

Goddess Phone

From: Xina (xina@netins.net)

Newsgroups: alt.religion.wicca, alt.pagan, alt.magick, alt.satanism, talk.religion.newage

Subject: What We Need Is a Sense of Humour!

Date: Thu, 10 Oct 1996 10:24:29 -0500

If we continue to take ourselves so seriously, we forget to see the humorous side of life, so in that vein I am sharing an exchange between a fellow Native American friend of mine (Fred is Seneca, I'm Tsalagi).

"What these New Agers and Wiccans and Pagans *dont* get is that when you spin in a circle and ask Spirit or the Goddess for whatever, Spirit has got a sense of humour. Its going to give you WHATEVER and let you deal with that!"

- Fred Hutchinson, Seneca Holy Man

Fred and I had this whole exchange going:

Spirit: Goddess' phone, Spirit of the Goddess Speaking...

Newager: Um Hi! I just did a Ritual last night, but well, my car fell apart and my boss fired me and I just got audited by the IRS. Im sure thats not what I asked for in Ritual Last night! You wanna explain all this!?

Spirit: Well, you asked for "Whatever Spirit wanted for my growth and potential." Well, I decided to give you some growth potential.

Newager: Well, couldnt you have rather given me the magick lotto numbers! I mean this isnt exactly comfortable!

Spirit: Hmmmmm lottery....OH wait here it is!! Yeah we gave the 25 Million to the Satanist this month! A really cool guy! He even said 'thanks! Well, To "Satan" or "Set" but hey, its all the same universe! Now thats what I call naming it and claiming it!!

Newager: WHAT!?! How could you !? A SATANIST!?! They are evil people!! I mean like they are against everything "good"! Spirit, thats not fair!! *whine*

Spirit: Hey this guy was very specific in his ritual. He asked to get the lottery numbers right, he followed his instincts on the numbers and went out and actually *bought* the ticket, I mean he DID participate and follow the rules. Besides, he has a life and a family too, you think you whitelight guys are the only ones who have lives?! Sheesh!! You didnt even bother to go out and buy a ticket! IF you had you would have split the prize money with him! See what happens when you dont participate!?

Newager: I dont get it!

Spirit: Yah! No kidding!!!! *laugh*

Newager: I mean I follow every rule of the 'enlightened' and fulfilled people before me in order to be abundant and do it 'right' and You keep throwing this stuff in my way! And now some Satanist wins what I affirmed should have been mine! This is so confusing!!!

Spirit: Whats so confusing: You a No buy da ticket, you a no picka up a da lottery! You savvy!?!?

Newager: Well thanks for nothing!!

Spirit: but you got your potential for your growth!!! Come on!!

Why Chaos Magicians Are Such Assholes

An essay by the Little Sister of the Order

Date: Mon, 19 Jun 2000 05:39:14 -0700

From: Max K

Newsgroups: alt.magick.chaos, alt.magick.serious, alt.magick

To: zee-list

Subject: [zee-list] Why Chaos Magicians Are Such Assholes

This essay has caused a bit of controversy, and it's meant to point out why most other magicians think that Chaos Magicians (tm) are assholes. In my experience many of them are, and often for the reasons discussed below. I, of course, am not an asshole, nor do I always wear black, have tattoos, or bait Christians. I get along quite well with my family, often wear my hair in a bun, and am as likely to read about molecular biology as Maat. Make of this what you will. It was re-edited in September of 1999.

Walking with the FireDemon, the Boy, and the Piranha Kitten through the South End of Boston, the Demon and I pick up the conversation we've had ongoing for years. It started back when he gave me my first real practical lesson in magick -- do the Middle Pillar while walking on the railroad tracks, using only the 'weight' of the pillars in your mind to affect your balance. The Demon was also the person who gave me Peter Carroll's Liber Kaos, where I discovered a name for what I already was. He matters to me.

We are discussing magick as always, and he is telling me he's reached a point where ritual magick has no place in his life. "All the mucking about on the Astral just doesn't do it for me any more. I'm only interested in Doing, in reaching goals on the physical. Chaos magick only looks to me like you've given all the usual ceremonial stuff funny names. The only difference that I can see in Chaos Magicians is in the attitude."

I agree, thinking of my own attitude, that the core of Chaos Magick is deconstruction of ritual to essence, of personalizing what works for me. "Yes," I say, "the attitude is different."

"Yep," he answers. "All the Chaotes I've met are assholes."

I am surprised.

He goes on, "What's the point? I mean, I can kind of get behind having a goal of enlightening all mankind, but what's Chaos Magick for?"

"It isn't for anything. It comes with no belief system. It's just a set of techniques and tools --"

"Which aren't any different from Ceremonial, when you get down to it," he insists, interrupting.

