

# Anthropologists Unearth Late Twentieth Century Mysteries

by Link

*In recent issues, "Reclaiming Our History" has featured original research into the spirituality and politics of medieval and early-modern Europe. In this issue, we turn to the little-explored field of contemporary anthropology, as RQ's ace futurologist channels clues to late 20th century customs and beliefs.*

FLEMINGTON, NJ/OCTOBER 31, 1999 —

Reclaiming Quarterly is excited to announce that archaeologists have made a major discovery explaining religious practice in the 1990s, over 3000 years ago! These discoveries help us better understand the myths and traditions which have been handed down over the years, and still survive today within the popular cult of the Goddess Barbie. This tradition is one of the fastest growing groups of modern-day Goddess worship.

Archaeologists have discovered that Barbie worship dates back to ancient times. Figures of the Goddess Barbie have been unearthed, preserved in nearly pristine state. It seems that ancient worshippers made their images of Barbie in a material known as plastic. It was known at the time that plastic did not succumb to the elements over time and was nearly everlasting. Because of this, it is obvious to our research team that those items made of plastic were held in the highest regard by the ancient culture of the 1990s. They surely wanted to preserve these items for eternity.

Research shows that ancient priestesses of Barbie were initiated at a very young age. The initiation ceremony involved a complex litany which lasted several weeks, usually prior to the Winter Solstice. Young daughters would chant at length to their parents, repeating over and over the praises of Barbie, stating their desires for the Goddess to enter their lives. While these chants varied from priestess to priestess, the words "I Want" are common to many of the

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*This plastic sculpture of "Grecian Goddess Barbie™" was unearthed by a research team headed by Charles Zanco during recent excavations near Petaluma, California.*

invocations. Later, after initiation, additional chants focused on a wide variety of magical tools and altar accessories used by the Goddess Barbie in Her temple.

IMAGES OF the Goddess Barbie show Her in many aspects. For example, She was portrayed as a Solar Deity in Her Malibu Barbie aspect. This explains the modern-day custom of Barbie worshippers donning colored glasses and anointing themselves with special protective lotions to celebrate the Summer Solstice. It is known that ancient religions sometimes masked their Deities within the Saints of ancient Catholicism. Researchers are certain this explains the name used for an ancient west coast village known as Santa Barbara, perhaps a Mecca for Barbie worshippers.

Each Barbie figurine also held strange numerical markings, \$24.99. This explains the current custom where Barbie worshippers tattoo themselves with this number. It was obviously the number most sacred to the Goddess.

The \$ symbol was used in many ways by the ancient culture, and was considered both a scourge and salute to religious society.

It was also discovered that ancient Barbie had a consort known as Ken. Close examination of plastic Ken figures explain why today's modern Barbie worshippers allow only eunuchs to participate in religious rites, with no other males allowed.

Since many fewer Ken figures were found, we can assume that the ancient Barbie worshippers were a matriarchal tradition.

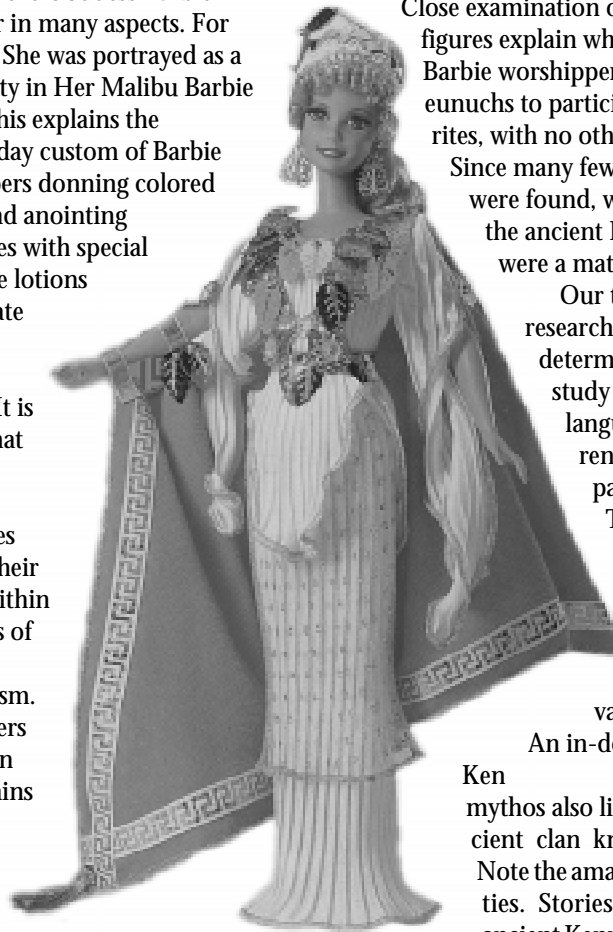
Our team of linguistic researchers have determined through study of the ancient language that Ken was renowned in many parts of the world. This explains the origins of ancient places like Kenya, Kentucky and even the variation of Canada.

