want to be recognized as one of our representatives, you must then satisfy our criteria. These, as determined by our High Priest, are in constant flux, changing with the needs of the present. Their general trend is to become ever more stringent, forcing a higher quality from people who are working toward elevation. It was easier in the past to attain these levels of recognition. It will be more difficult for those to come.

I reiterate: there is no need for members to put themselves up for our judgement. You are free to determine your own path and standards of achievement. Self-satisfaction leads to a pleasant life. However, if it is your desire to gain *our* recognition, you must **prove** your accomplishments to us. You may be one who can falsely convince yourself that you are a worthy member of an elite group. Satanism still continues to provide the "leaky innertube-in-water" test to expose those who would inflate their egos with hot air and pretention instead of real deeds. If you are a true achiever, then you will take your rightful place in a circle of peers, who will appreciate you for your actual value. For some, it is worth the effort.

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POLITICALLY INCORRECT MANIFESTO

by Anton Szandor LaVey

WHOEVER SAID, "Two wrongs don't make a right," was the first apologist for wrongdoing. History has proven that the best defense is a good offense, and an eye for an eye -- Lex Talionis -- is the only ultimate justice. Legalization is fine but not always applicable. Unless application of a principle prevails, no statute or law has substance.

Satanists are the last minority.

As Satanists, we are guaranteed the same rights as any other law-abiding social grouping: Christians; Jews; Blacks; Gays; Women; Physically Handicapped; Yodelers.

We are denied those rights.

It has not been established or proved that we violate the law any more or as much as any other minority. In recent years we have seen fanatical attempts to criminalize Satanism so it can be made illegal. The reason should be obvious. Satanism is a threat to herd behavior and mindlessness. Stupidity = \$\$\$. We are living in hard times, economically tough times, what preachers prefer to call "end times."

A scapegoat is needed. We are it.

Or are we?

As things stand, we have advantages, we Satanists. Despite all laws, we are discriminated against. It is unconstitutional yet publically acceptable to harass and discriminate against Satanists. On T.V., radio, in print, Satanism can be condemned and criticized with impunity. Mainstream media dare not do that to any other religion or social group. Only in time of war can another people be routinely condemned, as an act of propaganda. The Church of Satan and Satanism in general are not carried on any official lists of subversive organizations. Despite a codex (The Satanic Bible) which has been in continuous print and publically available for over twenty-two years, Satanists and Satanism have been fair game for personal or wholesale bigotry.

So long as we are publically discriminated against, we take license to speak or write offensively and with personal prejudice about any ethnic, religious, or social group we deem appropriate.

As **justification** for this edict, the overwhelming body of empirical evidence of bigotry against Satanists speaks for itself.

22 January XXVII A.S. (1992 CE)

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WARIING!

The CHURCH OF SATAN has not now, nor has it ever, had any connection with the "Embassy of S.A.T.A.N."

It has come to our attention that Jay Solomon (a.k.a. "Yaj Nomolos") has been circulating the spurious advertisement reproduced below. Here is information for the purpose of clarification.

The Church of Satan

has become a subsidiary of

THE EMBASSY OF S.A.T.A.N.
P.O. Box 666
Whitehall, Penna. 18052

Membership Information available Send Stamped Envelope

The Pan-Satanic Movement

WANTS YOU!

JOIN NOW



Solomon is an ex-member of the Church of Satan and the proprietor of the Occult Emporium. As we see it, he has for many years tried to entice people into joining his philosophy of "social realism" by calling it the "Church of S.A.T.A.N.," in hope that the gullible would mistake it for the real thing. Such naifs would then be treated to Solomon's "literature," which claims visions from "S.A.T.A.N." (sound familiar?) predicting a future race of androgynous beings of which we are the precursors, a coming apocalypse which only his followers will survive, as well as his claims to having been a UFO contactee. Recently, the name of his organization was changed to the "Embassy of S.A.T.A.N." (EMBASAT) because Solomon feels that Satanism is not a religion and should abandon such trappings. We think that members of the Church of Satan should be aware of this activity and may thus be equipped to avoid such attempts at deception. Beware of snake-oil salesmen who claim to be representing Satanism. Their statements always give them away in the end as wannabees who take the Devil's name, but are playing an occultnik game for their own personal aggrandizement. You have been warned!

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Representation vs. Misrepresentation

by Blanche Barton

IT'S IMPORTANT FOR ADHERENTS of Anton LaVey's philosophy to understand we all share a responsibility to make sure Satanism and the Church of Satan are represented accurately and fairly. You don't need an invitation to advocate something you believe in. The books are out there: arm yourself with knowledge of true Satanism and step forward to proudly claim the power that is rightfully yours. That is where advancement within the organization begins. We are, increasingly, a political and economic force to be reckoned with. Religious discrimination cases are being filed by Satanists across the country, protests and complaints are growing louder as the Satanophobic whinings become ever more strained. Whether you are a Registered Member of the Church of Satan, a Priestess, or simply one who practices Satanism on your own, we all work on our own levels to make inroads against the ignorance that continues to be perpetuated by the righteous.

We are now in our 27th year. As we grow larger and stronger, many of us find we are more focused and productive when we work in concert with other Satanists. Unfortunately, we also see more and more upstart groups trying to ride the crest of the wave Anton LaVey created and we all sustain. There are those who are more interested in promoting themselves at our expense than in representing the Church of Satan responsibly. Armed with the information below, you will be able to peek into the souls of would-be Satanic potentates. You'll be able to recognize telltale signs that reveal more than they want you to know about their real motivations in starting their own groups or Grottos.

There are those who would like to represent themselves as exclusive arbiters or go-betweens for the Church of Satan. Many will start a group, formally (with a lot of fancy paper) or informally (by passing the word at their workplace or college) and even circulate promotional material about themselves and their group. They like to give the impression that membership in the Church of Satan is inaccessible or unattainable but that they can offer a much more accessible but equally attractive membership in their group. Our exclusivity becomes theirs, and the get substantial ego gratification riding on our coattails, sometimes without even bothering to join the Church of Satan. Many people who later (sometimes many years later) eventually do join our organization say they were told that it was impossible to become an active part of the Church of Satan so they didn't even try. Instead they wasted a lot of energy getting

nowhere in an ersatz Church of Satan "initiatory" group.

Even among those who become Contributing Members of the Church of Satan, there are those who become discontented because they are not being promoted or gaining sufficiently flowery titles. They suspect their claims of sovereignty would not be honored within the Church of Satan so they start their own group where they can be the "big cheese."

If smaller groups spring up because those involved innocently believe they cannot join the Church of Satan, or if they are begun by malicious malcontents who start their own thing out of imagined or concocted slights from the Church of Satan, the result is the same. Such groups ride on our coattails. They diminish our effectiveness at our expense.

It has been made clear time and again but apparently it needs to be clearly stated yet again: Unauthorized use of the Baphomet and the name "Church of Satan" is in blatant violation of international copyright laws. No one is authorized to use "Church of Satan" and the Baphomet symbol except the Church of Satan and our appointed Representatives who are given explicit permission to do so. That's why we have it trademarked. Respect for the laws is one difference between being helped by the Church of Satan and robbing the Church of Satan. Unauthorized use is like using the Golden Arches and "McDonald's" because you make good hamburgers. Getting money by representing yourself as a Church of Satan outlet or franchise is unethical and unlawful. If you want to use the symbols, title, philosophy and reputation, you can buy a C/S franchise for \$150,000. Those using our symbols otherwise will be prosecuted.

There is a difference between Contributing Members of the Church of Satan, Active Members, and people who are chosen and designated as our Agents or our Representatives. For example, you couldn't call yourself a "Realtor" unless you'd gone through the Board of Realtors. That is their copyrighted title. If you haven't gone through the Board, you must call yourself a Real Estate Agent. Likewise, your card or letterhead cannot say "National Association of Horse Trainers" or "Member — New York Stock Exchange" unless you are indeed authorized to designate yourself as directly involved in those organizations. Active members of our organizations may affix "Member — Church of Satan" to their stationery or business cards. Authorized Representatives and Agents may summarily state their title, i.e., "Agent — Church of Satan."

One final acid test remains for those who wish to be

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involved in any official capacity within the Church of Satan: When the jig is up and would-be Satanic "High Priests" find out they can't take the name, symbols, and prestige that Anton LaVey has built over the past 25 years, that they can't take advantage of people for their own ego gratification in the name of the Church of Satan, or that they aren't advanced as quickly or as completely as they think they should be within the admittedly rigorous confines of the Church of Satan, that's when they break with the Church in a snit and start working against the organization and against the goals of Satanism. Out of guilt and frustration, they proceed to try to tear down the Church of Satan that gave them birth. Not having sufficient originality or imagination, they are nonetheless dependent upon the Church of Satan, as always, for whatever format, symbols, policies, direction, rituals and ceremonies the Church has provided. It is not our desire to create satellite organizations by means of negative reinforcement. Hence, such factions cannot be recognized as other than "temper tantrum" entities.

Innovators succeed, imitators fail.

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12/19/91

For those with strength to shun the light, For those who know that might makes right, For those who come alive at night, I write these lines for you.

To you whom Hell brings no fear, To you with power far and near, To all who see truth crystal clear, These lines I pen for you.

Oh brothers of the left hand path, Quit no lust and sheath no wrath, Laurels come to one who hath,

A will of iron, an arm of stone, In whom good sense is born and grown, Who doesn't fear to be alone.

Satan's treasures surely fall, To those with sense to heed the call, Of beastly nature, great and small,

Lex Talionis, they shall see, Is supreme law, eternally, And great it is, for you and me...

Jack Dog

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Thoughts on Grottos

by Peter H. Gilmore

SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE CHURCH OF SATAN by Blanche Barton with its chapter headed "Guidelines for Grottos and Groups" we have received many letters from individuals who are assaying this area of Satanic activity. From the questions that have become rather common, I have put together some answers that might enlighten those who are interested in the pursuit of this activity.

Terminology first: in the Church of Satan we don't use the word "coven," as it is generally used to signify a witchcraft group. "Grotto" is our preferred term. Adherents of "Wicca" generally try to distance themselves from us "big, bad Satanists," and here we are happy to oblige and thus have created a term that has more mystery and resonance than the commonplace "coven," or "lodge."

Why should one choose to start a Grotto or group? People tend to seek out their fellows for social, and other, intercourse. Satanists on the whole tend to be loners, apart from the herd and happy about it. Indeed, most of our members have little or no desire to be placed in contact with fellow members. We encourage individuals who do wish to socialize to find, on their own, others in their locale with whom to associate. This is a basic skill which one should master, and we have made it policy not to place our members in communication. It is impossible for us to know all of our members well enough to ascertain whether they would get along socially, so we let them discover each other. What happens is then up to them.

We don't officially recognize grottos any more. Members are welcome to gather like-minded individuals for whatever purposes suit them, be it for ritual, study, or socializing. Such activity must be recognized as being undertaken for the benefit of those involved, for indeed, the grotto leader grants him/herself the honor and responsibility of that position.

Grottos do not advance Satanism as a movement. This is why we eliminated our chartered grotto system in 1975 C.E., and got rid of many pen-pal and coffee-klatsch Satanists who spent more time trying to impress each other than actually going out and accomplishing anything tangible. We expect our members, who are entering into an elitist organization, to be able to prove that they *are* truly elite by being able to do things well. If you are a talented chef, that is magical, or a writer, painter, dancer, composer, steelworker, electrician, carpenter, whatever, so long as you are so good at what you do, that it looks like magic!

Thus, starting a group is for you yourselves and should be undertaken with that in mind. We have recognized productive groups as branches of the Church of Satan, and these are mentioned in Miss Barton's book. Such groups exist and prove themselves before they receive such recognition. So, such goals are attainable, but with much work and tangible results.

