



She is Significant
by Matamah Alesha

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People wonder why I have wrote a book on the dark goddess. The subject seems so remote and esoteric, not easily adapting to the hectic needs and lifestyle of today's modern woman.

What is the importance of a goddess?

Why is She relevant for me?

I can't answer everyone's question or address every intention. I feel the dark goddess is important for every woman and man seeking information on ancient belief systems and even many modern day religions who have conspicuous dark goddess presence in their pantheons, sometimes hidden in their history. Those who are of such religions are oblivious to the dark goddesses that exist under their noses. No major belief system can exist with some dark, womanly archetype or icon abstractly or concretely present. The history shows this.

For those who question rather an idea of a goddess is even useful or necessary when we have the presence of god. Well its a way for me to define and determine woman's special influence and contributions. Most of humanity if female and everyone is born and raised for 18 years or more by women. Within this universe, Spirit works in complex and comprehensive ways. The term goddess just allows you to put these things under a microscope and not throw it all together and generalize it as "mankind" or "god".

Using the word, goddess or divine mother allows us to look at particulars and to name things that don't have a name or formula written down.

But many people have not taken the time to really understand why She would be important to them or to anyone else. She is important, not just for African and African American women who seek her to help them revision a womanhood that also includes ancestral connections and sacredness but to all women, all people. For She symbolizes those aspects of creation or spirit that we all must integrate into our human consciousness and only She has the power to thoroughly inspire and guide us to do this.

Its no mistake that the dark goddess is rising. In our era of global warming, East West cultural conflicts, high tech technology and rapid expanding global markets, the dark goddess is still relevant and She is relevant for everyone. Ironically, She is nowhere to be found but yet everywhere.

I believe She has a multitude of gifts and blessings for those who desire to know her. However there are **8** important aspects that I want to look at which I feel are important especially about Her. These aspects go a long way in assisting people who are interested in healing, deepening and further human expansion.

Wholeness

1 I believe the dark goddess is remarkable in how she demonstrates to us how to be “enough”, how to be whole and complete. In the consumer culture that we live in marketing assumes incompleteness, assumes there is something lacking in our lifestyles, our perceptions and our lives. It comes across as a product but is goes existentially deeper. With the dark goddess, She is both the darkness, the fertile beginning and the light, the enlightenment. In some myths, she is thought to contain the elements of both eagles and serpents. Her ability to be both sun and moon, birds of heaven

and serpents of the underworld allows Her to contain within herself this completeness. After all, originally deities of ancient times were characterized by three essential possibilities, creator, destroyer and sustainer. Even today, traditional religious icons of God contains all three, although most people favor *the creator* and *sustainer* aspect more, except for their enemies.

Old Archetype

Part of the spiritual growing up process for many of us is to recover the old stories, the old myths and the old archetypes. The goddess or divine Mother is one archetype and within this large primordial icon looms all the possibilities of womanhood, both as full adult and as child. Many of the ancient deities came in many colors and or aspects. For She is a metaphor for every manifestation of divine humanity possible in creation. Sometimes She is green like compassion, Red like wrath and amore passion, gold like the illumination or blue like contemplation. In the darker colors, She is regeneration, justice, transformation, protection, and rebirth. She is the alchemical primordial matter which all things are born. A number of women have been nourished to be a compliant and adaptable sort of creature. The archetypes offered them for generations was pure approachability, smiling appeasement even in the face of evil. But the dark goddess shows us that we can set boundaries, we can speak up, we can be confrontational, provide for ourselves out of ourselves and do some the more unpleasant things needed to insure that life continues to flourish and that we and our loved ones continue to thrive.

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Missing Piece

In the study of ancient civilizations, the full contributions of women as divine persons and icons is rarely documented. This is important because these cultures had in some cases very prolific goddess influences.

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Understanding them, which also represents the cradle of humanity allows us to get a complete picture on how things evolved and why. Earlier profiles of women allows us to see other possibilities today and for the future. This time period, which stretched for more than 75,000 years of human history is an important part of our understanding of our humanity, the evolution of religion, culture and even politics.

Commercial Excess and Emptiness

When people ask me why is the dark goddess relevant, they don't know that we are surrounded by Her and don't even know it. In Western culture, material abundance is everywhere and were an increasing number of people have so 4 much material wealth, more and more we are discovering our old hunger for transformation, redemption and self-knowing. Within the malls and grocery stores stocked with abundant product that the opposite feeling is becoming more and more apparent. That feeling is that among all that is possible in the marketplace, we feel the depth of emptiness that is always a component of such commercial displays of excess. Irreconcilably linked among all the plenty, is plenty of emptiness as well. This is everywhere in the modern world and more and more people may be connecting to the idea that purchasing and consuming is connected to a deep sense of emptiness. What most people don't know is that some types of emptiness is remarkably good for the soul.....you just have the know the difference between the two. Some emptiness is pregnant and nourishing and some feels like cold desolation. The ancients might form both types of emptiness into icons of the dark goddess...one nourishing the aspirant like a mother, the other leaving the impression of a cold corpse.

Cosmos

While it is not on many peoples minds, the cosmos is rather exploded in a way that generations before have never

experienced. The ancients had such intimacy with the cosmos, studying the stars and planets for practical and esoteric reasons. Today our future is found in the cosmos, like the ancients many of us increasing know that the cosmos is an extension of our earthly existence. Although this time around it won't be simple observation and charting but space travel. And the increasing ability of all humans to travel and experience the cosmos up and personal will really trigger some old dark goddess metaphors and connections. For the ancients viewed the whole galaxy as a mother, a dark mother with a beautiful blue and black body rich with infinite potential. The effect on our cultural and spiritual consciousness will be profound and this is yet another way were the spirit of the dark goddess will find herself emerging again.

