

Alternate TAKES

Books • Film • Music • Resources

Guardian UK

Number one source of international news in English, with good US coverage. Web pages are print-friendly, so you can practically assemble your own daily paper. No US paper compares — www.guardian.co.uk

Earth First! Journal

More international activist news than ordinary mortals can possibly read. Print edition published eight times a year. EF!J sets the standard for grassroots publications. \$25/year to Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Or visit www.earthfirstjournal.org

Indy Media Centers

Up to the moment, locally-based activist news from around the world. When the action is breaking, there are no better online sites. Their flagship site has links to dozens of local sites. Visit www.indymedia.org

Witchvox

Witches' Voice is the top networking site for Witches and Pagans online. Everything from religious liberties to the latest local ritual. Events are user-posted and come from every corner of Paganism. An inspiring site to browse. Visit www.witchvox.com

RQ.org

RQ.org carries photo-features and reports on grassroots activism and Pagan events, as well as reports on Witchcamps and other Reclaiming events. Our back-issue archives have dozens of magical and activist features. RQ.org's pages are print-friendly, so you can read offline too.

BOOKS

A History of Western Astrology, by Jim Tester. Sober, skeptical, and fairly well-documented, Tester's work traces astrology from its ancient focus on "determining propitious moments for actions" to today's psychologically-based charts and signs.

The Invisible Mountain, by Carolina De Robertis. A deeply engaging story about three generations of Uruguayan/Argentine women and their families. Intelligent, inspiring, and heartfelt.

Green Egg Omelette: An Anthology from the Legendary Pagan Journal, edited by Oberon Zell-Ravenheart. A collection of classic texts from one of the great modern pagan publications.

The Trial and Death of Socrates, by Plato (CD/audiobook). This extraordinary three-dialog compilation brings to life Socrates' final teachings before his execution (well, Plato's version, anyway). Philosophy has seldom been so funny or entertaining.

Kissing The Limitless, by T. Thorn Coyle. A guidebook for self-liberation

through magic, offering a system of spiritual practice to tap our divine natures. Designed for the advanced magical practitioner, *Kissing the Limitless* can be used with diverse spiritual traditions. For this and other publications, visit www.thorncoyle.com

White as Bone, Red as Blood, by Cerridwen Fallingstar. An historical novel set in 12th-century Japan, as Seiko Fujiwara, priestess of Inari, the deity of abundance and sorcery, explores the shamanic traditions of Shinto.

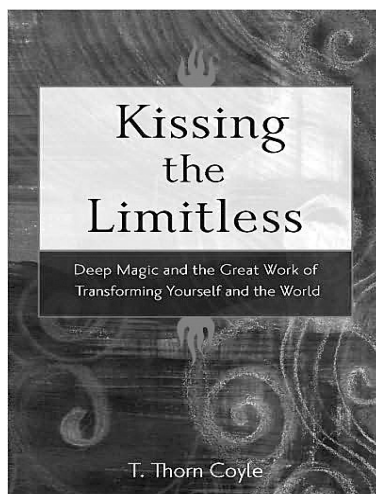
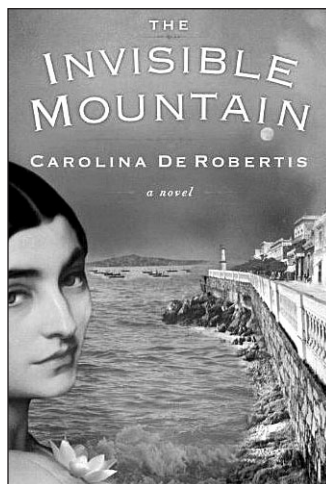
God is a Verb: Kabbalah and the Practice of Mystical Judaism, by Rabbi David A Cooper. An invigorating book, dynamically marrying Eastern

and Western approaches to spirituality. Cooper is a warm, generous, earthy, clear-thinking, and radical teacher and writer.

The Intimacy of Death and Dying, by Claire Leimbach, Trypheyne McShane and Zenith Virago. Well structured, relevant, and moving guide to the practical, emotional, and spiritual aspects of the journey of death and dying.

The Spell of Rosette: Book One of Quantum Enchantment, by Kim Falconer. An exciting, very pagan fantasy that plays with Chaos theory, the Dark Goddess, and Earth's future, as well as the odd temple cat.