Some wish to form a group for the major purpose of working Greater Magic in a group setting. Greater Magic is an intimate and precise pursuit and you must be certain that the individuals in your chamber are totally committed and serious about your activities. Beware of thrill-seekers and people who just want to "check it out." Quality is always more desirable than quantity. It is best to keep high standards for those people with whom you chose to associate in such a personal undertaking.

Your pool of potential fellows may come from placing ads or notices in likely venues and you must be wary of those who respond. Screening such would-be associates is a difficult process and expertise comes only through practice. Remember that just because people profess to sharing Satanism as their philosophy this does not mean that they will get along socially or even ritually. When you meet with people you must honestly evaluate them regarding how they appear, but you cannot really know them until you spend some time with them.

After you have found some possible associates, it is then a good idea to decide how formal or informal your organizational structure will be. Figure out what you all want to get out of this experience. Any group situation can also become difficult as individuals inducted into the Grotto by the founder-leader may wish to usurp the leadership position. Groups can function very democratically, but this is not often the case; rather a charismatic grotto leader tends to emerge and run the show with the close assistance of hand-picked individuals.

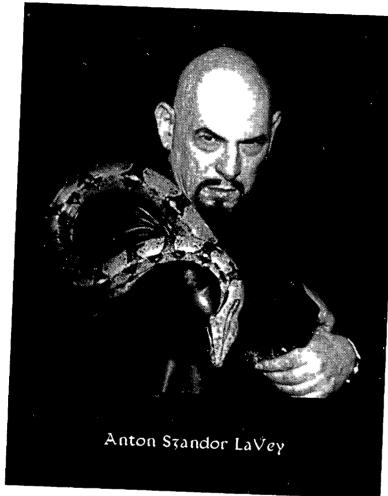
It is often a bumpy road when you start. Don't worry about gathering specific numbers of people. Three who are really working together are better than more who are disharmonious. As long as you are finding satisfaction then your efforts are being repaid. Always bear in mind that you must be getting some pleasure out of this, for if the experience becomes negative, there is no obligation to continue.

When you get your group up and going and it has stabilized, it is worthwhile to report on your progress to our central office in San Francisco. It will be a great deal of work but can be rewarding. As grotto leaders and members, you will experience both satisfaction and frustration, and if it does not destroy you, it might just make you stronger and wiser.

Perhaps then you will be ready for the next stage.

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Photo Portrait of Anton Szandor LaVey



At last you can own a beautiful, black & white poster of the founder and High Priest of the Church of Satan.

Photographer Nick Bougas has captured LaVey and his serpentine friend Boaz in a moment of Satanic communion. At almost life size, this 23" x 29" print is on heavy, glossy poster stock, replete with the High Priest's name in large type across the bottom.

No Satanic lair should be without this handsome item!

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SATAN'S PURGE

by Jeffrey Deboo

AS INDIVIDUALISTS, we Satanists strive to insulate ourselves as much as we can from the vexatious influence of the sheeplike masses who teem around us. Yet, however successful we are in this endeavor, we cannot help but feel a pang of concern about what their very presence is doing to the world on which we also live, the world which now hurtles through the starry nothingness under the staggering burden of five-and-one-third billion human beings.

From a historical perspective, this mighty swarm is a gross aberration. Between the agricultural and industrial revolutions, the Earth's total human population probably fluctuated between about one and five hundred million as various great empires rose and fell. Had mankind's numbers remained within this range after industrialization, our technological and cultural development might well have built us a sustainable, if not utopian, world by now. Instead, the population rose on an eversteeper curve; one billion by 1850 CE, two billion by 1930, three billion by 1960, and so on.

Such exponential growth evokes the image of a cancer, or a raging infection. It is no surprise that the planetary ecosystem is under unprecedented stress. Millions of tons of toxic industrial waste are poured into the atmosphere and oceans. In the tropics, land is overfarmed and overgrazed into uselessness, while primordial forests shrink as the ever-growing hordes of people clear acre after mega-acre for lumber and farmland. Innumerable potentially useful species -- the natural world itself - are being crowded out of existence.

And what is all this multiplication doing for the advancement of civilization? Nothing. How many of those 5.3 billion are engaged in anything really creative or more than marginally productive? Most of them are brainwashed from birth with whichever stupidity (Christianity, Marxism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism -- it hardly makes any difference) has established itself at the root of their particular locality's herdculture. The Earth's billions are increasingly concentrated in mammoth urban slums bereft of hope, hygiene, law and order, or opportunity for individual achievement, lapping impatiently at the edges of the ever-more-fortified enclaves in which the wealthy and middle classes live (and if you think I am only describing Cairo or Rio De Janeiro here, consider what certain areas of Los Angeles or New York are starting to look like, and in how many parts of those cities you would hesitate to take a nocturnal walk -- or, perhaps, even to drink the water).

Especially in the Third World, any growth in material wealth is canceled out by the increase in numbers — the individual gains nothing, or even loses. Clearly the masses of our race have opted for quantity of life over quality. And year by year the Earth is ever more deforested, overfarmed, poisoned, and plundered, to feed and fuel these anthills.

What does the future hold? More of the same? Far from it. This malady contains the seeds of its own cure, though the cure will not be to the liking of those who hold all life to be sacred.

When any species breeds beyond the carrying capacity of its environment, the situation inevitably corrects itself. Some starve because the food supply is no longer adequate for the increased numbers. Or overcrowding creates good conditions for the spread of disease. Or the growth of population destroys the environments supportive capacity (by overgrazing food plants into near extinction, for example).

The human race is not immune to the operation of such natural processes, which the astute will recognize as manifestations of the good old Balance Factor. Our technology only allows us to postpone the day of reckoning -- making it all the more terrible when it finally comes.

As mentioned above, the exploding human population operates within the planetary ecosystem much like a rampaging infection, and the ecosystem is beginning to react accordingly. The reader may be aware that the fever often experienced by a human being suffering from an infection is not just a symptom of disease but a defensive measure; the elevated temperature kills off large numbers of the invading microbes, though it also threatens the body's own tissues to some extent. The metaphorically inclined among us may care to consider the human-provoked phenomenon of "global warming" in this light.

Scholarly opinion is divided as to whether the unusual droughts, which have afflicted many parts of the world over the last few years, are a result of global warming or not. What is clear is that as the planet continues to heat up, weather patterns will be disrupted, reducing the productivity of existing agriculture in virtually every region. Many other human activities, such as overgrazing and deforestation, are contributing to the same ironic result of sabotaging the land's future capacity to feed the human hordes. Eventually the total global production of food will stop increasing and start to decline, and as population continues to grow, regional shortages will develop and worsen.

One cannot predict in which areas agriculture will be most severely degraded, but the distribution of the resulting problems is all too easy to anticipate. In an ever-hungrier world, whatever surpluses are still available will command

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ever-higher prices, funnelling them to those nations and social classes which can afford to pay for them. The productive qualities which make possible the generation of material wealth will become the arbiters of survival itself. The long-stayed hand of natural selection will strike back with a vengeance.

Add the enervation of hunger to conditions already prevalent in the crowded slums in which so much of the world's population now lives, and these places will be as ripe for epidemics as a drought-parched forest for a flash fire. And with today's global transportation network, any infectious microbe flourishing in one region would quickly spread around the world, propagating the epidemic into any area where conditions were also right for it.

If the reader is visualizing the above-described cataclysm as a neat surgical operation which will excise most of the Third World and the underclasses of the West, while leaving the Middle and the High untouched, let him think again. Such a planet-wide upheaval is inevitably a messy and untidy process, leaving no one unaffected, though different kinds of people will be affected differently (and some of the cleverest will find ways to turn it to their own advantage, as always happens with great catastrophes).

Nor are famine and epidemics like a tidal wave which sweeps away everyone indiscriminately. Plague is nature's Great Winnower, threshing out the strong from the feeble, the well-fed from the hungry, the prudent from the foolish and careless. Examples: those Christian sects which reject vaccination, such as the Mennonites, suffer far more than the general population from diseases such as polio. Devout Hindus "purifying" themselves by bathing in the "sacred" Ganges, one of the most polluted rivers on Earth (mainly with raw sewage) have earned themselves several massive outbreaks of cholera. The most lethal epidemic in history, the Black Plague, hit Western Europe so hard because of incredibly bad hygienic conditions caused by poverty, total ignorance of basic sanitation, and the curious Christian aversion to bathing in that era. The wealthier Middle East, where better standards of personal cleanliness were observed, suffered far less.

Even AIDS is an example. The transmission of the AIDS virus is extremely difficult, requiring blood-to-blood or semento-blood contact. As a result, the vast majority of the people in the United States infected with this virus acquired it either through anal sex or via the sharing of IV drug needles. Both of these behaviors were well known to represent serious health hazards, on other grounds, long before AIDS entered the picture. Those who practiced them were thus playing Russian

roulette with their health, even if they could not have known that the loaded chamber would turn out to contain such an awesomely lethal bullet. Those misled by the mass media's hysterical campaign to convince us that everyone is equally at risk, regardless of behavior, would do well to consider that AIDS has been present in the West since at least 1959 CE, but was unable to produce a detectable epidemic until, twenty years later, in encountered populations whose behavior was tailor-made to spread it.

Viruses and bacteria will be the inquisitors and executioners of Satan's Purge. They will inquire not after your doctrinal or moral purity, but after the soundness of your physical constitution and the prudence and material resources you have at your command to protect your health. Residence in a rich and educated nation greatly improves your chances of a favorable verdict before this microbial tribunal, but does not stop you from throwing away your chances out of stupidity, as the above examples show. The choice is yours.

Those least afflicted, the productive nations and people of the world whose wealth, access to medical technology, and superior hygienic conditions minimize their vulnerability, will face a choice. Those under the sway of Christian ethics doubtless will clamor for all available resources to be diverted from those who created them to the relief of the doomed. We have already seen this response to every localized calamity which arises to foreshadow the future. When starvation looms in Bangladesh or Ethiopia or Russia, the cry goes up for all to give selflessly, so that the inhabitants of those countries will be spared, for another year, the consequences of their inability to provide adequately for themselves.

Those of us who instinctively resonate to nature as it truly is, whether we declare ourselves Satanists or rally 'round some other standard, understand that such behavior is shortsighted at best. Charity fosters dependence and undermines self-reliance. If the Russians or Africans cannot provide for themselves, better that their numbers fall to a sustainable level than that they drain off the resources of others to whom they can offer nothing in return. And if collapse is inevitable, then the sooner it comes, the better. Every year it is staved off means more destruction to the local ecology, and more children born to suffer when disaster finally strikes.

So it must be with the coming global population crash. There is no credible scenario which can avert it, and the sooner it happens, the more tropical rain forest will be left uncut, the more endangered species will remain in existence, the more soil will be left uncreded. And the more complete the collapse, the more of a respite the ecosystem will have in which to

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ecover.

Here is the Satanist's chance to take concrete action to help heal his beloved world. He must exert his influence to spread our philosophy so that, when his rich nation stands before the choice, it will choose the right way.

How long the crash takes, and how far it thins humanity's hordes, will depend on the nature and location of agricultural disruptions, on which kinds of diseases predominate during the epidemics, and on many other factors. The average mortality rate from the Black Death in Europe as a whole was one-third, but stood as high as *three-quarters* in the hardest-hit regions. Factor in the effects of overcrowding, plummeting food production, modern transportation spreading epidemics, and perhaps the total collapse of social organization in some nations, and the coming crash could repeat -- or exceed -- such rates on a planet-wide scale.