An in-depth study of the

Ken

mythos also links Him to the ancient clan known as Kennedy. Note the amazing facial similarities. Stories surrounding this ancient Kennedy cult seem to be a unique mixture of the "slain God" stories (similar to the Egyptian Osiris) and the revelry of the Roman Bacchus. This seems to fit all three aspects of the Triple Kennedy myth.

Other research shows a related figure, an ancient warrior God known as GI Joe.



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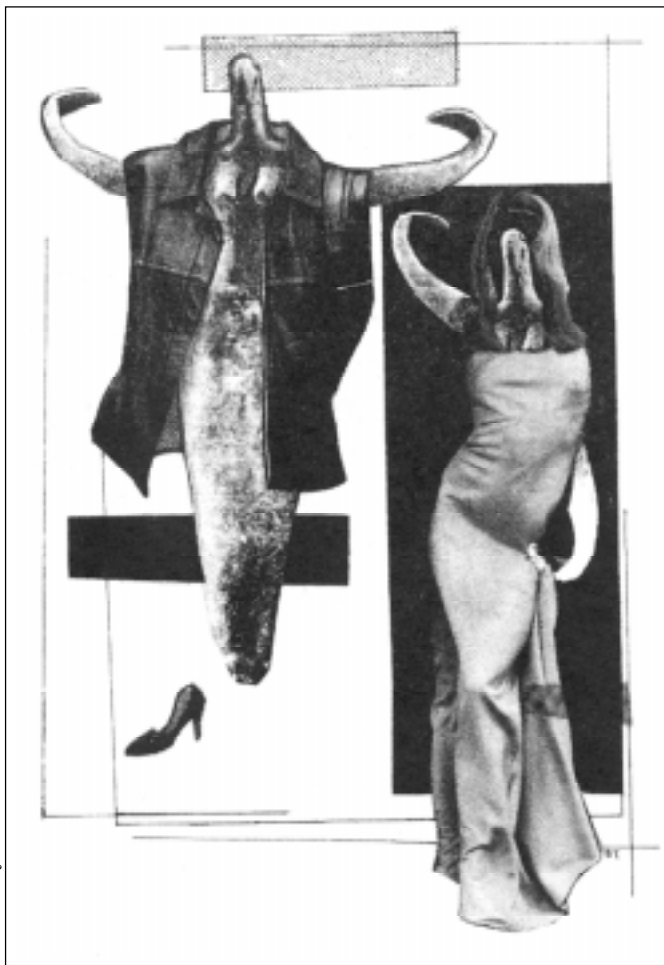
# Fashion Musts and Misses on Samhain

by July Lewis & Georgie Dennison

**H**ELLO THERE, my community. This is Georgette, Reclaiming Quarterly's fashion editor. I know you would agree that the Reclaiming Community sorely needs some fashion sense and guidance. So, I have decided to invoke the Guardians of the Watchtowers of Style: Chanel; Versace; and the Goddess Herself, Princess Diana; to aid us in this process. In the spirit of those icons, I have asked June, personal assistant to Starhawk... a known fashion priestess... to advise the community on proper attire for the Spiral Dance.

**G:** What will the new look be for this year's Spiral Dance?

**June:** This year we'll be seeing simple gowns in pastels and whites. A refreshing change from the the dour gowns of previous years. **BLACK IS OUT.** We will have Fashion Dragons at the dance to carry off those who dress in anything darker than jewel tones. It's a celebration of life, it's the New Year. And this will be expressed by the new, lighter colors we'll be seeing this season.



Bob Thawley

**G:** How can one fully embody, or one could say, aspect, that look? What type of fabrics? How about hemlines? And of course, footwear and headdresses can't be overlooked.