-- and of approaches to techniques and tools," I finish. Then addressing his interruption: "It's entirely about manifestation on the physical. Look, what makes magick work is pretty much the same, whether you take the psychological model or the bastardized physics model. But it's Black Magick because it doesn't require you to not do magick for your own material benefit."

"But what's the point?" he asks again. "It's all juvenile 'me, me, me' crap."

I remind him of our discussion about painting, and Dali's point that if you have the skill to paint like a Master, you can paint anything you want. "Pollock could actually paint a figure or scene if he chose, yet after him there were imitators who only knew the abstract, had not the skills, and brought only juvenile sensibilities to the canvas. The result was also crap.

"Similarly," I continue, "there are aspects of the deconstructing done from the Chaos stance that are no different from a 'school' of art. There will always be hack followers who don't understand what they're supposedly deconstructing. Doesn't mean we're all selfish jerks."

"Maybe," he grudgingly admits.

"You sound like you're getting old."

"I am not!" Then he cackles, "I don't need glasses; I only see better with them on. But seriously, it's just ridiculous to me."

I recall the night before when he argued in another context that if someone believing they were Cleopatra reincarnate helped them to get through the day, "Then alright." I drop it. He's an asshole, too.

But he's got a point.

Why are Chaos Magicians such assholes?

"The first stage of seeing through the game can be a shocking enlightenment that leads either to a weary cynicism or Buddhism. The second stage of actually applying the insight to oneself can destroy the illusion of the soul and create a magician."

That's a quote from Peter Carroll, Pope Pete in Chaos Magick circles. It is the single most intelligent thing I've ever read from him.

Most Chaotes, particularly young ones, are convinced they see through the game, but they don't necessarily know the rules they claim to be breaking. Still they're convinced of their own superiority. When you're convinced of your own superiority, yet still young and/or insecure, it's easy to show defensiveness by mockery and derision. Such mocking can bolster your internal sense of status, putting yourself above others.

My analogy for magical systems is that writers can tell many stories about the same aspect of the Human Condition, regardless of where the story is set. The details of plot and character make each version of the tale unique, but if the theme is the same, if the message conveyed is the same, then why get hung up on the details?

To some people the details are very important, even sacred. The first flush of understanding the details for what they are (window dressing) often engenders an arrogance that comes out in the form of ridicule. "What?! You actually *believe* that stuff?" It's a rude attitude, and thus Chaos Magicians are, rightly, known as assholes.

They mock.

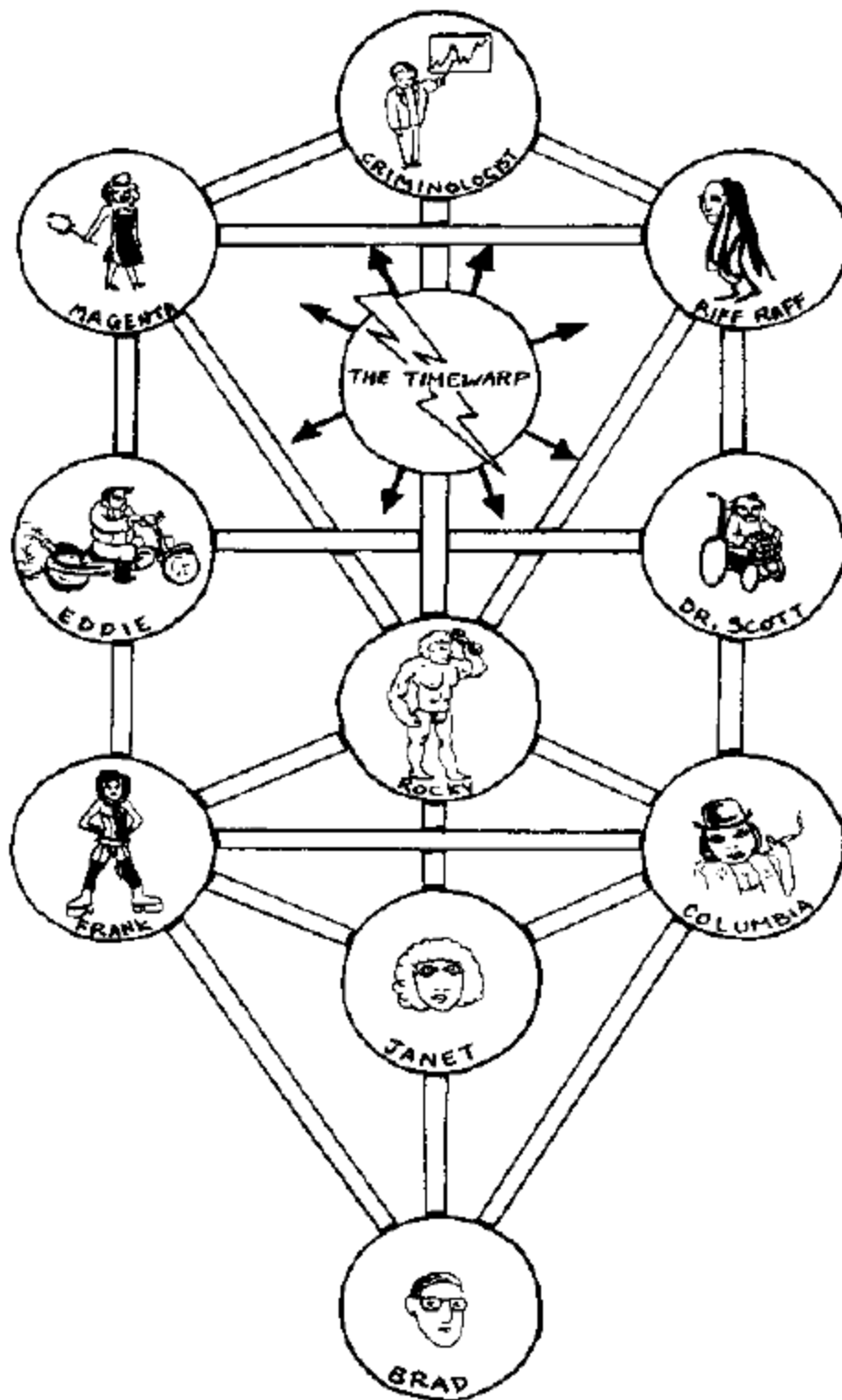
But there is another meaning for the word mock, as in making a mock-up, a model that is not the real thing. That definition also applies, because often in using their eclectic techniques, people who call themselves Chaotes have no idea what they're really doing. It is like the facades of a town built for a movie -- there is sometimes nothing behind it. Arrogance without substance is also a trait that will earn the name "asshole."