The human herd-animal will recoil in horror at the prospect of such a ruthless slashing of his numbers, but this reaction is wholly ingenuous, ignoring as it does the self-inflicted nature of the catastrophe — to say nothing of the fact that it is profoundly *necessary* to the long-term health of our world and species. If humans could somehow go on multiplying like bacteria indefinitely, they would at length eat the whole planet down to the bedrock, and then all would perish alike, leaving our once-lush globe as barren as the Moon.

By culling the weakest and stupidest, great epidemics improve the quality of the species. And like any major disaster, they provide a massive shock to human complacency, a clear sign that something is wrong with the way things are being done, a command to reconsider preconceived ideas. They leave behind a smaller, healthier population with shattered illusions and the feeling that a fresh start is needed. It is interesting that the Black Death was preceded by nearly a millennium of stagnation in Christian Europe, but was followed within a couple of centuries by the beginnings of the Renaissance and the Age of

So it will be in our own world; for to the Satanist, even the Apocalypse is not the final end, but merely the beginning of the next chapter in a story which goes on forever.

Charity is a man-made idea, with which the gods have nothing to do. Its sole effect is to maintain the useless at the expense of the strong. In the mass, the helped can never hope to discharge in full their debt to the helpers. The result upon the race is thus retrogression.

Friedrich Nietzsche

DOMINION

(The Time of Truth)

The flames of war burn in our hearts the rage of the Wolf completes our wrath Our breath is hotter than the Sun The day of the cross is done!

We are the Alien Elite
The superior race of power and glory
The world will belong to us
When we make reality Satan's master plan
We despise your God and his miserable son
Our faith is true, it's strong and old
We are the chosen, the excellent ones
We are Satanists and our dominion has begun.

So, you infidels, have fear
As you will see us emerge from the Inferno
Have fear, I say
As you will see your true Lord
Satan is his name, and his anger is aflame
Lawful Master of the Earth,
Ruler of the Universe
Oh, Satan, blessed is thy name!

George Zaharopoulos

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BEER

by Nemo

"Always remember, that I have taken more out of alcohol than alcohol has taken out of me."

Sir Winston Churchill

YOU MAY HAVE HEARD that beer was responsible for civilization. On the other hand you may have heard that beer IS civilization. Both may be true, of course, but the fact remains that as far back as written records go, we find human beings cultivating grain to ferment as beer. Beer and human beings go back a long, long way.

Now, why am I singing the praises of this standard beverage of the lower-brow plebes who are so often pictured slumped before their television sets, attired in soiled t-shirts and sporting a classic five o'clock shadow? It is simply because beer, when properly prepared by the beer gourmet, becomes a worthy nectar for the gods. As a Satanist, and therefore a god in my own right, I offer a few pointers on the proper appreciation of beer.

The major key to enjoying this ancient beverage is to NEVER, I repeat, NEVER drink it directly from the can or bottle. ALWAYS pour the golden elixir into a clean glass so as to cause a frothy head of foam to rise majestically. This releases the carbonation effect of the liquid such that the rich flavor of your brew can be fully enjoyed. As is true with many other foods and drinks, your sense of smell contributes greatly to flavor. The full lather of fine bubbles floating upon the crest of your amber liquid conveys these scents to your delicate olfactories.

Try this experiment once and you'll never forget the importance of releasing the head in a beer. First take one glass, the tall kind referred to as a pilsner glass is most appropriate, and carefully pour the beer down the tilted inside of the glass to minimize the formation of suds. Now take another identical brand of beer and pour it to the bottom of another such glass to form as great a head as can be generated. Taste first one then the other and you will discover that the difference is dramatic. The headless beer tastes like flat carbonated water while the rich headed beer is delightfully delicious, fit for a king!

The key is to treat beer as you would wine. You would not (normally) drink wine directly from a bottle, so do not drink beer diectly from its container. You would not pour wine into a heavy mug, but into a thin and delicate glass. So too should



you enjoy your beer. Another factor to consider is temperature. Most beer is to be drunk chilled, however, excessively low temperatures while being refreshing actually kill some of the taste. Thus, never serve beer below the temperature of 42° Fahrenheit, as this is quite cool enough to quench thirst, but not too cold to ruin the taste.

There are certainly a wide variety of beers now available to the connoisseur, who would do well to avoid the usual relatively tasteless concoctions sold by the major American beer manufacturers. Your local specialty deli may stock a wide variety of U.S. micro-brewery beer as well as some fascinating international imports. There are a number of micro-breweries all across this country which have unique and specialized brews that are often quite pleasing. Check out your locale and also see if the local brewery allows for tours. Such a visit can be a fascinating experience, walking among the huge vats with the wonderful yeasty aroma filling the air, and you'll often receive free samples after the walk-through. Beers range from a dark, almost coffee color to the palest of gold shades. Authentic dark beers result from a longer roasting of the grain in the brewing process although today many breweries will "cheat" by adding caramel coloring. Apart from this distinction, the dark beers are usually not well suited for quenching thirst because of their heavyness and are called "liquid bread" in Germany. Lighter beers are excellent thirst quenchers and go well

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with all manner of food.

Finally, vitamin B does have the rather delightful effect of raising one's spirits in direct proportion to how often one raises one's glass. If you have disdained the "brewski" based upon its image as the favored tipple of the stupid masses, please reexamine the pleasures to be found in a fine glass properly poured and savored.

Remember, ten thousand crazed Vikings can't all be wrong (and even if this is untrue, it is not wise to tell them so!). Here's looking at 'ya!

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My Flesh cries out and is answered.

Phantom

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ODDITORIUM

by Peggy Nadramia

SERIAL SLAUGHTER: WHAT'S BEHIND AMERICA'S MURDER EPIDEMIC? by Michael Newton. (Loompanics Unltd., Port Townsend, WA, 1992; 173 pages, ISBN 1-55950-078-6, \$19.95, oversize trade paperback).

Newton is also the author of Hunting Humans, an encyclopedic reference guide to serial killers, and his vast knowledge is brought to this new work. The author attempts to draw some conclusions about the serial killer phenomenon by cross-referencing and grouping the killers and their M.O.'s; he draws upon FBI statistics constantly, relating percentages for almost every point of fact involved. How many killers preyed exclusively on prostitutes? Homosexuals? How many concealed their victims' bodies, and how many displayed them for easy discovery? Newton sifts through these kinds of statistics exhaustively, but also relates specific details about many killers whose names will be familiar and some who are new to those following this phenomenon. Information about European, particularly German, serial killers is often included, and Newton includes many female murderers and hospital and health care killers who aren't usually lumped in with the solitary stalkers to which this kind of book most often limits itself. There are many photos and quotes from the killers themselves as they talk about their crimes, as well as an actual VICAP Crime Analysis Report; collectors may find this last worthwhile.

Newton's style can sometimes be a little dry, as he proceeds from one point of detail to the next, setting up, enumerating and then concluding in a repetitively expository fashion. This can be overlooked in light of the huge amount of information he is attempting to synthesize. But I was surprised at his short-sighted conclusions about the religion of Satanism as a basis for criminal behavior. He claims it the "ideal religion" for those desiring to indulge themselves in serial crime and mayhem, overlooking his own wealth of information about Christian killers; these vastly outnumber self-styled "Satanists" in the serial killer Hall of Fame, and seemed to have no trouble adapting their own brand of fire-and-brimstone to the unfettered disposal of prostitutes, hustlers and anyone else not measuring up to the Christian standards of behavior. Also, Newton constantly lumps Charles Manson in along with the likes of Henry Lee Lucas and Ottis Toole; this is patently ridiculous. When analyzing the modus operandi, disposal of bodies, choice of weapons, it is fairly pig-headed to bring up Manson instead of Tex Watson, and panders to the kind of TV-

talk-show view of Manson that Newton is too well-informed to

You can order this book directly from Loompanics, P.O. Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368; add \$3.00 for postage and handling.

I CRIED, YOU DIDN'T LISTEN by Dwight Edgar Abbott with Jack Carter. (Feral House, Los Angeles, 1991; 175 pages, trade paperback, \$10.95).

When both his parents were seriously injured in an auto accident, there was no one left to care for nine-year-old Dwight Abbott and his brothers and sister, Abbott was separated from his siblings and brought to Los Angeles County Juvenile Hall, to be thrown in with juvenile offenders and pedophilic "counselors" who made the rest of his childhood years a living nightmare. This is the story of the careful, thorough making of a criminal, by a system fraught with corruption, violence, degradation and without the slightest method of checks and balances. Abbott's account is detailed and often shocking; he minces no words regarding the "pecking order" of homosexual slavery and dominance that began right away, despite his tender years. Possessed of an indomitable spirit, Abbott never failed to risk life, limb and his few pathetic "privileges" to avoid being anyone's patsy or punk. What rings out most strongly about this account is the isolation of the abused child; completely stranded from any caring adults, Abbott relates not even a single incident of inquiry or sympathy from the moment he enters the California Youth Authority. This one will open your eyes.

THE CONFESSIONS OF WANDA VON SACHER-MASOCH by Wanda von Sacher-Masoch, translated by Marian Phillips, Caroline Hebert and V. Vale. (Re/Search Publications, San Francisco, 1990; 127 pages, \$13.99, large trade paperback).

Translated into English for the first time, this is Leopold von Sacher-Masoch's wife's side of the story. Sacher-Masoch's bedroom games with whips and sadism, Master and Slave roles gave birth to what is today know as S&M; Sacher-Masoch's Venus in Furs is a cult classic. Although Wanda often played a dominant role in their bedroom, she was her husband's literal slave due to the economic realities that faced a woman alone, especially a woman with three children. Her narrative is a search for self in a realm where a woman's self was completely defined by one's husband or Master, and brings up many questions of control and trust. The details are racy; the illustrative photographs are weirdly beautiful. Available from

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the publisher at Re/Search, 20 Romolo #B, San Francisco, CA 94133. Add \$3.00 postage and handling. Also available from See/Hear, 59 East 7th Street, New York, NY 10003.

THE WILD by Whitley Strieber. (TOR, New York, 1991; 378 pages, ISBN 0-812-51277-4, \$5.95, paperback.)

Quite simply, the story of a man who turns into a wolf -- a Metamorphosis for our age. Strieber's eye for detail and his understanding of animals makes this an entertaining as well as uplifting read. The manwolf's escape from New York City's ASPCA (actually a much better place for stray and sick animals than Strieber credits it) and trek to Canada is told realistically and with suspense and adventure. Our imminent ecological destruction at our own hands lies behind Robert Duke's induction into the ranks of a wolf pack, but the author offers hope and tenderness at the triumphant conclusion.

A TASTE OF BILE #10 edited by Keith Brewer. (Taint Press, Waco, TX, 1991; 12 pages, digest-sized, \$1.00 includes p&h).

A weird little 'zine reviewing obscure splatter, avant-garde and porn films. This issue is dedicated to Richard Speck. Next issue promises more variety of material, including Experimental, Industrial, Noise music. Order directly from Keith Brewer, P.O. Box 7150, Waco, TX 76714. One dollar gets it all.

DARK LILY #14 edited by Dark Lily, subtitled "The Reality of the Left-Hand Path." (Dark Lily, London, 1992; 25 pages, ISSN 0994-6006, \$4.00 US/one issue, \$12.00 US/four-issue subscription, digest-sized, paper binding).

Articles this time around include "Infinitism: The Psychic Freedom Fighters' Next Step," "Whom Do You Blame?" and "The Five Initiations {to Satanism}." The Lily is thought-provoking, as usual, and replete with a compendium of reviews and advertisements of interest to Satanists.

THE WATCHER: THE NEW ZEALAND VOICE OF THE LEFT-HAND PATH edited by K.R. Bolton. (Realist Publications, Petone, Wellington, 1992; 12 pages, digest-sized, xeroxed, \$10.00 US/four issues).

