The brain, the thumb, the language, the co-operation gained humans the edge over everything else on this earth. Sadly, it was mostly the most brutal and centralized systems that took power in our institutions - economic - religious- political -family. Possibly 8 or 10 thousand years ago we were more female oriented, sensual, and co-operative. Maybe not. I hope so.

Then, around the year 1967 of this era, the consciousness of the new age came. It's not a choice about whether anyone likes it or wants it. The "new age" means that the fundamental assumptions of all human civilization must be changed in light of the new fact that humans are now in control the fate of our species and all large creatures. We can continue to desecrate our miracle water and garden planet or we could easily (in theory) create a sustainable eden of incredible joy and fulfillment on all continents.

Now in 1996 we have had 30 years to see that humans will not take up this job, the real gods of inertia, fear, and greed will cripple or co-opt any force that tries to stop their jealous male god of material things from raping our holy mother. Evidently male sky gods also demand that human beings multiply like cancer cells until our species dies out - mired in its own filth.

The new consciousness that grew in the late '60's felt like we could affirm life, joy,innocence, love as an antidote to a hugely rich, but sick and unsustainable, culture. It bloomed like a flower, (a structure totally created for sex), first in San Fransisco and then, organically, spread in part by the Cannabis sacrament, grew everywhere in our shining "post scarcity" country. The pathfinder, forerunner children of the new age decided "Let's be all we can be. Why not joy and co-operation and consciousness expansion - rather than jealousy and ultimately suicidal smallmindedness. Why not aim for ecstacy and evolution to a new plane where we live much more lightly on the earth but where joy, peace, freedom, love, and real security, based on harmony, are abundant. Why not aim to make love and not war? There was a lot of talk about love and a huge amount of it going on (the attitude, the pill, no AIDS, antibiotics worked).

The sacramental plants of the holy mother earth can tend to move your emotions toward joy and love - and toward transcendence of the death grip of materialism and violence. Cannabis is an anti-violence chemical. It should be prescribed for people like wife beaters, or Jesse Helms.

And LSD came. When I'm feeling religious I feel that the mother god allowed it for us only because of the extent of the emergency that grips the earth. Dr. Hoffman created it accidentally while he was trying to synthesize the powerful chemical that helps non sedated women get the power to bring new life into the world. It's power must be held in awe, and you better resolve to be happy and humble. Hours of joyous ecstacy can leave your face sore from smiling so much. It can bring feelings of huge enlightenment, that everything is one and it is alive and pulsing and flowing and you are at once a speck of almost nothingness in the flow - and part of a godlike grandeur. LSD helps the kind of consciousness change that would be necessary if human beings were to have a future. It's lessons can be pretty fully learned with only a few experiences.

But the evolutionary leap was criticized, derided as self indulgent, crazy, bad. (This was the one clear chance for humans to leap foreward into accommodation with the New Age. A highly adaptive mutation that could have chavged human culture to fit new realities.) Then, good people set bad examples by dying young and stupidly. But ideas live on, like seeds. Repression came, inqusition, over 10,000,000 lives shattered over 3 decades by arrest for cannabis alone. And then what about kids, making the car payment, the career, the mortgage.

And what of our mother earth? You know that every particle of your being comes from her - mostly through the ultimate highest miracle of the green leaf.

We have messed things up rather badly. The ethic of the "old age", for the Euorpean white man and many other peoples, was simply to use the environment to maximise, to aggrandize, like more and bigger means better - and the white man took over and began squeezing the wealth out of the world for himself.

The Union of Concerned Scientists was able to get more than a majority of the living Nobel prize winners in the sciences to sign a crystal clear "Warning to Humanity" which begins, "Human beings and the natural world are on a collision course". Let that resonate. That means that you, that's you, you, you, have to take action - real action in the real world. The Nobel scientists say "No more than one or a few decades remain before the chance to avert the threats we now face will be lost". NOW is when we must act... in public...out loud!

Our air and water in the U.S. is cleaner in many locations. Great! But ever increasing amounts of crap are still being pumped into the atmosphere. There is nothing that can substitute for water and soil - and they are being used up radically unsustainably. Most rainforest could be gone within 50 years, and living species are entering the third great extinction (probably at a very much faster rate than the huge extinctions of 250 million & 65 million years ago). Population is so out of control that Issac Asimov calculated that if an annual 2% human growth rate could be maintained for only 1800 years the total weight of humans would equal the weight of the planet Earth. Reversals many of the most major trends in human civilization are needed immediately.