I'd like to think I've outgrown this tendency, but there are things I still struggle with.

During Mass, whether Episcopalian or Gnostic Catholic, I don't say the creed because I try not to lie, ever. In some views, I am mocking the rite by refusing to participate whole-heartedly. In my view, I would be mocking the rite by saying words I don't believe. Yet it could be said that I would be a better Chaos Magician (tm) if I could subsume my critical mind and fervently *believe* for the duration of the Mass, such that the Creed would be TRUE when I said it.

But...

Every time I'm convinced I know something, or start spouting a belief system, especially in such a way that I might be able to state a creed, I start looking for its foundation in my psyche. When I find it, I break out the jackhammers.



Fotamecus: Viral Time Compression/Expansion Servitor

by Fenwick Rysen
27 June 1997

"What is time, but a variety of one thing?"
---Austin Osman Spare

History

Fotamecus was originally a sigil created in spring of 1996 when I was showing the Mad Prophet some sigilization techniques. The Mad Prophet kept the paper used for the demonstration and began using it when he was driving, the sigil's intent being to "Force Time Into Compression." Ruben, a friend of both me and the the Mad Prophet, was brought in on this, and two people began directing energy at it.

Fotamecus crossed the Sigil/Servitor line after both Ruben and the Mad Prophet attended a Metallica concert in Sacramento at which Quinn is said to have smiled evilly when looking at the crowd and muttered "Free gnosis..." before opening himself to channel and becoming a one-man-mosh. On the drive back, both Ruben and the Mad Prophet dumped the excess energy into Fotamecus and made it home in half the time it should have taken.

I was informed and intrigued, and on the Death Valley Pilgrimage (three days in a van with seven chaos mages) Fotamecus was put to the test: The group directed a great amount of energy at him to help shorten the time to drive from Santa Rosa (north of San Francisco) to Death Valley.

On the first leg of the trip everyone looked at the clock before entering Vallejo. Fifteen minutes later we had travelled almost fifty miles, through the MacArthur Maze (the most dizzying interchange of highways known to man), in the Thanksgiving traffic. The second car with us, which we lost immediately preceding this, had continued to drive undaunted behind us. They never stopped. We wasted 45 minutes in Livermore before getting back on the road and coincidentally running into them again.

There was only one side effect.

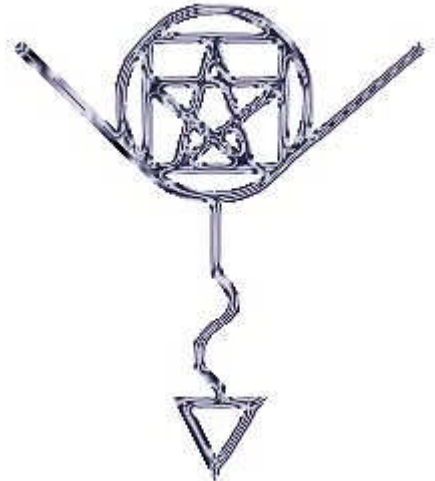
The last three exits on I-5 before Bakersfield, which should have taken us 15 minutes to pass, took closer to an hour. For time compressed, time was expanded. For us, expanded on perhaps one of the most boring stretches of highway in California.