Newspaper clippings and tiny print make this one tough on the eyes; careful squinting reveals the contributors overlyconcerned with battling Christians and their attempts to repress occultism. Also a rant along all-too-familiar lines by "Christos Beest" of the Order of the Nine Angles, and a refreshingly down-to-earth piece about Lesser Magic by Uncle Setnakt. Order from P.O. Box 38-262, Petone, Wellington, New Zealand (a country so underpopulated they don't need zip codes).

THE FIFTH PATH #2 edited by Robert Ward. (Fifth Path, Carmichael, CA, 1991; 48 pages, full-sized, \$5.00 ppd/one issue, \$20.00/four issues).

An interview with Rozz Williams, who formed the legendary band Christian Death and who continues to shock. An article on the Japanese samurai drum group, Kodo, and one on Skinheads in East Germany. A pictorial guide to survival in the wilderness, and mucho, mucho audio, print, video and show reviews. Beautiful production values in this one, and the next issue, available by the time you read this, promises an interview with Boyd Rice. The Fifth Path, P.O. Box 1632, Carmichael, CA 95609.

THE LAMP OF THE INVISIBLE LIGHT, a compilation CD. (Cthulhu Records, Germany, 1992; CR 11).

Michael Moynihan's group Blood Axis contributes the best two cuts to this intriguing collection. "Lord of Ages" is a march/chant in honor of the god Mithras, a soldier and warrior, and evokes the prayers of the Roman legions as they go off to war; very stirring and memorable. "Electricity" is less straightforward, makes use of collage sounds and more chants, but is just as inspiring — both pieces make wonderful ritual music. Try to order this one from a record store or dealer specializing in underground and obscure material, or inquire about ordering directly from Cthulhu Records: c/o R. Kasseckert, Im Haselbusch 56, 4130 Moers 2, Germany.

THE BEST OF NON: EASY LISTENING FOR IRON YOUTH, a CD. (Mute Records, New York, 1991; Mute 9 61262-2).

Boyd Rice's NON displays its evolution, revolution, devolution through the sixteen cuts on this CD. Not for "the faint of heart or the weak of mind," says Adam Parfrey's cover notes: "The bold and adventurous few, however, will find this music to be pure balm...There is no better tonic I know..." So true, dear readers; and I know you're all bold and adventurous. Rice dedicates his Best Of to "history's men of steel," including Nero, Jack the Ripper and Anton LaVey. You should be able to pick this up or at least order it through any good record store, as Mute is distributed by Elektra, a division of Time/Warner.

DREAMS SHALL FLESH, a CD by White Stains. (PSYCHE C 003, Stockholm, Sweden, 1991).

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Melodic, pretty rock music with our kind of attitude. Of greatest interest to *TBF* readers is "The Satanic Hambo" performed by Dr. Anton LaVey, and "Burning Flame of Comfort," an Enochian key performed by the Hafler Trio. Inquire to order: Psychick Release PCP, P.O. Box 26067, S-10041 Stockholm, Sweden.

THE WAR CHURCH VS. THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, a video by C.O.W.A.N. (Commodity, Altadena, CA, 1991).

On October 22, 1991, Doran Ragnarok of the Church of War (a group whose ideas and attitudes closely parallel our own) visited Faith Lutheran Church and engaged in a formal debate with Chris Roseborough, a student of Christian history, before an audience comprised mainly of Christian youth. The subject is The Truth of the Bible. Doran relentlessly pummels Roseborough with the inconsistencies inherent in both Testaments; you might want to take notes for those water cooler conversations with Xian dopes. The camera work could have been a little better, but this tape is info intensive, and only \$18.00 from P.O. Box 15, Altadena, CA 91003. Also available now (no price listed but it's only four pages; send a couple of bucks - it's on heavy red card stock) is C.O.W.A.N.'s latest print propaganda, a wonderful little essay on the occult power of architecture. The author bemoans the demolition of beautiful old buildings, particularly the movie palaces of Hollywood, and concludes with the statement: "Disrespect to beauty is blasphemy, and blasphemers beckon for the fevered claw of bloody retribution!"

FANTASIA, a video. (Walt Disney Home Video, Burbank, CA, 1991 re-release).

If all this film had done was introduce Joe Average to the joys of classical, and classically Satanic, music, it would have been enough. But the beauty and delight of this masterpiece of animation, editing and orchestrating skills does so much more. "The Sorceror's Apprentice" warns the audience of what can happen when those without the magic try to wear the magician's hat. "The Pastorale," the segment with all those cute little satyrs and nymphs making wine and indulging in a bacchanal, actually demonstrates the faults of Christian repression when their god wakes up and punishes them all for enjoying themselves too much. The final, most magnificent sequence, "Night on Bald Mountain," celebrates a night of diabolic revels, including ghosts, witches and demons in a frenetic dance overseen by Satan himself. As dawn approaches, however, "Ave Maria" chimes in; Satan and his cohorts crawl away to hide from the light, as rows of the candle-bearing pious invade their forests. Ostensibly, this is a triumph for Sunday-morning church-goers over Saturday-night partyers. But upon recently viewing this film again, we came to a new conclusion: what this segment really celebrates is Nature herself, and the balance, not the conflict, between light and dark. For the pious are not pacing off to church; they're walking beneath a natural cathedral of tall trees, illuminating a beautiful and verdant forest, that will once again belong to the night-revelers when darkness falls. The only visions are those of nature; there are no church spires or crucifixes. Indulge in *Fantasia*, and share it with your little ones.

PRAISE THE DEVIL, a video. (Brimstone Productions, Marstons Mills, MA, 1991).

This is a simulated television show that would appear on SBN, the Satanic Broadcasting Network -- tag line: "We're Mad As Hell and We're not Going To Take it Anymore!" Yeah, I thought it sounded good, too; in fact, that's what's wrong with this whole sixty minutes -- the ideas are cute, amusing, sometimes quite on-target, but the execution is terrible, inept, leaden, repetitive.

The SBN logo is well-done; pretty clever use of studio graphics in the station identification sequences. The appeal to Americanism is smart, if not original to Brimstone Productions, and the choice of music was also good: "Stars and Stripes Forever" by Sousa, and "Mars: Bringer of War," which was also used in Wavelength Video's Death Scenes. But the producers fall prey to the pitfalls of the overeager amateur: they do too much acting, when they should have bribed real actors, students, or just about anyone more attractive and well-spoken than themselves into helping. The bare-footed portly fellow in the windswept graveyard is wearing a chintzy Halloween cape and swinging a cane around instead of a sword. The cuts from the Salem witch trial film are clever, but they go on too long and are endlessly repeated -- "Future Geraldo panelists!" Yeah, yeah, we get it. The "Catholic priest" in the interview segment is inexplicably wearing a rosary around his neck (don't these people know any Catholics?) and the way Priestess Oz Tech reads the cue cards makes listening to her almost intolerable. We did listen long enough to hear the usual Temple of Set propaganda, individuality, responsibility to the Self, being one's own god -- only a guise for a strictly-enforced hierarchy of entity-worshippers. There are also many Satanic quotes used on screen, but none of them are from Anton LaVey -- a rather conspicuous absence in a tape about Satanism, wouldn't you say? The \$19.95 price tag (plus \$3.00 for p&h) is pretty steep for the approximately five minutes of fun this will afford you.

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P.O. Box 660, Marstons Mills, MA 02648.

AMERICAN PSYCHO by Bret Easton Ellis. (Vintage Books, New York, 1991; 399 pages, softcover, \$11.00). Guest Reviewer: Phantom

Officially banned by Simon and Schuster (even after paying Ellis a \$300,000 advance!) American Psycho is a novel not soon to be forgotten. A shockingly real and detailed analysis of the American "high life" in the late 1980's, American Psycho is today's Brave New World. The story is told in first-person narrative by the psycho himself, Patrick Bateman. Bateman is the ultimate American dream: welleducated, physically "perfect" and incredibly rich; he knows the "best" places to eat, the "right" things to wear, the "right" things to buy, etc., ad nauseum. There's another odd element to his personality, however: he can't stop his insatiable need to torture, mutilate and murder others. There have been many movies and books of the past and present portraying humanity at its most depraved, yet this, Ellis' third and most mature novel explores deep psychological and social realms, leaving much food for thought. In this world of Bateman's (our world) where extreme superficiality combined with greed (the only "real" emotion left) prevail, Bateman feels he cannot become anything other than what he is -- a completely detached, depersonalized, sadistic killer. Pain and evil (in the Christian sense) are the only semblance of reality and permanence left in an uncaring, alienating world; yet even this pursuit becomes boring. On the surface American Psycho may be brushed aside as a disgusting and humiliating look at the state of the human animal at its lowest point. However, if one reads between the lines we see a much more disturbing portrait of our Western world as a whole, where completely mindless materialism and the pursuit of money for money's sake alone has destroyed all vitality and true emotion. In short, this is not a "fun" novel to read, but an important one if we are to assess what our own values are and why we have them. The hundreds of labels and descriptions of clothing apparel, among other things that Ellis describes, is tiresome at first, but once the killings start -- watch out! The murder and torture scenes far surpass any this author has ever read or seen in the genre of horror. If one is not convinced by Ellis' creation or had any doubts about how low humans can sink, I wish to add that the morning after finishing American Psycho I woke up to the news of the Milwaukee man who ate his victims' biceps after freezing them. Enough said?

NINPO, LIVING AND THINKING AS A WARRIOR by Jack Hoban. (Contemporary Books, Chicago, 1988; 173 pages,

ISBN 0-8092-4725-9, softcover, \$9.95).

Guest Reviewer: Peter H. Gilmore

Here is certainly a unique find, a philosophical guide to developing yourself as a warrior, based on reason and devoid of mysticism. Hoban's definition of a warrior is as follows: "A warrior is a man of action, guided by reason and motivated by love." The book is divided into three parts: the first part deals with the intellectual issues and ethical foundation of his philosophy, wherein he presents political and economic situations as a means for explanation; part two examines and defines the phenomenon of love: part three gives exercises for the training of the body.

More than this even, Hoban has a real grasp of the Satanic approach to magic, both Greater and Lesser, though he does not call it by such terminology. His various exercises for the mind, including concentration and visualization techniques, are quite appropriate for magical use. His descriptions of physical action are laid out in the realms of five strategies or attitudes: fire, water, earth, wind, and void, and are also very workable, especially in defensive situations. Altogether a delightful read full of practical techniques. Don't miss this one!

ANTON LAVEY'S HYMN OF THE SATANIC EMPIRE, sheet music transcribed by Reuben Radding. (Adversary Music, New York, 1991; 2 pages, \$4.50.)

Guest Reviewer: Peter H. Gilmore.

For all you folks waiting to launch those Satanic singalongs, now you've got just the number to get things off to a rousing start. Handsomely produced, the cover is sort of a carny banner; the transcription is quite easy to read and play from, being a melody line with chord symbols. The lyrics are fully presented for those wishing to give voice to their fervor through these uplifting verses. Whether you play a simple chord organ, guitar, autoharp, or the latest whiz-bang computer synthesizer, you'll have a great time with this tune. A perfect blending of words and music, this Satanic classic is a must for all you folks with any musical ability. Even if you are a musical illiterate, it'll make a great conversation piece if you leave it near that long unused piano. Order from Adversary Music, P.O. Box 1270, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276-1270, USA, Cost: \$4.50 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling, overseas add \$3.00. U.S. funds only. Checks or money orders payable to Reuben Radding.

SATANIC CINEMA by Peter H. Gilmore

Look to your local cable channels for ELMER GANTRY, which is once again making the rounds. Here Burt Lancaster

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gives a powerful performance as a travelling salesman who decides to take up the tent show revivalist racket as his vacuums aren't doing too well. He becomes a master manipulator of the crowds as he hooks up with an experienced woman who shows him the ropes of the game. He shows her some other ropes, and is finally caught up by a woman from his past. This film is ruthless in its exposure of the God game and is quite apropos in this day of televangelism scandals. Catch it!