**J:** Well, silks are always in good taste. A nice cashmere drape works well in the San Francisco climate and falls so elegantly in the softer-cut styles that designers will be offering this year. Hemlines will be raised to the limit for both men and women. That being so, hosiery will certainly be important. Regarding footwear, the whimsical chunky shoes will give a retro seventies feel to the proceeding. But headdresses are out. *Très passé.*

**G:** We haven't discussed cosmetics. Is there any way of discouraging people from using that silly glitter gel?

**J:** Hope springs eternal, Georgette, but I doubt it. For the more tastefully inclined readers I suggest natural shades, so as not to scare your dead relatives. And for the sake of the Goddess, remember to wear waterproof eyeliner and mascara.

**G:** It's bad enough to be swollen-eyed and puffy in public without looking like a raccoon. I so agree. But, these styles you are suggesting, they seem a bit understated for this community.

**J:** Oh, we can fix that.

**G:** How?

**J:** Accessorize, accessorize, accessorize!

**G:** What type of accessories? What does your spirit fashion guide say?

**J:** I'm glad you asked that, Georgette. This year Starhawk is coming out with a new line of matching magical tools and jewelry to go with her already hugely successful line of ritual clothing.

**G:** I'm so happy. This will truly make Samhain a celebration.

**J:** It's about time, isn't it? For example, there'll be rhinestone encrusted Italian pottery pentacle necklaces, and handcrafted Gucci marble athames with fine Corinthian leather sheathes and belts. Mink scarves embroidered with runes of prosperity in gold and platinum thread are *de rigueur*. And the wands are my special favorites.

**G:** Do tell. Don't stop.

**J:** You can get the wands in varying lengths, from handy purse size to a full six feet. They're hand carved by young artisans in Guatemala to your specifications. And made from the finest quality old-growth redwood.

**G:** Old-growth redwood?

**J:** Sustainably harvested, of course.

**G:** Oh, but of course. So, what other items will Starhawk be revealing? But maybe you've already said too much?

**J:** Yes. We want to keep some of it a surprise. This is a mystical tradition.

**G:** How true. So, there is a certain lack of panache and color coordination...

**J:** I wasn't going to say it but...

**G:** Somebody has to. As I was saying, a lack of style in our tradition. Do you have any advice for the fashion-challenged among our readers?

**J:** Well, yes. To be truly at one with your inner fashion spirit guide, I recommend sacrificing copies of Vogue to Aphrodite while burning rose incense and wearing something as tasteful as your limited imagination will al-

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# The Charge Card of the Goddess

with apologies to Doreen Valiente

Listen to the words of the Great Shop Keeper,  
Who of Old was called MistressCard, Vasa-VISA, Dine-a-Club-A,  
and by many other names:

Whenever you have need of anything,  
more often than once a month, and don't wait for a full moon,  
you shall succumb to the Spirit of Shopping.  
You shall be free from slavery, and as a sign that you be free,  
you shall get into debt shamelessly.

Sing, shop, feast, shop, make music, shop, have sex, and shop!

For my Law is to shop with all beings.  
Buy cosmetics that open the door of youth,  
which at least give the appearance of immortality.

I give the knowledge of a monthly bill eternal,  
and beyond death,  
all debt will be erased from your credit history.

Nor do I demand sacrifice, for behold,  
I am the Mother of Charging Things,  
and my shopping is poured out upon the Earth.

Hear the words of the Platinum Card Goddess,  
whose feet are all the coins of Heaven,  
whose body is a huge wad of bills that encircles the Universe:

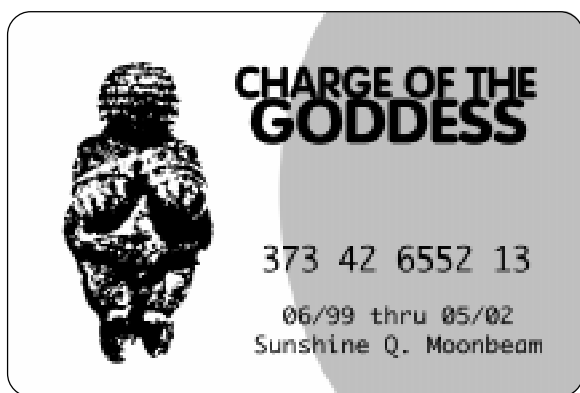
I who buy all the earth and the moon, and the stars,  
and I'll take two of those mysteries of the waters, please,  
I call upon your money to arise and come unto me  
for I am the soul of Shopping that gives life to the  
Universe, the IMF, and the World Bank!

From me all purchases are transacted  
and unto me they must be returned  
according to the return policy.