World Watch Institute points out that the incredible growth in food production seems to have topped out. Trends now go down, not up, for grain production, cropland in use, rangeland in use, world fisheries, fertilizer use. Carbon and greenhouse gas emission is still hugely expanding - climate change is and will be a fact.

Gaia is bountiful and resilient. In theory there are plenty of reasons for hope, but there actually is no hope as long as materialism reigns supreme in the bloated, grasping, narcocracy called the United States - and billions in China and everywhere else want nothing more than to be just like us. There is no reason why a logical person could conjure hope. This clear unspoken underlying reality influences a lot of peoples outlook on life, especially artistic, young or sensitive people.

Not that many people will end up being buddhists or morally decide to live simply on the earth (even though mindfulness, conscious breath, mental discipline, and simplicity can bring great joy). The only hope, only hope, is to find alternative superpowerful motivators for human behavior that can actually begin to move human consciousness away from its death lust for things (the most important things are not things).

What possible alternative motivators could be powerful enough? I have been possessed by these questions for decades and I think I have the main answers. Who cares? Not many. I care! I will find others. We need main big changes, but we can't speak freely here. We are in a time of inquisition against the mother god, hundreds of thousands are in bulging jails - they can take your home and all of your property without charging you with a crime. Do you care - as long as they are not coming for you? The U.S.A. (as defined by the words in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights) has very obviously ceased to exist. You can look the words up in a dictionary. "Life, liberty, pursuit of happiness", what a horrible unfunny joke now. We must fight back for our country, it's principles are the highest achievement of human beings on earth.

First, the plants that the mother god gave us to speak directly to our consciousness (in non-addictive ways) tend to teach that joy can be unrelated to possession or control. Cannabis is the great green engine and gift of the mother god to humans. Comprehensive utility, healing, beauty, mercy, and euphoric bounty so perfect and so female that we know that god is. Mushrooms or Peyote will take you happily on through to the other side (gentler than LSD). You know they are absolutely pure, from the unity of earth, air, water, and real holy magic. You can know the glow and the flow, the mystery and the understanding happening together, the smile of rapture on earth. Pure gifts of the goddess, used as taken from the ground, can help to cure addiction, hostility, violence, and materialism. The U.S. is willing to destroy our system of law to kill this truth at any cost.

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Second, sensual and sexual joy, should break loose all over. Our wild bodies could be such endless wellsprings of pleasure (and safe if used wisely). We are so desperately repressed - and the sexual titillation (kept mainly unfulfilled) is used sell endless things. We need loads of happy, enthusiastic, consentual, real sex, especially in the temples. Our goddess gave human females a huge time of pleasureable receptivity (not a tiny period "in heat") for good reason.

Third, of course, we need the masses of humans to feel the empowering spiritual awakening that comes with a total love of the earth and nature. It is so obvoius that real religion is the religion of the real. God is in everything and she is holy far beyond words. We need our real gods of the earth and sun back, all the real gods of our pulsing living mother. There is no chance whatever that large creatures will survive this period of extinction if the majority of people in the powerful cultures on earth continue being guilt tripped by utterly rootless male sky gods - focused on heaven- broadcasting their willingness to dominate and then destroy all. Take a quick look at the book of Revelations. They don't try to hide it.

Last, lets admit that men have done their job. They have succeeded! Hooray! Or something. There is nothing that we cannot destroy or make faster or harder or tougher! Now, however, that quite uncontrollable male need for dominance and "more" is absolutely (terminally) contra-indicated. Males (and "classic male" characteristics) must take a vacation from leadership for a few centuries so that our hoped for evolution to "homo empathacus" can greatly speed up. Our sexual role characteristics were formed by the usual division of labor established during our huge period of evolution as hunter- gatherers. Right now we can't have the stalkers and killers in control. We need the nurturance, co-operation, communication and empathy that women developed as they worked to keep the tribes "home fires burning".

And for Pagans now? Those who are in relatively "safe" towns must "come out" hard with moral force. We need to strongly protest the worst institutional and ecological atrocities with extraordinarily creative, very well produced, highly researched, educational, photogenic theater. In costume, sometimes in silence, sometimes day after day. For a pagan the meaning of sin is moral weakness. We are just now strong enough to stand up and shout - to stand between our holy mother and her doom. We can provide hope and inspiration. Most people don't even know that there is a rooted and vibrant alternative to the inflated nothingness of modern society.

"All the world's a stage". Well, are we going to jump on this sacred stage and save it with creative genius and iron moral discipline, or will we sit around like a bunch of goofy antiquarians until...

the end

sieze the time sisters and brothers, get serious, be resolute, have really big fun!