NOTICE!

Due to the positive response granted to our double issue, we have decided to continue this as our standard practice.

Henceforth, *The Black Flame* will be issued **twice** each year, but with the double issue page count. Prices will remain at \$12.00 (\$16.00 outside of the U.S.) for a one year subscription for which you will receive **two double issues**. Each issue will cost \$6.00 each (\$8.00 outside the U.S.).

During this calendar year of XXVII A.S. (1992 c.e.) we will release two further issues, Volume 4, one to be released in the summer, the next in the winter. Thereafter, we intend to release the issues at Walpurgisnacht and at Halloween, for XXVIII (1993) and beyond.

We thank our loyal readers for their continued interest and welcome submissions of appropriate material accompanied by an S.A.S.E.. Best wishes to you all for a prosperous year!

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TO THOSE WHO ORDERED WAKE

This publication has experienced some delays and will be going to print soon. The publishers ask for your patience and we are certain that this premiere issue will be well worth the wait. The ABRAXAS FOUNDATION produces material which is of interest to all who claim the title of "Satanist."

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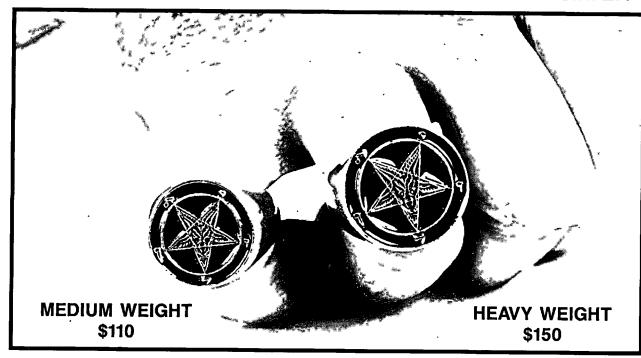
"There is in fact, nothing honorable about unfitness, considered in the mass. On the contrary, it is invariably a symptom of actual dishonor - of neglect, laziness, ignorance and depravity - if not primarily in the individual himself, then at least in his forebears, whose weakness he carries on. It is highly important that this fact should be kept in mind by the human race, that the essential inferiority of the inefficient should be insisted upon, that the penalties of deliberate slackness should be swift and merciless."

H.L. Mencken - Friedrich Nietzsche

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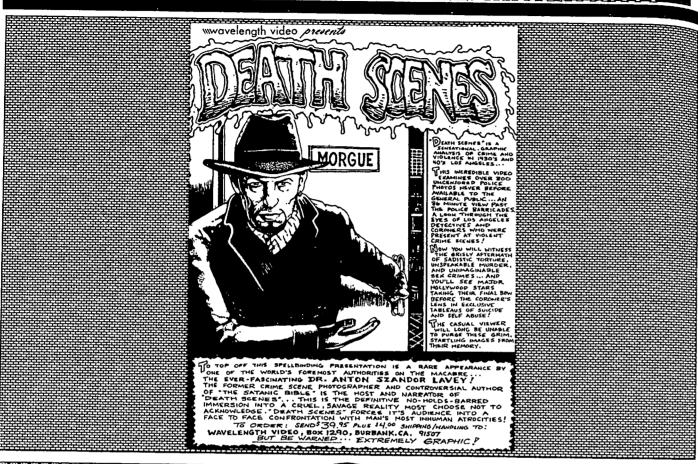
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Satanic Self-Defense

by Nemo

AS IN MOST THINGS, the issue of the proper choice and use of a handgun is clouded with irrationalities, personal prejudice and far too much reliance on the so-called "experts." When it comes to handguns you don't want to discover that you made a bad choice because it will probably prove to be your last choice.

To this end I wish to report on a winning combination that works without deflating your wallet. There is a new semi-automatic pistol on the market, the Grendel P-12, and a proven exotic form of ammunition, the MagSafe Defender. Together, this team produces an inexpensive but reliable and powerful way to defend yourself in a firefight.

If you talk to most gun collectors about the Grendel you'll probably hear some of the same things I did. "It's a cheap piece of plastic junk!" "It jams every other round." "You can't disassemble it!" "I won't carry the damn thing in my store because it's worthless!" These opinions are carved in granite in the minds of the gun "experts" because the earlier version of the weapon (the Grendel P-10) did have all of these flaws and more. However, the new P-12 has included all of the necessary modifications in design to overcome these problems while reducing the weight by two ounces and providing the increase of an extra round.

The Grendel P-12 has a capacity of 12 rounds of .380 ammunition with an unloaded weight of 13 ounces in a palm-sized package about the same size as most .38 special snub-nosed revolvers. In other words, the new Grendel has the firepower of two Smith & Wesson Bodyguard snubbies with two additional rounds left over.

Now the "experts" will tell you that statistically the average gunfight sees only three rounds fired. Of course, it is also statistically true that only about 20% of any shots fired in a real shootout hit what they are aimed for! That would mean one hit for every five rounds fired. So what would you rather have in your hand if you have just fired five rounds in a survival situation: nothing or seven more man-stoppers? If you have ever been in such a situation you will know how that gun is always empty long before you want it to be.

Now there is and has been (and perhaps forever shall be) an argument between the advocates of the double action revolver versus the semi-automatic pistol. (Double action means that when you pull the trigger the gun fires. If you have to cock or cycle the weapon in any way first, this is called a single action. I know that sounds backward but I didn't invent the ter-

minology.)

The major argument in favor of revolvers has been their reliability. Automatics (which usually means the semi-automatic pistol, not a continuous-fire machine gun like an Uzi) gained a reputation for jamming early in their history which is no longer valid for the rational gun user. If the automatic you use has been tested by you with the right ammunition and is kept clean and oiled, you will not have jams. Think of your gun as you would your car. Use the wrong gas and never add oil and your car will jam on you too. In test firing the new P-12 with hundreds of Winchester 85 grain Silvertip hollowpoints, I have not experienced a single jam, misfire or failure to feed. Every time I pulled the trigger, a good and solid shot plowed through the target.

A lesser argument used against automatics by revolver buffs is the advantage of double-action simplicity. You pull the trigger and the gun shoots. However, in the last couple of years numerous automatics have been coming out as double-action, including the new Grendel. Therefore, just like a double-action revolver, the Grendel needs no external safety to click off before firing. An additional drawback to the single-action automatic is that in order to be properly prepared to draw and fire, the gun must already have a round in the chamber with the hammer cocked. The disadvantage here is if the gun discharges by accident. (Self-vasectomy, anyone?) This condition, known as "cocked and locked" also still requires one more action before the weapon can actually be fired: the removal of the safety. In any high-stress situation, the first thing to go is your fine-motor coordination. While you may have practiced the motion of drawing, removing the safety and firing thousands of times, in the frozen moments of terror when the butcher knife is coming straight at you, that extra motion might get lost in the neurological shuffle. Double-action definitely has the edge

There is one advantage a certain revolver (and a few derringers) have over the automatic pistol. The enclosed-hammer Smith & Wesson Centennial snubbie can be safely and repeatedly fired from your pocket without jamming. (This is not true of merely concealed-hammer revolvers such as the Taurus 85-CH.) The idea here is that you can have a cool barrel trained on the potential assailant hidden from your sight in a coat pocket and shoot him if he makes the wrong move without having to draw your weapon. This is a worthwhile consideration but I would not choose even a snubbie revolver for this purpose because, while relatively small like the P-12, the snubbie is still not easily concealed in a pocket if you are pointing it at someone. (As the astute Mae West expressed it, "Is that a

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pistol in your pocket or are you just happy to see me?") If you wish this social option, I would suggest obtaining American Derringer's /38 special D/A (double-action) 2-shot derringer loaded with the potent MagSafe .38 Special MAX ammunition. Shoot the assailant twice and then draw and fire your Grendel if he has buddies.

There is one other, often overlooked but vital issue concerning choice of handgun. If you intend to carry it, it needs to be small enough to be concealable and not so heavy that you feel you are lugging around a brick in your pocket. All the many advocates of the Colt .45 and other large bore weapons usually wind up leaving the monster at home. Big and heavy is bulky and uncomfortable. In this the Grendel is an excellent compromise since, while it is not as small as the plethora of .25 caliber mouse guns, it is palm-sized and easy to fit into your pocket. Also due to its (mostly) polymer plastic composition, the Grendel is *very* light at 13 ounces unloaded. This is the same weight or less than most pocket-sized .22s!

Now the .380 caliber is held to be a drawback for self-defense by most experienced shootists. Whereas the .357 magnum 125 grain round has a one-shot stop record in the ninety percentile, the average factory load .380 solid nose round is closer to 67%. The answer? Don't use a standard factory-made bullet but buy an exotic super-bullet. I recommend the Mag-Safe 380D Defender round manufactured by the MagSafe Ammo Company.

The MagSafe round really deserves an article all by itself and the heated debates over manstopping "super-bullets" have a long and involved history. Let me try to simplify it all here briefly by explaining that there are basically two kinds of bullets made today: solid nose (called ball ammo) and hollowpoints. The solid nose bullet is usually inferior to the holowpoint because ball ammo will tend to zip through a body whereas a hollowpoint will mushroom and rip a larger hole in the bad guy. That's the theory. However, the curious thing is how a hollowpoint will almost always behave eactly like ball ammo if it is fired through clothing first, such as a denim jacket. So unless you intend to only have to defend yourself against naked people (I can see the headline: "Crazed Skyclad Wiccan Attacks Satanist on Main Street!") you need to consider hollowpoints as not fundamentally different from ball ammo.

Now there are different bullet designs intended to produce a more deadly effect. There are bullets which carry shotgun pellets (such as the MagSafe), BB shot (such as the Glaser or Beehive) or a very light plastic cup (the Thunderzap). The concept here is to have a "hotter" (higher velocity) bullet which explodes *in* the attacker's body and spreads the buckshot through

his vital organs. Imagine taking a .410 shotgun and inserting the barrel about five inches *into* the abdomen and *then* pulling the trigger.

The problem is that damn clothing again. With the single exception of the MagSafe ammunition, all of the exotic bullet designs I am aware of are cramped in their designed intention when fired through clothing first. But the MagSafe hits the body with deadly intent which can turn a questionable caliber like the Grendel's .380 into a one-shot manstopper. For example, the MagSafe 380D Defender round had been clocked at an average of 1,360 feet per second with a hitting energy of 246 foot pounds. This results in a very potent defense load.

If you are already committed to carrying a .38 Special (and I hope you are carrying one of the airweight snubbies) try the #38 MAX +P+ MagSafe round which can transform your little bodyguard snubbie into something that hits like a .41 Magnum load. And if 9mm autos are your pride and joy, the 68 gain #9P +P Police Load outperforms a .45 JHP (jacketed hollow point) with triple the wound trauma that Speer's "Flying Ashtray" produces. Finally, if you do haul around a .45 automatic, load up with .45 Auto MAX and convert your weapon into a "Dirty Harry Special" .44 Magnum load.

Before I conclude this overview on bullet choice, I need to explain why I am not discussing smaller calibers such as .22 Long Rifle, the .25 caliber classic "Saturday Night Special," and the .32 ACP. Let me cut to the heart here. The low velocity .25 has been known to bounce off clothing. The .32 caliber does a shade better. The little .22 is only a man-stopping round if fired from a long barrel of five or more inches and if you hit the head and if your round doesn't glance off the skull. Again, the .22 will kill effectively, even from a short barrel, if you nail the eye-socket (and hence the brain) but you had better NOT miss! With the .380 MagSafe Defender round you can hit that broad center bodymass and be pretty damn certain that your assailant has been stopped permanently.