At this point, several of my friends and I sat down and did some work on Fotamecus, making him a viral servitor: He could spawn copies of himself. We wired these together into a network so that if one compresses time but doesn't want to expand it, it passes off the duty for expansion to another Fotamecus servitor in the network. They all work together, and the more copies out there, the better it works.

Sigils

Fotamecus was originally a sigil which then became conscious and turned into a servitor. Modifications were made to the original sigil to make it a viral servitor. The Fotamecus viral servitor sigil appears at right.

The word "Fotamecus" itself is the original mantric sigil from which the above graphical sigil was created. In addition to focusing visually on the graphical sigil, one can focus auditorily by chanting the mantric sigil "fo-tuh-meh-kus".



Instructions for Use

Spawning and using a new copy:

1. Extend thine forefinger
2. Either drawing with a physical medium or by tracing in the air in front of you, trace the sigil of Fotamecus. At the same time you draw the sigil, visualize a beam of octarine light shooting from your third eye to trace the sigil with your finger. It should leave an octarine copy of the sigil glowing where your finger inscribed it.
3. Use Fotamecus by focusing on the sigil before you, sending it as much or as little energy as you like, along with intent to compress or expand time. And, as always, the "Garbage in, garbage out" principle applies, so give him the energy that he needs.
4. Instruct Fotamecus as to what he should do reciprocally with stretching/expanding time. For example, if he expands time for you, ask him to contract it the next time you drive somewhere. If you contracted time, ask him to expand it the next time you wake up, giving you more time to rise. Or the easiest thing to do is ask him to pass off the expansion/compression to another servitor in the viral chain, letting someone else who needs it use it.
5. Sit back and see what happens!

Petitioning help from a distant Fotamecus servitor:

1. Calm the mind for a moment.
2. Send out a call in your mind, asking for Fotamecus to come and help you, telling him briefly whether you need time expanded or compressed.
3. Continue doing what you were doing, and see if it works.

Notes

- When using Fotamecus, it is easiest just to send energy along with intent to either compress or expand time. Fotamecus is fairly intelligent and takes care of the rest.

- After charging, don't worry about it. Fotamecus seems to work best when you forget he's even there working away. Most effects are noticed afterwards: "Hey, it's only been fifteen minutes and my CD just played through twice..."
- There have been people who after working with Fotamecus have had some success in visualizations involving pulling the time stream through themselves and controlling it even better than Fotamecus. But Fotamecus seems to get a little bit pissy if you do his job better than he does, so don't expect him to work well for you if you start doing this on your own. Not that you need him any more at that point.
- Perhaps the best image to represent Fotamecus is a clock being crushed by a sledgehammer. Clocks work on the premise that time is stable and measureable. Fotamecus works on the premise that time is unstable and malleable.
- Fotamecus has a very casual, easy-going personality. His easygoing and considerate personality is probably due in great part to his parents: Seven friendly college-aged chaotes stuffed in a van for a long-haul trip from the Bay Area to Death Valley over Thanksgiving vacation in 1996. Looking at who he had to learn from while he was "growing up" (developing the early parts of his personality that were as yet unformed and left to spontaneity), it's hard to imagine he would have come out anything *but* easy-going.
- Please e-mail me any questions, comments, or interesting stories.

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intact. Questions to fenwick @ chaosmatrix . com or
to Chaos Matrix: <http://www.chaosmatrix.com>

Equations of Love

Date: Sat, 7 Jun 1997 07:14:52 -0500 (CDT)
From: Temporary Autonomous Zone (taz@suba.com)
To: zee-list
Subject: What is love?

As everyone knows:
"Possession is nine tenths of the law."
and
"Love is the law, love under will."

Therefore, love in terms of will and possession can be shown as follows:

1.

$$\text{Possession} = \frac{9 \times \text{Law}}{10} \quad \& \quad \frac{\text{Will}}{\text{Love}} = \text{Law}$$

Solve for love as follows:

2.

$$10 \times \text{Possession} = 9 \times \text{Law} \quad \& \quad \text{Will} = \text{Law} \times \text{Love}$$

3.

$$\text{Law} = \frac{10 \times \text{Possession}}{9} \quad \& \quad \text{Love} = \frac{\text{Will}}{\text{Law}}$$

4. Therefore,

$$\text{Love} = \frac{\text{Will}}{\frac{10 \times \text{Possession}}{9}}$$

5. Which can be simplified to:

$$\text{Love} = \frac{9 \times \text{Will}}{10 \times \text{Possession}}$$

Here we succinctly see what many have suspected: the more stuff you have, the less love you have. Even if Will increases at a rate equal to that of Possession, Love will still gradually erode. One will note, however, that if all Possession is discarded, Love becomes an undefined, unbounded and perfectly mysterious value which approaches infinity, as many a mystic has thought.