Image Exploding

For centuries the right brain has been suppressed, even attacked by the emerging culture and its religions. In many parts of the world, images and art is still widely suppressed and seen as amoral. Images and particularly art which was the life blood of older cultures was suddenly seen as the devil. With the spread of literacy, the alphabet and faiths of the book, arts and crafts took a back seat if it was there at all. Artists of various strips were commanded to paint the political line, create pictures that glorified the corrupt kings and the false prophets on threat of death. Art was commissioned and if it was spiritual art that was not a part of the official canon, completely ignored and dismissed. Today we find ourselves in the opposite situation were images are the chief form of communication, more so then mere words can convey. Images carry words and invoke powerful emotions and their ability to communicate appear to be universal and instantaneous. The little secret behind this may be that the dark goddess is slowly making her appearance in the exploding world of images, colors and forms of art, which is even more profound when we recognized that the proliferation of images, forms and colors is not only a result of years of word

and book dominating via the left brain but also is necessary in a world that is witnessing a world that is being consumed by technology that is limited in comparison to great art. The dark goddess here is the hidden muse that may be inspiring a world that is in need of cultural balance due to the books, words and technological speak of gadgets. Art is the last place to claim something that only art can do, invoke connection, meaning, fulfillment, reflection and passion. My books first appeared to me as images. I am an artist first and the content over a period of time exploded in front of me as art and poetry. It was bit of transition to move from creative expression to researcher and writer and now back again. But the art and forms appeared and then my literal mind chased them for meaning among a pile of books in libraries and in academia. Most people don't realize this is important aspect of all goddesses, in this case the dark goddess. [The Alphabet vs The Goddess by Leonard Shlain]

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Middle East Conflicts and the Age of Aquarius

The period we are living in is ripe for the dark goddess. Usually She makes an appearance at special times of human evolution. Of course, She is found in the beginning in many parts of the world seeing the slow physiological and conceptual transformation of early humanity. She also tends to make special guests appearance since that time, like when the people are suffering the most or to deliver special prophetic insights of great transformations and upheaval that are about to happen.

Transformations that are not generic but could effect the DNA, transformation that could redirect generations of humanity or ancestral groups. She is like a sign-post or omen that instructs people to prepare, get into prayer, change your decisions in the moment and or be glad because what you have been waiting for is about to happen. The news She brings obviously is not always good but its good to know before hand

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anyway. The conflict between the West and the East is special because, as I was enlightened by a fellow traveler that the dark goddess was making many appearances during the last Christian and Islamic conflict which happened between the 12th and 15th centuries. It is also significant that in this time of solar age changes, the dark goddess is making another guest appearance to either warn us of some of the tribulations happening in the present transition and to warn or prepare us for the next solar age. She is like the woman standing by the door and guides us through it. Although it not mentioned often but a dark goddess symbolically could be represented as the Mother of coming solar male or female deities. She is the substance that gives birth to the light either as a new consciousness in the world or as generations of gifted children with particular gifts and abilities. All ancient dark goddesses the world over are renown to have giving birth to solar deities (great heroes) of some kind. We are use to seeing a dark goddess over there and a solar deity or prophet in another place and not realize that the space and time between them is part of the plan. And that they are connected, the age of transition, the appearance of gifted children who help us to make the transition or grasp the essentials, icons and special concepts that will direct and determine the new era. Its not different phenomenon or different religion but one global, cosmic symphonic event.

Oneness

I am not embarrassed to say but my search began at a very humble and broken place. I had my desire to know, my curiosity and that was enough. My perceptions on everything was characterized by so much dualism, competition and division. It was not necessarily my perceptions but a culture that I grew up in. Dualism was survival, was religion, it was love, food and friendship. Nowhere was there not a place were dualism, egoism was not making its indefinable mark. And like people around me I never challenged it. I really didn't have the tools to challenge it. It just was how things are. But one thing I have

learned from the goddess and especially the dark goddess is that everyone is one and all things have meeting points. I can consciously choose to validate this or ignore it but either way I know. All my research would begin innocent enough trying to prove some theory, some bias, some illusion. And from there it never failed that any real digging into any subject unearth its existential link to all things. The dark goddess is a perfect subject on oneness for all humans mother genetically, one incredible and fed all the world's cultures... birth to the world of languages, or archetype was the grandmother celluloid. One dark cosmos hold our earth, our sun and galaxy suspended. Everything was one formula, one consciousness, coming from one womb. This is why She is so powerful. She claims everything, She is the origins everybody tries to cover up and ignore, but She is there and not easily dismissed or camouflaged. Amazing.



Notes:

The Alphabet and the Goddess by Leonard Shlain
<<http://www.alphabetvsgoddess.com/order.html>>

The First Book of the Dark Goddess by Matamah Alesha
<<http://www.matampress.com>>

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About the Author

Matomah Alesha

Matomah Alesha is a writer, artist and poet. She has written the exceptional title, *The First Book of the Dark Goddess* which has been received positively by two universities (CIIS and University of Arizona) and is presently placed in their libraries. She is an independent researcher with an interest in native culture, ancient mythology and goddess folklore. She has over ten years of experience as a researcher, writer, freelance artist and in healing with goddess ritual and mysticism. Her writing career began as an artist and this is her true love. She was born and raised in the multi-cultural San Francisco, Bay Area. She presently resides in beautiful Tucson, Arizona.

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POB 42444, Tucson, Arizona 85733-2444

eMail: reach@matampress.com

www.matampress.com

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