Last but not least are the aftermath legalities. If you shoot somebody in self-defense, you had better expect that you are "going downtown" to talk with the boys in blue. The MagSafe round was designed to NOT ricochet and kill an innocent bystander nor overpenetrate and zing out to also nail some welfare mother or one of her brood. Thus you are more likely to avoid legal hassle with this round even though it is far more likely to kill than a coveted .38 Spl Hydroshock round. The double-action of the new Grendel will also help here, strangely enough. The courts have developed a mad-dog association with guns which can be cocked (You were THREATENING that innocent man with your hairtrigger weapon!) and police all

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over the country have opted for double- action to avoid this stigma legally. You can't cock the Grendel and threaten anyone. You can shoot it and kill someone.

So let's end this little report with a look at costs and sources. The new Grendel P-12 runs around \$155 retail but save some money and buy from some gun collector who has a FFL (Federal Firearms License) and sells for usually 10% over wholesale. Compare this \$135 price to the usual \$310 for an airweight .38 Spl Centennial or even \$200 for an American Derringer .38 Spl D/A. Most good 9mm's will take you above the \$500 bracket without batting an eyelash. The MagSafe Defender round retails at \$17.95 for 6 rounds. That's almost \$36 to fill your Grendel but well worth every penny!

I've shared with you my opinions, thinking and experience with this particular weapon/ammo combination but, as with all things, check it out yourself rather than believe me. MagSafe Ammo Co., 2725 Friendly Grove Rd. NE, Olympia, WA 98506 will provide you with a two-hour video (for \$30 postpaid) demonstrating the ballistics results of firing many, many kinds of ammunition into flesh-like 10% gelatin (clothed and naked). The Grendel P-12 is manufactured by Grendel, Inc., P.O. Box 560909, Rockledge, FL 32956-0909. Good luck and keep a low profile.

Gun Owners of America

Those of you who own firearms know that there is a battle currently being waged to find ways to make it difficult, if not utterly impossible to legally own firearms. Criminals don't care, but many legislators wish to see the law abiding citizen unarmed before the criminal element. Well, our Constitution still guarantees us the right to be armed, and there are lobby groups who make it their business to be watchdogs to protect us from having this precious right abrogated, such as the NRA. GOA, founded in 1975, is another such organization. To quote from their literature:

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They offer, among other things, an informative and well produced newsletter, send out factsheets on timely issues, and even have a legal defense program to assist gun owners being harassed by the government. We suggest legal gun owners contact them. Write to: Gun Owners of America, 8001

Forbes Place, Suite 102, Springfield, VA 22151.

POWER

The Christians like to say the meek Someday the world will gain; But we know all that weakness wins Is slavery and pain.
Let them behold our race's past And therefrom see the light: Their Bible may say different, but In this world, might makes right.

What let the Chosen People make
Lush Canaan's soil their home?
What settled if the world should bow
To Carthage or to Rome?
What laid all Asia at the feet
Of Chingiz Khan's cruel horde?
Was't conferences? Sermons? Love?
Pure morals? Or -- the sword?

When Washington strewed Yorktown's fields With tyrant England's dead; When Boer guns and Zulu gore First ran Blood River red; When Sherman's soldiers wrought their will On haughty Georgia belles; All men knew those who lose the fight Shall lose all else as well.

El Alamein and Stalingrad
And Dresden's grisly kiln;
The Tokyo and Hamburg raids,
The sacking of Berlin;
The hand that set the torch of Hell
To Hiroshima's pyre;
T'was force that laid the Fascist scum
Defeated in the mire.

The Cyprus Greeks 'neath Turkey's heel And beaten Baghdad's folk:
In our age too, the weak fall heir
To naught but sorrow's yoke.
Be kind or harsh, work good or ill,
Benevolence or hate,
But never let your **power** ebb,
That you not share their fate.

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THEBEACK FLAME 27 FALL WINTER XXVIII

RICHARD STRAUSS: HELDEN-COMPOSER

by Peter H. Gilmore

WHO COULD FORGET THE THRILLING OPENING MUSIC to Stanley Kubrick's film 2,001 A Space Odyssey? Who hasn't been moved by that musical sunburst that Kubrick wisely used to herald the birth of conscious intelligence in Man's ancestors, and underscored the first use of tools (a weapon, I might add)? That magnificent fanfare was penned by Richard Strauss (1864-1949) as the opening for his tone poem Thus Spake Zarathustra, which was the composer's effort at creating an audio equivalent to Nietzsche's iconoclastic book.

Strauss was known in his youth as a radical modern, shocking the critics with his voluptuous music, whether it be purely symphonic or operatic. In his final years he was considered to be an aging reactionary, co-opted by the Nazis, and thus generally ignored by the world which had moved on to less human music, that had lost the ability to appreciate beauty and skill. To the modern listener, he appears as an artist that created works of great beauty that overflow with the joy and struggle of life.

Strauss actively rejected Christianity and its disgusting creed of self-sacrifice. He saw life as a heroic struggle and himself as his own god. Thus when he composed a tone poem called A Hero's Life, one should not be surprised that he Satanically made it a self-portrait. In this, he depicts himself as a mighty life-embracing warrior, who enjoys the battle against his critics - lampooned as the toads that they were, and who enjoyed his sensuous pleasures as well.

He again celebrated himself and his family in the *Sinfonia Domestica*, a musical portrait of mighty proportions that glorifies his home life. Though his detractors were always outraged at his self-glorification, they did not stand in the way of his fame, achieved at an early age as both a composer and conductor

Strauss' mastery of orchestration was second to none, and he created soundscapes that astonished audiences with the verisimilitude of their tone-painting. Listen to his *Don Quixote*, where he uses woodwinds and brass to sound like a baaing herd of sheep. The storm segment of his *Alpine Symphony* is one of the most violent and realistic in all music literature, complete with both wind-machine and thunder-sheet. We'll speak more of this piece later.

As a young man, Strauss penned *Death and Transfigura*tion which depicts a man's recollections of his very full life while on his deathbed. Strauss likens life here to a series of ever more glorious strivings after one's ideals. Death is finally heralded by an ominous tam-tam stroke, yet the heroic spirit is not stopped, but soars on to self-glory. When he lay dying, Strauss claimed that it was just as he had composed it years before

This philosophy of life permeated his work in all media, but it came strongest to the fore in his mightiest tone poem, AnAlpine Symphony. Ostensibly this piece depicts a journey by a mountaineer, starting out in darkness, greeted by another blazing sunrise, and continuing till he reaches the summit, experiences an apocalyptic storm, and then descends to final darkness of night. Strauss said that the true intent of this piece was a depiction of Man's appropriate existence, that he should live it as if it was a mountain to be conquered by dint of personal struggle. He said that this was meant to be in direct opposition to the Christian attitude towards life, and indeed the first title of this piece, which was later dropped, was Antichrist. You will here find an utterly Satanic depiction of life. From out of the darkness, the rising theme of aspiration leads to a birth in triumph, a "yea saying" to the challenge before one. Next, life is launched as a vigorous assault on the universe, that bears with it moments of beauty as well as terror. In the end, death comes but the "ascent" theme still struggles up out of the darkness, expiring in a final downward glissando into the night of non-existence, the Black Flame finally guttering out. No more-Satanic a view of the human condition has been put into sound.

For the listener new to Strauss' works, I recommend that you seek out the recordings conducted by Herbert von Karajan with the Berlin Philharmonic. These are superbly realized with just the right balance of virtuosity and violence. First listen to the tone poems that have been mentioned in this article, then you can explore his many other pieces. The music is rich and complex late-romanticism which is decidedly emotional and totally Dionysian. Be prepared for the intricate textures and detailed development of thematic material. At first, just let the sound sweep you along in its epic journey. Later, there is much more to appreciate structurally, if such is your inclination. Try listening to the rest of Thus Spake Zarathustra, and you will be amazed at how much more wonderful music it contains that fulfills the promise of the first two minutes that are so familiar. Yes, Strauss did conquer death, for by hearing his works you will find his spirit moving within you. And you too will be transfigured.

Success is the sole earthly judge of right and wrong.

Adolf Hitler

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THE BLACK-FLAME

inside the Fence

by Reuben Radding

CONEY ISLAND IS STILL THERE. It's still hanging from the bottom edge of Brooklyn where you expect it to be. And it still has the Cyclone, the Wonder Wheel, those horrible Nathan's hot dogs, and sex. The crowds still flock there all summer when the little strip of land provides New Yorkers with an ocean to swim in, a few rides to ride on, and an horizon to look out over and know that you can dream again. This is no Disneyland -- nothing against it -- but this place is filled with the seediness that allows your imagination to do its own work. But don't ask the screeching rides or the pitchmen who run the games; don't ask the water flume or the arcades or the boardwalk. Don't ask any of them to show you the magic. It's

If you stand in front of the Himalaya -- one of those superannoying disco rides -- and gaze to the West you'll be looking at the charred remains of the old roller coaster. It's a lifeless shell that refuses to deteriorate any further. Long ago when it was built, it was made to withstand just about anything. It sits, silently sulking in the shadows beyond the modern parks at Coney. Walk around to the southern edge of it, at the boardwalk ramp. You'll see, many yards from the sand, a shack tacked onto the side of the coaster. At night you'll see a dim light coming from within its hidden interior. Sometimes you might hear voices cackling out into the night from there, as I have. Watch for a while, but no one comes out. Somewhere off behind the shack is a rusted-out pickup truck, hiding in the fallen girders of the dead ride. I can stand and look at this site for hours. There's an incomparable glow that it emits. When it, and its neighbor, Steeplechase Park, burned to a crisp, the energy and enjoyment of the people who had screamed and laughed there must have flown out onto the ethers. These are living ruins -- not dead machinery, but creatures who have outlived

Looming next to it, looking like something out of Fritz Lang's Metropolis, is the long-retired Parachute Jump. Like the black skeleton of a giant umbrella, it guards the shoreline and waits for someone to resurrect it. Its blue fiberglass-and-wood base creaks softly in the breeze from the Atlantic, as the (miraculously still present) guidelines from the ride wave like injured tentacles.

There in the Parachute Jump's shadow you close your eyes, and as the wind shifts around the shore, the boardwalk, and the streets, you can smell a thousand smells. The most enticing and the most disgusting scents mingle: cotton candy and horseshit, fresh salt air and urine, corn-on-the-cob and old whiskey on a bum. No one smell dominates, though; all of them get equal time.

There is also the abandoned bath house with its strange nautical engravings on the side, and broken windows up high; the mutated sea-birds congregate there and watch. They gaze as you pass the cement-block-filled alcoves that were once booths where food was sold. One cubbyhole has the remnants of a read/advisor sign, its faded colors beckoning to no one but the wind. Now the only working fortune teller here is underneath the Surf Motel, a notorious flophouse at the top of a precarious stairway, crushed into a building on the corner of Surf and Stillwell. Looking up at the undersized windows from the street, it seems like there wouldn't be enough room for anyone to live, except for maybe an alcoholic midget.

I keep coming back to Coney Island, though, to look at the wreckage. I've been on the rides enough times to be able to feel their effects even before I get on them, but I can just stand out on the boardwalk and watch that little shack behind the old coaster and imagine the workers from the rides and amusements telling tall tales and knocking back the rum. For me that is a ride. I've noticed this fascination with living ruins and twentieth century wreckage in others of my generation, too.

I grew up across the street from an abandoned elementary school. Due to various real estate complications it remained unused for at least a decade. It was definitely a focal point for a great many of the young people who lived in the area. Occasional expeditions were launched to explore the inside of this suburban cavern. Hidden by the Virginia night, groups of teenagers and young adults would stumble around with their flashlights, trying to discover a secret that wasn't there.