Therefore,

Send your possessions to:

Temple of the Ancient Zen at:

^ ^ ^
T.A.Z.
POB 268634
Chicago IL 60626-8634
USA

Chaos Magick Theory

Fra. Ratatosk, 2nd degree

Chaos Magick remains a unique discipline in the clutter of occult practices, theories and methods, which litter the landscape of modern magical endeavors. It resembles no other system because it purports to not be a system. Chaos Magic eludes the boundaries, clichés and preconceptions, which cling to every previous system of enchantment devised by man. It holds to no dogma, foists no belief or lifestyle upon the practitioner, prescribes no limits to the aspirant, and presumes no one set of beliefs is inherently better than any other set of beliefs.

Chaos Magick arises out of meta-paradigm theory. Which is to say, that everyone exists within a set of beliefs (a paradigm) and that it takes something greater (meta) to explain the parallel workings of multiple belief systems. Chaos Magick Theory, therefore is only that – a theory. It does not function as a paradigm, a set of beliefs.

An error made by many who have read the works of Peter Carroll, Phil Hine and other chaos magick authors, is to partially digest the writings of these men and then go around claiming to be a chaos magician. Nothing could hold a higher degree of inaccuracy than this fallacious claim. Upon further examination of chaos magick theory, one realizes that its core ideas themselves preclude it existing as a self-sustaining belief system. One may practice chaos magick theory within a belief system (i.e. a paradigm), one may even use the tenets of CMT to create a paradigm and then to dwell within it, however; one cannot live within a meta-paradigm. One cannot live within a theory.

So there really exists no such thing as a chaos magician per se, although, others and I will use that term in order to distinguish practitioners of CMT from other magicians. So how can you tell a chaos magician apart from your run-of-the-mill occultists?

There is a litmus test. Quite simply ask of yourself, or another, the question, "Do you believe in an ultimate truth or being?" A 'wrong' answer consists of "yes" or "god" or "goddess" or "self" or "country" or whatever. A 'right' answer may fall along the following lines: "Maybe" or "no" or "not today", depending upon the respondent.

The litmus test is based upon the oft-coined and misunderstood phrase, "Nothing is true, everything is permitted." A statement, which pretty much describes the universe in which we all seem to share an existence in. To some, it means: "Nothing - not even this statement holds objective truth, and therefore every conceivable action can and will occur." To others it means, "The absence of existence (void) exists and therefore reality consists of complete subjectivity." To others, "Everything I've been taught up till now is a lie, therefore I can do whatever the hell I want to do." **A license to revolt.**

There exist many other possible interpretations of the statement, the above only applies to my so-called "litmus test." Others have stated that it implies: "Believe Nothing, Dare all, on Earth there is no reckoning", and I find this makes sense. Others hold that the phrase is not a rejection of responsibility but a statement of freedom.

To Thelemite restriction is a sin. To a chaos magician restriction means self-imposed limitations in order to fully enjoy life. For a while, a chaos magician may understand that the only thing stopping him or her from committing rape, murder, arson, assault, lies, etc. etc. is him or herself. The chaos magician understands that the only thing keeping him or her from getting killed, raped, set on fire, assaulted, lied to, etc. etc. is the restraint that others impose upon themselves. (Whether or not they understand this.)

Chaos Magick Theory also distinguishes itself from non-meta-paradigm magical theory in that it first and foremost attempts to obtain results. Chaos Magick itself holds that several techniques have been known to produce magical results regardless of the belief system in which they were practiced. These techniques have been classified under the term "Gnosis" (Greek for 'direct knowledge', connoting 'direct experience of god') and are sub-divided into two categories. Excitatory is best described as pushing physical, mental and emotional limits to their breaking point (without losing complete control. Examples include, but are not limited to: drumming, dancing, chanting, extreme states of anger, fear, etc.. The other category is termed inhibitory, the best example of which is a state of total quittance brought about by prolonged meditation.

What Pete Carroll and other chaos magick authors observed, is that extreme states of consciousness often lead to para-psychological events. That extremes of stress often precluded unexplainable events and happenings. The supernatural intruded upon the lives of individuals who had the capacity of whipping themselves up into a frenzy or of stilling themselves to single-pointed consciousness.