Aphrodite's Magic: Celebrate and Heal Your Sexuality, by Jane Meredith (coming from O Books in April 2010). Journey through a seven-layered spell as you reweave your sexual and feminine self and create a magical girdle dedicated to the Goddess.



& More...

Animal Vegetable Miracle, by Barbara Kingsolver. I've always wanted to farm but believed it impossible. Now I know it's not. Read this, you may find eating locally easier than you dreamed.

Women, Wisdom & Dreams: the Light of the Feminine Soul, by Anne Scott. This insightful book into the realm of dreams reads like a series of journal entries and meditations. Simply reading a few pages at bedtime stimulates the Dream World.

What To Do When Dreams Go Bad: A Practical Guide to Nightmares, by Anne Hill. A practical guide to nightmares and transforming them into creative allies. Advanced techniques include dream re-entry, re-scripting, and lucid dreaming.

MUSIC/RECORDINGS

Five Classic Alt-CDs of the 2000s

1. The Libertines - *Up the Bracket*
2. Lali Puna - *Scary World Theory*
3. Jean Grae - *Jeanius*
4. Babushambles - *Down in Albion*
5. Beirut - *The Gulag Orkestar*

Spirit Dancing: Radical Faerie Ritual Chants, by Shane Hill & Heron Saline. Two male voices and a drum create simple, moving arrangements. Includes pagan classics plus Radical Faerie chants for classes and rituals. Contact heron3@mindspring.com

I'm Back, by Meri St. Mary. Folk punk — think Velvet Underground/Nico. Four autobiographical tunes that will rivet the listener with real and raw power.

Box of Danger, by The Firesign Theatre. This 4-CD collection of Firesign's Nick Danger episodes is a great introduction to the troupe. More than comedy, Firesign is truly a Theatre of the Psyche.

more reviews on next page

Contributors: Jane Meredith; Ortha Spingard; Nicolette Nasr; Leah Spinrad; Sarah Campbell; Flame; Luke Hauser; George Franklin; Natalie Mogg

Consensus for Cities

A forthcoming book by C.T. Butler

Reclaiming-tradition groups often make decisions by consensus, and may be familiar with C.T. Butler's pamphlet: *On Conflict and Consensus*.

His upcoming *Consensus for Cities* both deepens and broadens participatory decision making — to cities, community groups, and families.

Don't let the title mislead you — consensus for cities is only one of several valuable ideas and discussions therein.

Cities lays out a detailed structure for consensus decision making for up to 100,000 people. If you want to know how many hours per week you'd spend and in what type of meetings, it provides a thorough and surprisingly tolerable estimate. The book also describes a parallel mediation structure for disputes which are not easily resolved through the decision-making structure.

Cities' discussion of and design for healthy volunteer-oriented community groups feels immediately relevant, useful, and democratically respectful. Other nonprofit management literature often focuses on hierarchical management and boards to the detriment of volunteer power, intelligence, and energy. If you have or are starting a community group, this book is worth reading.

Is the "family of the future" structured like an affinity group? Why might adopting consensus actually increase conflict? What is the psychology behind each formal consensus step?

Butler deepens his earlier consensus work by addressing these and other questions. Charts, definitions, and facilitation techniques are clear and useful for consensus practitioners.

Consensus for Cities is soon to be available from Food Not Bombs publishing, where you can also find a downloadable version of *On Conflict and Consensus*. Visit www.consensus.net.

— reviewed by Pablito / image by Rini Templeton



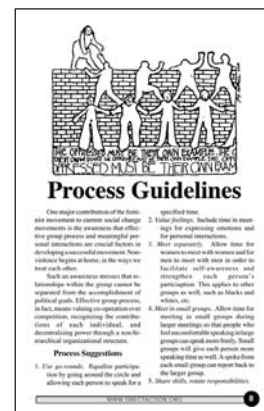
Consensus & Feminist Process

Free download at RQ.org

This 16-page handbook, distilled from direct action handbooks, offers short essays and pointers for small (and not-so-small) groups.

Sections cover nonviolence in action and in our relationships, consensus and group process, affinity groups, working amid diversity, and confronting oppression.