And you who seek to know me,  
know that all that buying and  
shopping will avail you not,  
unless you know the Mystery:

You have to use the  
Charge Card of the  
Goddess!!!

*Written by Flame  
RosaNegra for a  
mummer's play  
at California  
Witchcamp.*



#### **Special introductory offer.**

For a limited time, the Charge of the Goddess card is available through Reclaiming at an APR of just 13.13%! Accepted at all finer rituals, boutiques and amusement parks, including Reclaiming's own RitualLand.

#### **Grace period.**

Holders of the Charge of the Goddess card are eligible for a grace period of up to 30 days, during which time they will know themselves to be completely loved and held by the Goddess.

Those desiring to get into heaven should apply instead for the Charge of the Apostles card, which entitles the bearer to free admission to the celestial realm if they die within 30 days of receiving the card. Some restrictions may apply.

#### **Trance-fer fees.**

Expenses incurred while trancing with the ancestors on the Isle of Apples are subject to a special "between the worlds" processing fee.

#### **Late fees.**

Cardholders who are late to two consecutive rituals will be charged a penalty fee.

## Fashion

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low. And then you chant:

*She changes every time she dresses  
and every time she dresses, changes.  
Changes, dresses, dresses, changes.*

G: Will this ritual open the necessary channels?

J: If anything can this will. It also helps to use a Barbie doll as your Goddess figure.

G: Well, I'm so pleased. I feel ready to take the ferry to Avalon. I know, with your guidance, I'll be properly attired.

J: You always are, darling.

G: I wish to thank you and your inner fashion guide for these inspiring words of wisdom. I now feel that the community's needs in this arena have been met. At least, until Yule comes with its own unique challenges.

## Barbie

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Since GI Joe had no known female consort, and was also a eunuch, it is obvious that both Joe and Ken competed for the Goddess Barbie. One theory links this to the surviving Oak King/Holly King myths of earlier times.

Researchers also uncovered other mythical characters, known as Shakespeare, Einstein, Gandhi, and Ralph Nader. But since the ancient culture held these in much lower relative importance than Barbie, they obviously were mere minor demigods of the era.

We are thrilled to have discovered these Old ways, since they shed light upon many unexplained traditions of today. We can use this clear view of history to put our present-day customs in perspective.

After this significant success in

discovering the ancient Barbie myths, additional funding has been approved for research into the ancient Ninja Turtle myths as well. Since many plastic artifacts of the Ninja Turtles have been found in North America, perhaps they are linked to the ancient Native American cultures of Turtle Island? Only time will tell.



*Link is a solitary from Flemington, NJ whose writings focus on seeing the magical & sacred side to everyday life.*

## Gusty Hail's Travel Schedule

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Michigan Socialist Revolutionary Pagan Workers International Youth Brigade Party of the World (MSRPWIYBPotW). Temple of Discordian Principles, Noon-6 p.m.

**October 8**, Cheyenne, WY

"Intercept the Witchcamp String" demonstration and ritual. The

Witchcamp String was passed from Vermont Camp to the Witchcamp SpokesCouncil in British Columbia, and should be passing over Cheyenne at 3:17 a.m. Chairman Hail will lead the interception ritual in the RPWP's continuing resistance against Witchcamp.

**October 20**, St. Louis, MO

Organizational Meeting: "Resisting the Tyranny of Witchcamp Cooks." Topics include "The Undercover Cheeseburger," "Clean-up Slow-downs as a Resistance Strategy Against Forced Volunteer Labor," and "Who's the Boss? You Are!" Revolutionary Pagan Whole Foods Restaurant, West St, Dinner time.

**October 31**, San Francisco, CA

"Twenty Years of Resisting The Spiral Dance." Commemorative march and trick-or-treating through the Sunset neighborhood, awakening San Franciscans to the threat of Starhawk's book and ritual. Gather at Beltane Grove, Noon.

**November 15**, Raleigh, NC

Speech to Philip Morris. "Fighting Witchcamp through Addiction: Tobacco as a Sacrament." If twenty percent of Witchcampers were addicted to nicotine, rituals would be shorter, and perhaps smoking would be permitted in circle — join us in this struggle! The Tobacconist Club, Noon.

**December 20**, San Francisco, CA

"The Great Clothing Swipe!" Chairman Hail will lead comrades in stealing Yule celebrants' clothing while they jump in the Pacific Ocean. Gather at Ocean Beach, North of Taraval, 4 p.m.

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K. Ruby/Wise Fool