Chaos magic is the conscious effort to harness these states to produce controlled results. While it remains difficult to quantify these results and the states which cause them, chaos magicians will obtain results on a regular basis. A claim which few others in the occult world will make. Chaos magicians might even be the first to respond to, "well prove it", with something besides an evasive answer. Asking a chaos magician to "prove it" just might garner the rather frightening response "I'll see what I can do."

Chaos magicians will also do something that few others in the occult world will do. A chaos magician will take responsibility for his success or his failure to achieve a result. You'll NEVER hear a chaos magician say, "it was not god's will" or "the stars were not right." (Oh alright, you may hear a chaos magician say these things, but I think that they'll be having a laugh.) Chaos magicians also walk through the world gleefully ignoring such 'powerful' lines of dogma like, "that's bad karma dude" or "if you do evil it will come back on you three times."

Chaos magicians practice magic which center on obtaining results. Those results are dependent of several factors; the first is the ability of the magician, the second is the probability of the event occurring naturally. Novice chaos magicians begin by obtaining reasonable results, experienced chaos magicians have been known to do achieve what some might consider impossible.

Paradigm Piracy

This act of eclectic gathering combined with the habit of never staying within the confines of one paradigm too long, is what we call paradigm piracy. The chaos magician takes on the belief system necessary to obtain the desired results. As the chaos magician grows within that system he or she will add elements from other paradigms. Conversely speaking, the chaos magician will also ignore or "delete" elements of the paradigm which are spiritual 'clap-trap' or do not produce the desired results.

Chaos magicians may practice the techniques of chaos magick but they must do so within a specific paradigm, which roughly means that a chaos magician must believe in something in order to obtain results. What specifically the chaos magician believes in is entirely up to them. I've seen those that think the Cthulhu mythos of H.P. Lovecraft is a powerful paradigm. Others have worked within the Wiccan paradigm for years and obtained fantastic results. Still others are hardcore atheists (like the author). Chaos magicians are Setians, Satanists, Santeros, Sorcerers, Kitchen Witches, Thelemites, Cabalists, etc. etc.

A simple way of understanding chaos magic theory vis a vis any paradigm is to think of a meta-paradigm and a specific paradigm in the following manner: Consider the paradigm itself as the explanation and the meta-paradigm as the action. Chaos Magick Theory consists of a series of techniques, actions if you will. The results of which depend upon what the practitioner desires as an outcome. The paradigm, and it can be any paradigm,

consists of how we explain our universe to others. The paradigm is the why. "Why did you do that?" "Why did you want that?" The meta-paradigm is the how. "How did you do that?" The techniques are devoid of meaning. The paradigm, in many cases, devoid of method. Everyone exists in a paradigm. Some people who exist in a paradigm use a meta-paradigm theory to move through that paradigm.

Perhaps this is why many occultists who are ONE THING fear chaos magicians. The chaos magician will take what they need from a paradigm and then move on. Don't like something about being a Wiccan? Ignore it! Don't like treating Set as an objective entity while being a Setian? Believe that he is a metaphor.

What rather frightens non-chaos magicians is the ability for chaos magicians to get results while treating the paradigms in which they dwell with such a cavalier attitude. Nothing frustrates a 'true believer' more than someone who acts like a 'true believer', because he has to do it in order to get what he wants; and then is no longer a 'true believer' once he gets what he needs.

While a 'true believer' will stomach the idiocies of his or her paradigm without complaint, a chaos magician will simply ignore them BECAUSE they are idiotic. A chaos magician will never accept, "that's true because I/the bible/the high priestess said so." The chaos magician will treat things as true when it suits him and ignore them when it does not.

The fact that various god forms, egregores, demons and goddesses don't strike down chaos magicians left and right must really be starting to annoy some people! What's worse is that chaos magicians are currently having their cake and eating it too when it comes to the beliefs of others. We take what we need and then move on. Works for you? Maybe it will work for us. Doesn't work for you? Too bad. The chaos magician will move onto something that does work.

Many existing occult groups have come up with tons of useful magical material. The chaos magician should feel free to use whatever system works best for him. The chaos magician should also not hesitate to join a group of non-chaos magicians in order to learn what they are teaching.

One more point on the subject of paradigm piracy. Attitude is everything. You'll never gain an ounce of real knowledge from anyone or any group by going in cock-sure and know-it-all. Show these magicians deference and respect; many of them have been at this magick thing for decades and could possibly teach you a lot, if your mind is open to it. While their beliefs are a matter of convenience for you; it is a matter of lifestyle for them. I've found many groups open to me even though I was a chaos magician. I was honest with them, up front and they still shared everything.