I counted myself along with the abandoned back then. My abusive father and invisible mother had sent the message that I was going to be better off alone. I thought of the empty school and the giant salt-storage tank around the corner as orphans and kindred spirits. I felt such a shock of recognition when as a child I saw the Planet of the Apes film, particularly during the scene where Charlton Heston rides out by the sea, only to find the crumbled remains of the Statue of Liberty. "I'm home," he says, as he stares at the wreckage of his culture -- destroyed in a war he never saw.

The first place I lived after I left my parents' home as a teenager, was a big dilapidated house on a service road, next to a busy highway. The four of us moved in on a weekend and threw a party to make it official. As we toasted our first days of

independence, one of my new housemates asked me if I'd been down to the fenced-in neighborhood. "What the hell are you talking about?" I asked, baffled by his absurd question.

"You haven't seen it?" he gaped at me. So a whole bunch of us set out to see what my one friend was talking about. It was only about two blocks away, around a bend, invisible from the highway. It was exactly what he'd described. Six or seven square blocks of suburban land, complete with houses, street signs, tall trees, a porno theater called The Dirty Bird, and demolition equipment that had been used to make a few of the houses disappear, all enclosed within a tall, chainlink fence. There was a sign just inside saying, "No Trespassing," and next to that was another sign with an artist's rendering of the office building that would sprawl over the area within a year.

We stood, amazed and for a moment transfixed by the surreality of the situation. This seemed like an opportunity that had to be seized. Without discussion we began looking for a place to climb over, or get around the fence. We vaulted over it one by one, and began running all around the captured territory, not caring that we might be discovered. The few houses that had been demolished had left their foundations behind, and we ran and snooped around them and the machines that had made them fall. I'm not sure how long we stayed inside the "forbidden zone," but it was a good long while. We children of the "end times" are greedy. We want our playgrounds built to scale, and we claim the ones we find. We want to be inside the fence, with the exiled buildings and the orphaned streets.

Now I am outside the fence most of the time. But I think I must have left my wallet or dropped my car keys, because I am haunted by this feeling called "unfinished business." Like every time I pass a discarded refrigerator, tossed out with the garbage, I want to climb inside or play with the vegetable drawer. My mind starts to race -- how could I get this thing home? -- and I think of the terrific things I could make out of it. But I always come back to the sober realization that I too have no use for it. The impracticality of being a compulsive scavenger is too evident to me; I walk on. I have passed up bringing home everything from lamps to hair dryers; from ripped-out toilets to mildewed oil paintings, and always with a sigh of regret. For I know that leaving behind their filth and clutter also means leaving behind their magic. But, I do think of them.

In a way Coney Island is a storehouse for our memories of other times, and a magnet for the wreckage of twentiethcentury America. One man's trash is another man's treasure, and this goes beyond orphaned objects. One could even say that the purpose of Coney Island is a lost entity. Think of it -- a

few square miles set aside solely for enjoyment, for carnal pleasure. "Sodom by the sea," it was once called, and it remains exactly that -- a bit run down, true, but alive, damn it. Alive with the spirit of a century at its close.

The groan of the band organ cuts through the night, a steam-powered hallelujah, calling out to the few remaining who have not loaded themselves or their kids onto the carousel, There's only an hour or so left in the season, then it's all over until next summer. The horses, lions and zebras dash around the circle to a tune older than any person here. I'm standing across the sidewalk, watching, trying to remember the words. "Down in the station/early in the mornin'/see them little pufferbellies all in a row..." I knew it once, so long ago. I rest a weary arm on a parking meter and stare at the children, whose enjoyment is reaching that wondrous level only know to children. And I could stand here forever.

A small crew of parents are around me, waiting patiently, but bored. A woman turns to me and breaks my trance. "Which one is yours?" she asks, indicating the kids, who are rising and falling in time with the music. I grin and give away a chuckle. She's ruffling the hair of her younger child, too small for the ride. "The music," I say with a hand lifted to the air. "It's the last night for the music." And she nods along with me, her eyes a little brighter, turning back towards the carousel. Moments later we will be left with only the sound of the waves against the beach, the cries of the gulls, and the roar of the subway in our ears. Lullaby and goodnight.

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SATAN WINS AGAIN

by Gary Irwin

BACK IN THE SIXTIES there was this Japanese T.V. show. Every episode a dumb-looking robot fought an awesome giant monster. I didn't care for the robot; it was the cleverly-designed monsters that stole the show.

To the self-righteous, sanctimonious Christian pretenders these creations looked like demons from Hell. The church pharisee denounced the show as being demonic. Unfortunately, this was a time when religious delirium was respected and all the kids were forbidden to watch it. Every Saturday a group of kids would go to the department store and watch the show there.

We loved to watch these monsters and hated our narrowminded parents for coming up with such ludicrous demands. My love for these horned monsters made it impossible for me to fall under the tyranny of Christian bondage.

When I was forced to go to church I would dream about a huge horned demon smashing church buildings like matchboxes. While the old preacher droned on, I dreamed about a huge being stepping on Jesus and his stooges, turning them into manure.

Toys were made of these monsters. To my disappointment these toys were forbidden as Christmas presents. Desperation gave me a good idea. I kept the money I was to put in the church plate, taking whatever my little hand could grab out of the plate. With the money I grabbed I was able to buy every kind of monster that came out!

As a child these monsters inspired me to rebel against ritual Christian child abuse. What would I gain from worshipping a god who has been crushed to death under Satan's giant hoof?



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THEBLACK-FLAME 35-FALL/WINTER-XXVI

David Duke: Trend for the '90's?

by Peter Luger

SATANISTS INTERESTED IN THE POLITICAL CLIMATE of our nation have been watching with interest the activities of David Duke. Regardless of whether one considers his past affiliation with American neo-Nazi groups and the Ku Klux Klan as positive or negative, Duke has been one of the rare candidates to openly stand for such Satanic ideals as cessation of support for societal parasites and the fostering of a eugenic approach to government support programs.

It is not surprising that Duke claims publicly to be a Christian, yet his goals are hardly consistent with that religion's philosophyof altruism that has lead us to the sad state of affairs that exists in the U.S. today.

Though Duke lost his bid for the governorship of Louisiana, the statistics generated by this election are quite intriguing. 55% of whites voted for him, and these people were generally from low- to middle-income families. Those who voted for his opponent were non-white voters, and the wealthy whites. Of course the pollsters were very careful not to explain what percentage of non-white voters are in which family income categories. Are you surprised?

It would appear that the folks who supported Duke were the people who have the most to lose by supporting the altruism generated policies of welfare and affirmative action. Those who are sucking the lifeblood from the middle-class through participation in these programs certainly had to try and stop Duke to maintain their gravy train. The wealthy, who preach their vile humanitarian creed that calls for supporting those who should naturally be left to perish, find plenty of loopholes to protect their incomes from serving the policies that they advocate. Thus, the middle-class is left to pay for a philosophy that has been foisted on them which they must realize needs to be consciously rejected.

What I find to be truly fascinating is that Duke won 39% of the votes - over 701,000 people voted for him. In an age when the slightest indiscretion *imputed* to a candidate can get him laughed out of an election, Duke got a hefty show of support even with his clearly documented past as a Ku Kluxer and Nazi! He was not simply rumored to have done these things, oh no. There is footage of him in brown shirt garb and wearing his Klan robes. This material was naturally used with gleeful vigor by Duke's opponent, who had little that was positive to recommend himself. Yet Duke managed to not only stay in the election but get that 39%. This is a most important fact to



be considered. It demonstrates that even affiliation with such popular hobgoblins will not prevent a candidate from being able to capture the imagination of his true constituency by dealing with crucial issues.

Mr. Duke is delightfully honest in all his positions, except for his politically correct embracing of Christianity. However, their are many factions in the extremist right who claim to find Christian reasons for their positions. This is foolish of them, as they must eventually dump the flaccid slave religion of the Nazarene should they wish to have an integrated philosophy to support their political endeavors, as should Duke.

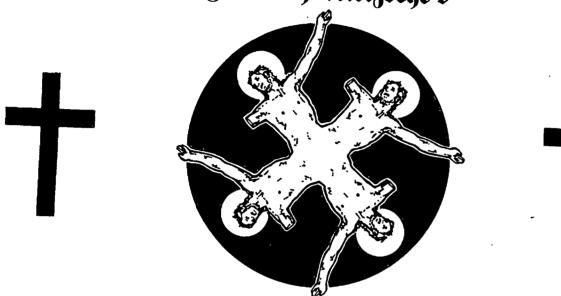
Let us see if this is a sign for the next decade. The time is here for the middle-class, who can no longer even achieve the levels of security that their parents held, to reject the altruistic doctrine of supporting those who refuse to support themselves. The welfare system has created a climate of disgenics wherein the parasites reproduce at will, paid for by the middle-class who can no longer afford to have their own children. The public schools have degenerated to standardless mockeries, where it is no longer even safe to send one's children, in their rush to accept those who don't even value education. People like Duke have revived the idea of meritocracy, of subsidies for the intelligent and productive to reproduce, of rewarding effort and leaving the lazy with that which they deserve: nothing! Let us hope that he has opened the door for new candidates who can futher these principles.

We know that the bleeding-heart altruists are running scared. They no longer see extremists as a necessary outlet for tension, to be ridiculed as buffoons. Look at what efforts were made to silence Tom Metzger, a man who speaks truths that make the "humanists" squirm, since there is a receptive audience. Will the populace embrace a social-Darwinist approach, despite the entrenched powers' opposition? This election has brought national attention to these issues which shall not be easily dismissed. Keep watching!

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THEBUACKERUAME 55 FALUMINTER XXVI

itual Equipment: All the Right Stuff

by A. Toplin

ON THOSE ALL-TOO-RARE occasions when I have the privilege of spending quality time with a roomful of Satanists, one topic that sometimes comes up is the first Satanic ritual any us ever performed. With secretive smiles of satisfaction, a Satanist will relate the incident moment by moment; it was an important step never to be forgotten. "And it worked!" they all say. But it was usually a last-minute thing; often, an individual will finish reading *The Satanic Bible* and immediately want to try his or her hand at Satanic magic. So what did *you* use as your first ritual equipment?

I was only a teenager, short on cash and short on time alone in our house while my family was away. I knew I couldn't do a midnight ritual; my father slept too lightly and I planned on doing a lot of emoting. So I waited on tenterhooks until they all went on an afternoon shopping trip, then got to work

First I tacked my corduroy bedspreads over the windows of my room to keep out all that unsightly daylight. Then I cleared my desk and began covering it with any items of black clothing I could find, as a black altar cloth was way beyond my budget and more importantly, my reach as a suburban teenager sans wheels; they don't sell 'em at K-Mart. Next, I dug up a little brass bell from India that I'd bought in a head shop the year before and polished it up. It tinkled rather un-Satanically but would have to do. Then I raided my father's bar and came up with a pretty, long-stemmed wine glass to serve as my chalice. I stopped off in the kitchen and took Mom's serrated bread knife, rejecting my little brother's toy sword because I wasn't sure how it would hold up when I held it near the candle flame -- and how would I explain melting or scorching it? As for candles, I had managed to buy a couple of black tapers in the local supermarket; I was to find to my chagrin that they were only coated with black wax, and were white at the core. Yuck! I continued undaunted.

The sigil of Baphomet for my western wall was the hardest. There were no occult supply stores, catalogs or *Prints of Darkness* for me in those days, and anyway, I wouldn't have had the do-re-mi. It was possible to order a beautiful Baphomet plaque from the Church of Satan at that time, but I had no concept of a Church of Satan; I had read *The Satanic Bible* and was now a Satanist, as far as I was concerned. Anyway, I had worked very carefully with a pencil, a good, strong light, and the top of a jar of Maxwell House Coffee to reproduce a four-

inch diameter Baphomet on white paper; I tacked it to my wall, and was ready to begin.

