

How I got here.

I was born in West Virginia and lived my early life in Fairfax, Virginia on an acre which, was then, nestled in the woods. Got my first Rider-Waite tarot cards in my early teens and loved laying them out, not to read them but to just look at them, lay them out in different configurations and generally just got to know them. Around then saw the Qabalistic Tree of Life for the first time and totally loved the moving balance of it. Must have been a Qabalist in a prior life to have been so taken with the Tree first time I saw it.

Even though we were a family of seven I spent as much time as I could in the woods by myself. Very early became aware of invisible entities, Angels, fairies and one in particular which I felt was my own special guardian. Never got a visual impression, they all had a certain feel to them and I could tell when they were around. Everyone in the family, even the neighbors, thought the house was haunted. The closest neighbor, the only other house on our dirt road, came over only once in the twenty years Mom and Dad lived there. She chatted for a while then made a point of telling Mom that "Mr. McKenna did not die in this house." We heard voices, knocking on the walls, saw lights and confederate soldiers, the old upright piano in the basement kept playing; right up until Daddy hauled it out into the yard by himself and destroyed it with a sledge hammer. Suffice it to say there were all kinds of entities around when I was a kid. The ghosts, or whatever they were, felt very different than the fairies.

I did a lot of reading, anything esoteric I could find. Meister Eckhart, books on Buddhism, Tao, Herman Hess, Golden Dawn, Dancing Wu Li Masters. One book I still have 60 years later. Cosmic Consciousness by Wallace Buck. Had to have found it in a used book store, the only place to find really good books. So, living in my own little world that I really didn't talk about, I grew up, got married and had two wonderful sons and worked full time. All the while consuming any book I could find on esoterica, eastern thought and the Qabalah. Wrote some poetry and short stories.

The kids had gotten bigger and the husband was out of the picture and I found a Golden Dawn like group. The hierophant was a good one at first. Learned a lot. Either I had gotten too 'upity' or he became too controlling, but that lasted 4 or 5 years and I moved on. I had learned more about the Qabalah, Tao, Gematria, yoga, tarot, Egyptian Gods and ritual magick. Gematria was fun so I started working on that. Had found a book by Antoine Fabre d'Olivet titled *The Hebraic Tongue Restored: And the True Meaning of the Hebrew Words Re-Established and Proved by their Radical Analysis*. He analyzed the Hebrew letters as couplets, syllables and applied them to the Hebrew original of Genesis. I found it enlightening but the translation was still stuffed into the same mold as the English translation. Decided to try my hand at it. Started with translating it letter by letter then, when a set of letters repeated (ie Beth, Resh, Aleph is repeated almost immediately) I translated the group of letters as a new word/concept. The wonderful thing about this process is that, for me, the meanings of the letters evolve as I evolve. For instance Aleph started out as *Power*, then moved to *Original* and is now *One*. The math is very revealing. In the first verse of Chapter one is pi, phi, square root of two and It is an ongoing quest and works for me.

I'm currently studying Giordano Bruno, Shakespeare, Joseph Campbell, Sacred Geometry, Alan Watts etc. Creatively I sew, work with copper, weave, garden. I spend as much time as I can with my children and grandchildren.