Nuts and Bolts

As mentioned above, chaos magick theory involves the use of altered states of consciousness in order to effect magical change upon the world. While many paradigms use altered states in order to obtain results, they do so in a rather haphazard fashion usually attributing the results of the magician to "the goddess/god, the stars, true will" and not giving credit (or blame) where it is due.

Peter Carroll outlines chaos magick theory in a precise (and pedantic) fashion in *Liber Kaos*, with several magical formulas. I like these formulas for their simplicity and the obvious absence of any extraneous forces, but then I'm an atheist magician. I've included them here so that the reader can get a taste of the underlying theory. A far better explanation of these formula comes from the author himself.

$$M = G \times L(1-A)(1-R)$$

$$P_m = P - P \times M \frac{1}{(1-p)}$$

All factors are between 0 and 1.

M equals the force of your magic. Which is dependent upon your G (Gnosis) and L (magical Link) multiplied by two negative factors. (Things working against you). Your conscious awareness of the desired result (1-A) and your subconscious resistance to doing magic (1-R) -i.e. "Mommy told me magick doesn't work."

In the other formula, P equals the chance the event you desire occurs by itself; $(1/(1-p))$ equals the chance that the result you desire will not occur. P_m equals the combination of the Probability that the event will occur combined with your magical effort to make it occur.

So we're really looking at the two steps of magical activity. The first step is "How good was my magical act?" The second step is "Did it work?" These formula have the nice component of including the rather random nature of the universe. For example, you do a really good magical rite.

Absolutely great. However, it was to make the your High School Principle disappear in a big "poof!" on graduation day. As your High School Principle is not in the habit of going "poof!" this event has a ridiculously low probability of occurring naturally, thus dragging down significantly (but not eliminating) the probability of him going "poof!" during graduation.

Regarding the first formula, to get a really good magical result you have to get M as close to 1 as possible. So the better the Gnosis and the stronger the Magical Link, the better. The factors of conscious awareness (1-A) and subconscious resistance (1-R) are factors which must be reduced or brought closer to 0.

As anyone who does magick knows, it is not hard to get a good magical link, if you want something bad enough, odds are you are close enough to get a piece or representation of it. As many chaos magicians know, it is also fairly easy to obtain a state of Gnosis. So these bases are covered. What separates the "men from the boys" are the negative side of the equation. Chaos Magicians are aware of the annoying fact that a lot of things will come to be a long time AFTER we have desired them to be. Conscious Awareness hit 0 and the event occurred. How often have you heard anyone, not just a magician say, "It happened when I least expected it", or, "I had completely forgotten about it, then it happened." No lust for result anymore, objective manifests.

Subconscious resistance is a factor which vanishes with time and success. The more magick you do, the better your results; the smaller this factor becomes. More experienced magicians simply get better results more frequently. They BELIEVE in themselves and that contributes to their success. The same factor comes into play for faith healers – they and the patient BELIEVE that the patient will be healed and thus, it happens.

The second formula brings the capricious nature of the universe into play. Lets face it, we want something bad to happen to someone and it happens. Now, did it happen because we cursed them or did it happen because they finally pissed off one person too many and someone in a bar took a swing at them?

This question should remain an academic one for the novice chaos magician. He should take credit whenever possible. Not in order to build up an inflated ego, but in order to get into the habit of thinking "Heh, I did that!" Slowly wearing down that factor of subconscious resistance in the first formula. With time, and in an effort to stave off megalomania, the more experienced magician should ask themselves, "Did I do that or did it occur by chance?"

The most experienced magicians realize, in my opinion, that magical results are usually a combination of chance and magick. Accepting that things just sometimes happen, but that the magician may also be playing a part, keeps the mind balanced and the goals of the magician reasonable.

Another thing, which the novice chaos magician should keep in mind, uses the nature of the universe to help you achieve the results that you desire. Enchant for events that have a high degree of probability of occurring naturally. This will get you used to success and will allow you to build confidence for more difficult workings. Flowers don't bloom in the dead of winter. Don't attempt to cut your teeth on making the impossible happen, you will fail and your magickal ego will suffer accordingly.

Another gem of wisdom from the mind of the man whose been there before. Don't enchant for something and then DO NOTHING about it. You can't meet the man/woman of your dreams by sitting at home all night, you can't pass that physics test by not studying. You can't get a big pay raise by always showing up late for work etc.. As your workings become progressively more difficult seek to tip the hand of chance by creating "avenues of manifestation" – help the universe give you what you want.

Chaos magick theory is a meta-paradigm theory. Specifically it contains the techniques necessary to accomplish successful acts of magick. Chaos magick theory will not, in and of itself, make a successful magician. That is up to the practitioner himself. However, there exists within chaos magick theory the idea that only RESULTS are the measure of a successful magician. Results take time, energy and effort. A little fact that many may ignore to their own peril.