I don't need to tell you how powerful that ritual was, or how it changed my life forever. What I want to point out, is that I did it on a shoestring, with whatever I had around the house, and it worked as it was intended in spite of the modest nature of my equipment. Since then, my chalice, sword and sigil are much more splendid; a cloth of rich black velvet falls to the floor over my altar, and my robe is of black gabardine and leather. And I've continued to practice Satanic magic to good effect, both alone and in the company of many others. But no ritual has been more effective than that first one, proving to me that the right setting for any ritual, the right tools, are whatever is right for your heart at that time, and right at your hand.

More than any group of people I know, except perhaps for children, Satanists place great value and affection on inanimate objects and possessions: books, records, toys, objets d'art, cars, weapons, musical instruments, etc. They -- we -- seem to understand on a primal level what forces, vibrations, emotions with which we can imbue our much-loved and often-used objects and tools. Many non-Satanist adults appear to have bought into the consumer, media-driven throw-it-away-and-buy-new society we inhabit. Consequently, a "used" gift from one Satanist to another is often the more highly-prized. There's no way an old, modest but much loved ritual item can "fail" because it is less ornate or somehow "un-Satanic" due to its origins; every child knows that his own tattered blanket can fend off the fiercest closet monster, especially if it's the blanket a beloved parent has given him.

Christians, particularly Catholics, have convinced their followers that "holiness" is something only God dispenses and that certain objects, people and places can be "blessed" by priests and become thereby more effective totems for use in prayer. There are no Satanic blessings to bestow, except those we give ourselves; we are our own gods. Consequently, no one can sell you "the right stuff," or the right tools for your rituals. *You* make them right, and what you start with can be very modest.

Right now we're very fortunate that black has become a fashionable color for almost every area of home decor (gee, I wonder why?). Black sheets, both satin and percale, make great altar cloths, as do black tablecloths. Black candles are everywhere these days; Hallmark even sells black birthday candles! (Part of their Over-The-Hill collection.) Beautiful swords and cups may be purchased from Museum Replicas (Box 840, Conyers, GA 30207), The Magickal Childe (35 West 19 St., New York, NY 10011 -- also stocks all Satanic

FHEBLACK-FLAME 56-FALL WINTER-XXV

books, candles), Abyss (34 Cottage St., Easthampton, MA 01027) and International Imports (236 West Manchester Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90003).

But I suggest you also look around you and make use of items already near and dear. They'll make your magic more personal, and thereby, more powerful.

THE REVOLUTION!

We stand alone amongst the ruins and gaze out upon the tides of time,
Where a great battle took place, now
Remains the corpses of fallen doctrines.

I recall a triumphant joust where the Knights knew not of fear but were bound Together by forged courage.

With a single thrust of conviction
All were present to be counted as loyal.
The tone was set and a trumpet blast
Echoed through the endless voids of
Fabrication itself.

As the siege wore on the sound of the Broadsword could be heard splitting the Philosophies, and age-old dogmas that Disintegrated into dust, thus creating A world without guilt.

So now the knights of Satan sit around A table made of pure silver, to reminisce Over the great battles that took place Within the minds of a forgotten time that Still swells in the hearts of mere mortals.

To this day they still recite their Allegiance.......

Shemhamforash! Hail Satan!

Doug Richards KNIGHTS OF SATAN

BEAST OF THE FIELD

Hate not the beast of the field Show compassion to those who are deserving For the creature you despise is just like you One with nature, an animal of the Earth

His flesh and his bones are like yours
He accepts you as the beast all humans are
Most often Man is the most dangerous of animals
He kills without a reason or cause

Man is the beast of the field untamed In his appetite for pleasures & desires His ego is the thing that gives him life So curse not the one who fights to survive

Go forth and comfort this divine creature Nourish his imperfections & animal instinct For these traits make him just like yourself A creature who revels in life, the beautiful Beast of the field

Karl Lee Harvey

FEEDING GROUND

Sky so blue like blood before it touches air caressing the day away untill there is only the dark leather of night. Feeding gound begins to hum. Dressed in black bearers of truth march proudly into Darkstar castle. walls give sensuous sanctuary to higher lifeforms raised up to nobility by life's scorching fire. A bookcase opens stone steps lead downwards. All thoughts centered and powered. All stand like warriors before the altar, with ringing of the bell dimensional gates are opened. Shadows shoot out from angles charging the air with their dark presence. Satanic bodies with hearts pounding. Eyes glowing with the spirit of survival. Satanic bodies Satanic minds unlocked sending out power into the dark abyss. Ringing of the bell majestic shadows depart. A bookcase wall is closed. And in the darkness a laugh rings out in merriment.

Arturo Soto

THE BLACK FLAME 57—FALL WINTER XXVI

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THE BLACK FLAME 39 FALLAWINGER XXVI

PARKS - What's Going On Out There by Peter H. Gilmore

WE ARE FREQUENTLY treated to evidence that some inlividuals have been bitten by the "organization" bug and have decided to go through the effort of founding some new Church, Temple, Order, Grotto - what have you. Such endeavors usualby don't last very long, having taken up much work/time and given little pleasure in return for energy expended.

The Church of Satan's Satanic Bunco Sheet gives you ammunition for examining and evaluating such new groups. Recently several groups have come to our attention that recognize the pioneering work of our High Priest and our organization, yet they have their own particular interests upon which to focus. While the Church of Satan neither endorses nor condemns these groups, we observe their development to see if they will make any contributions to the movement of Satanism. Here is some information about them presented in their own words. Caveat emptor!

KNIGHTS OF SATAN

"Behold, witches and warlocks! All followers of the Left Hand Path, arise! We are the Knights of Satan and are looking for certain individuals who practice the forbidden arts and embrace Satanic philosophies. We pursue the same global outcome as the Church of Satan. If you feel you are of like mind and represent the Satanic talents, write for more information. Let's open wide the gates of Hell for all to see! Shemhamforash! Hail Satan!"

Contact: Knights of Satan, Fiddlers Green Postal Outlet, P.O. Box 81137, Ancaster, Ontario, Canada, L9G 4X1

TEMPLE OF ELITE

From their information pamphlet:

"The Temple of Elite is an international initiatory spirituoreligio-social Order dedicated to the god of this world as he expresses himself in both masculine and feminine forms through Natural Laws that define the individuality of the two sexes. Formerly known as the Temple of Nepthys, the Temple of Elite is a powerfully invigorating, uplifting and liberating Spirituo-Materialist Path designed to restore, preserve and encourage the development of the higher self or soul concerning the Rules of the Chase. Elitists seek to live the Luciferian lifestyle - indulging in and enjoying progressive prosperity, sexual power, selective love toward grateful individuals, luxury and the pursuit of happiness. The process by which this Self-evolution is realized, apprehended and exalted is called *Sexem* (pronounced "Sekhem"), the ancient Egyptian word meaning: to embrace. Elitists seek to embrace the Self with pride, dignity, and dominion over one's own life through effective application of the knowledge of the Red Arts."

Their focus is on creating a social scene wherein Satanists may gather for parties, study groups, and other activities. They also offer a contact list for those seeking like-minded folks with whom to correspond. Contact: Temple of Elite, P.O. Box 1528, San Rafael, CA 94915.

1.HE TEMPLE OF THE LEFT HAND PATH

"The Church of Satan is described as' the ultimate underground,' an experience that few ever savor. Now reaching into the 27th year of the Age of Satan, the effects of our founding father's words are coming to bear. Already, representatives of the Temple of the Left Hand Path, in an attempt to guage public receptiveness, have entered into lectures and classes in the Northwest. The response has been overwhelming. Invited back time and again, we feel that now the time is ripe.

"We recognize that not all, indeed few, will ever come to hear the voice that beckons from within, that rages on in a silent scream to claim oneself as one's own God. Of those few who do, fewer still ever find the 'Underground.' Amidst the confusion of who is who, and what is what, we present the Temple of the Left Hand Path. We represent a gathering point where one may begin to discern the differences between the elements that exist, True Satanism, Antinomian Gnosticism, Thelema, Luciferianism, Humanism, and others.

"We offer one the choice to make an informed decision, and to chose whether they acknowledge themselves as a Power unto themselves, or to join the mindless herd. We are willing to accept the divergent elements which composite that ray of the spectrum of philosophies and 'religion' known as the Left Hand Path. We stand to work with those that exhibit responsibility, cast aside illusion, those who bow to no other man, who choose to be their own master.

"The Temple of the Left Hand Path presents to these, the unrefined elite, the catalysts necessary to their advancement: lectures and classes, a predominantly Satanic Library with extensive occult texts, and the presence of other Gods. Not so much a sanctuary as a Fortress, we seek to coordinate efforts to

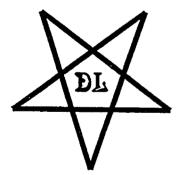
subtly effect society through articulated efforts in mainstream journalism. In these difficult economic times, we endeavor to support our Brethren through preferential purchasing from their establishments, or subtle support in their professions.

"The Temple of the Left hand Path is not directly associated with the Church of Satan; neither do we offer false pretenses to this effect. We desire to work with the interests of the Church of Satan, with The Black Flame. Where the Church of Satan is primarily 'underground,' we build our ever expanding Fortress above the ground, a tribute to High Priest LaVey. Our role is much like a shredding machine, ripping illusions to shreds, stopping for those who have mettle.

"Our present area of operations includes Eastern Washington as our focal point, with activities scheduled for other areas in the Northwest and West Coast. For additional information concerning The Temple of the Left Hand Path, please contact Fra.'. Li'l Abaddon, W. 507 Indiana, Spokane, WA 99205."

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VICTORY

The test of strength is come and gone; The final battle's blood lies drying. The one who rose to challenge me Is ground into bitter mud.

He fought and raged, but knelt at last; One man, mired in the bloody swamp, To beg for quarter, and to rue The hour he schemed to strike me down.

For I wield nameless forces dark, Bequeathed from Templar, warlock, witch; The Star whose fire consumes the cross, The sword whose cutting edge is thought.

All you who dream you'll fetter me With chains of iron or of lies, Behold his fate and leave me be; Revenge, not mercy, rules my heart.

My beaten foeman draws my plow, His forfeit lands bring forth my crops, His home is kindling for my hearth, His wife and daughter bear my sons.

The sweetest tonic for the soul The purest pleasure man can know The greatest, as Khan Chingiz spake, Of all life's joys is Victory.

Wolf

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The Call to Great Pazuzu, God of the West Wind (A Call to Autumn)

O, Great Pazuzu, god of the West wind, I call on you to come upon us once again, with you, you bring autumn and with autumn, you bring death, death to the leaves of the trees that have grown too long upon the earth.

Let them be naked, bare and cold, their roots are not dug in deep enough and are brittle and old.

These trees of religious hypocrisy are dropping seeds, they drop them because these seeds are black, we are the black seeds cast out and now, we feed, we feed on their roots as we prepare for our attack, Pazuzu's wind will cause them to die, roots inplace, and Great Pazuzu himself will look them in the face.

Throughout the coming cold, dark winter war,
They will be defeated and we will win,
We will accomplish what we've been fighting for,
just as sure as great Pazuzu flys in with the West wind,
then Lucifer's light will shine above the din,
and all of our leaves and flowers will blossom
in the spring.

Scott Stets



HUMWAWA THE JUST

by

Timothy Patrick Butler

CHURCH OF SATAN

FOR INFORMATION: send a self-addressed, stamped envelope or four IRCs to: P.O. Box 210082, San Francisco, CA 94121