Available for free download at:
www.ReclaimingQuarterly.org/web/handbook/





The Source, by Brook. Two hands, one guitar — this acoustic-instrumental journey is both inspiring and entertaining. From blues to folk to flamenco, the CD combines virtuoso guitar technique with heartfelt musical meditations.

relations in America today.

Bright Star. Jane Campion is unflinchingly emotional in her portrayal of John Keats' last romance. Overwhelmingly beautiful and daring in its intensity.

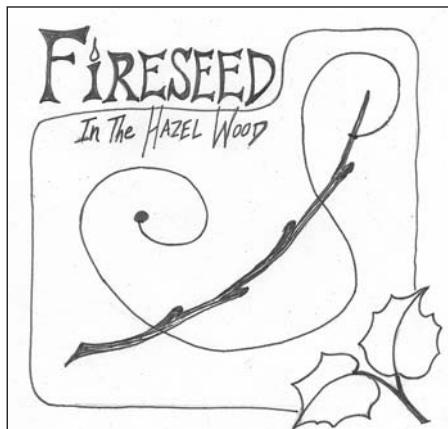
Ponyo. Another masterpiece from Hayao Miyazaki and Studio Ghibli in

Japan. Miyazaki's deep love of Nature, Peace, and the Feminine Divine is imbued on every gorgeous inch of this film.

Roomsound, by Califone. Experimental post-rock from Chicago. An enchanting pastiche of blues and folk fragments that never quite reduces to a simple set of songs.

Live from New York City 1967, by Simon & Garfunkel. Beautiful acoustic renditions of the duo's early hits, minus the rock-band treatment of the better-known studio versions. Great for singing along!

In the Hazel Wood, by Fireseed. New Englanders Crystalline, Daniel, and friends share traditional acoustic Celtic and Appalachian dance tunes as well as a couple of their original songs.



FILM/TELEVISION/VIDEO

Towelhead, 2007, screenplay and directed by Alan Ball. Don't let so-so reviews put you off. *Towelhead* is an intelligent and disturbing look at the complexity of race-

Children of the Stones. A seven-part British TV series from 1977, filmed at Avebury stone circle and village. Mysterious Neolithic stones, chanting, time-shifting, psychometry, ley lines, black hole... Good stuff.

Twenty Years Ago: a Vintage Reclaiming Newsletter

Reclaiming Newsletter, Issue No. 35 ~ Summer 1989

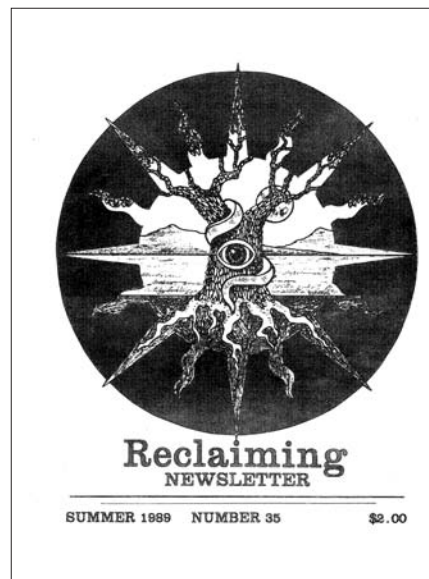
Feature articles included:

- “My First Blood Ritual” by Aurora
- “A Quick Quiz on Nonviolence,” by Anne Hill
- “Tenth Anniversary Spiral Dance”
- “Meeting the Queer God,” by Sparky T. Rabbit
- “The Wild Blue Yonder of Religious Freedom,” by Vibra
- “Prevention Point Needle Exchange”

Advertisers included local magic shops Ancient Ways, Tool of Magic, and Sword & Rose, as well as the 1989 MerryMeet Gathering.

Classes included Elements of Magic, Pentacle for Women & Men (*sic*), Abortion and Feminist Spirituality, and Michigan Witchcamp.

Reclaiming Newsletter No. 58 was produced by the RQ production cell's distant ancestors, whom we honor here: Anne, Rose, Sophia, Karen, Rosemary, Pandora, Kim, Rhabyt, Cam, and Susan. Cover by Sophia Sparks.



Coming soon — complete RQ Archives
www.reclaimingquarterly.org/archives/