Fra. Ratatosk

About the author:

Fra. Ratatosk is an Adept in the I.O.T. and has been practicing chaos magick theory for about 11 years. His real name is Josh Wetzel and he resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is happily polyamorous and is a successful computer engineer. The author would also welcome any and all feedback on the subject of chaos magick. He can be reached at: "geistlos@wi.rr.com" and will gladly answer any and all questions.

Homework 1:

Go to a religious service that is 100% against everything you believe in. Fundamentalist Christian churches work well for this. Go dressed the part, and feeling self-assured, and say you're from another church in another town. Feel free to make up a funny-sounding name. Put yourself into that belief system, and see whether you sink or swim in this reality.

It's easier than it seems.

Homework 2:

Create a Sigil. Fire it. Use it. Report on what happens.

Homework 3:

Mirror exercise

1. Stand in front of your mirror every morning. Smile at it. Puff your chest out. Give yourself a once-over, and say, "Damn, you're one good-looking bastard, aren't you?"
2. At night, stand in front of the mirror. Look at your face, and consider just how tired and worn you look. Heave a sigh, and say, "You look terrible. Horrid."

Feel the difference between the two states of being. See how it affects your actions and interactions. I guarantee you'll feel different about yourself after each one.

Now, choose which feeling you like best, and maintain that affirmation for a week, and see if your life doesn't change even a little bit.

Homework 4:

$$M=3D G \times L(1-A)(1-R)$$

and

$$Pm=3D P - P \times M 1/(1-p)$$

- M= Force of magic
- G= Gnosis (openness)
- L= Magical link (i.e. voodoo doll)
- A= Awareness of result (conscious)
- R= Awareness of result (unconscious) ("mommy told me magic doesn't work!")
- D= Desire

And

- P = Chance that it'll happen by itself
- $(1/(1-p))$ = chance that your desire will not occur.
- P_m = probability that the event will occur combined with your magical effort to make it happen.

(All factors between 0 and 1 in value)

Experiment with things that are likely to happen. Work first with finding pennies on the ground, then work on finding dimes, then quarters. Then work on getting a friend to come visit from down the hall. Read up on the forecast on Monday and try to make the weather on Friday opposite of what the extended prediction is. Then start moving up in the week.

Get a journal and start to try to figure out these workings from the formula above.

Homework 5:

1. Engage your peers in a discussion. Make incorrect observations, mix up dates, and tell lies.
2. When you are called on these things, admit it. Profusely.

Homework 6:

The Pink Energy Gorilla Working:

According to Starhawk, a cone of power creates a place to store and build energy. An amusing and fun visualization that will prevent you from ever taking Wiccan ritual seriously again is to envision the Cone of Power as a set of iron bars and the energy as pink gorillas. As energy builds, watch them get more and more "energetic" as they try to get out of the cage. They bang on the bars and hoot and holler and rattle the cage. When energy is released, envision them bursting out and running off to do the intent!

Homework 7:

1. Imagine you are Rev. Jerry Falwell. Explain to an imaginary homosexual why his/her sexuality is "sinful" and should be changed at once. Include instructions on how to change it.
2. Imagine that you are gay/lesbian. Explain to an imaginary Jerry Falwell why you will not or cannot change your sexual orientation to please him.
 - a. Extra points if you convince him to switch teams.

Homework 8:

1. Believe in flying saucers.
2. Believe that flying saucers are simply the first wave.
3. Believe that they will be followed by flying cups.

How does that natural progression work for you? Are you giggling yet? Good.

1. Repeat. Take it seriously this time.

How does it work? Are you scared now? I am.

Homework 9:

Working with the 9 Pagan Virtues as presented in the ADF Dedicator Program, associate each one with something completely strange. Here are some examples:

1. Cleaning products:
 - a. Perseverance = Brawny Paper Towels
 - b. Hospitality = PineSol
 - c. Integrity = Pledge
2. Star Wars Characters:
 - a. Courage = Luke Skywalker
 - b. Fertility = Han Solo
 - c. Moderation = Ewoks
3. The Soviet Premiers
 - a. Wisdom = Stalin
 - b. Vision = Lenin
 - c. Piety = Gorbachev

Now, try it with the 8 High Days:

1. The G8
 - a. Samhain = USA
 - b. Winter Solstice = England
2. Looney Toons characters
 - a. Porky Pig = Imbolc
 - b. Bugs Bunny = Ostara
 - c. Marvin Martian = Autumnal Equinox
3. Muppets
 - a. Rolf = Summer Solstice
 - b. Animal = Beltaine
 - c. Gonzo = Lughnassadh

What else in your DP can be applied like this?