

garden pilots

transition tools for kids



eBook #11 by Willi Paul
NewMythologist.com

Offering

Prelude

Sounds

"Transition Prayer Percussion Ritual"

Articles

"Tattoo Alchemy" - A fun test in the future for kids 10 - 14 years old

"Symbols in the Transition?"

Animation / Video

"Mother - Frack" - Animation Pilot for Children

New Animation Model & Case Study for Transition Children

"Cascadia Dream & Rituals" - Children's Video

New Myths

Alice Greening and the Parking Lot Sharing Expo. New Myth #35

"Alice Greening and the East Palo Alto Permaculture Brigade." New Myth #36

"the mystical seed ball missile from god." New Myth #37

"Halo and Kat Wing of Caledonia Alley." New Myth #38

Myth Lab

"Myth Lab: A Transition Workshop Primer for Imprinting the New Mythology." Site Video

Prelude

Little blue dreamer go to sleep
Let's close our eyes and call the deep
slumbering land that just begins
When day is done and little dreamers spin

First take my hand now let it go
Little blue boy you're on your own
Little blue wings as those feet fly
Little blue shoes that walk across the sky

May your path be your own
But I'm with you
And each day you'll grow
He'll be there too
And someday when you go
We'll follow you
As you go, as you go

Little blue star that offers light
Little blue bird that offers flight
Little blue path where those feet fall
Little blue dreamer won't you dream it all

Refrain

And in your travels you will see
Warrior wings remember Daddy
And if a mama bird you see
Folding her wings will you remember me
As you go, as you go
As you go, as you go

Patti Smith - [The Jackson Song](#)

Sounds

"Transition Prayer Percussion Ritual"



Transition Prayer Percussion Ritual

Facilitator

(gong struck 1 times in call to focus)

Participant Two

“for Nature & human healing”

(Once touch on symbol)

Participant Three

“for planting healthy seeds”

(Two touches on symbol)

Participant Four

“for the growing seasons and water sharing”

(Three touches on symbol)

Participant Five

“for a harvest with sharing and community reliance”

(Four touches on symbol)

Facilitator

(gong struck 2 times to close)

Articles

"Tattoo Alchemy" - A fun test in the future for kids 10 - 14 years old

At each tattoo (or symbol) there is a question....

“Tattoo Alchemy” -

A fun test in the future for kids 10 – 14 years old

How it Works:

At each tattoo (or symbol) there is a question. Please start an email and keep track of your answers there as you journey through the game. Send me your answers at [newmythologist at gmail.com](mailto:newmythologist@gmail.com) so we can discuss them and your experience together.

Ready? Your first tattoo is coming up...!



Tattoo One: *What do these two cooking devices have in common? Can you guess where they are used and with what types of fuels?*



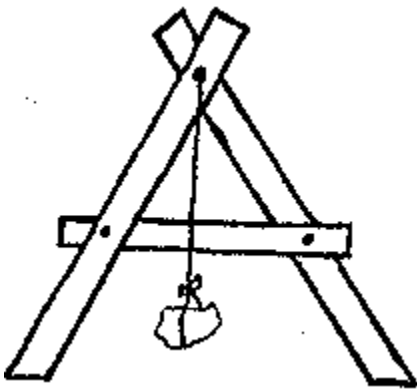
Tattoo Two: *This is a food truck. We are seeing more of these mobile restaurants these days, especially down town. Have you eaten at one? What is your favorite food?*



Tattoo Three: *Please create a short story about this ritual gathering. What do you think the circles in their art mean?*



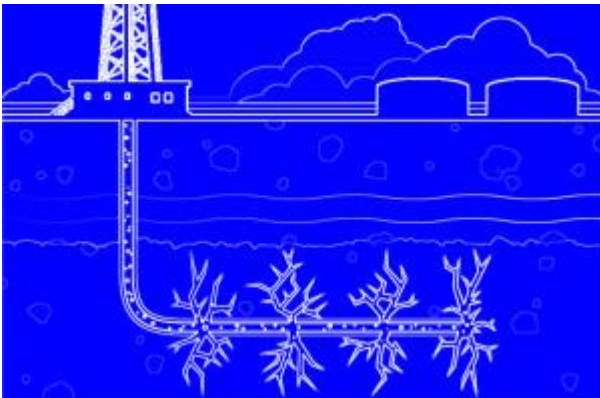
Tattoo Four: *Do you recognize this bird? It was once threatened with extinction but is coming back! What can big birds symbolize for the environmental movement?*



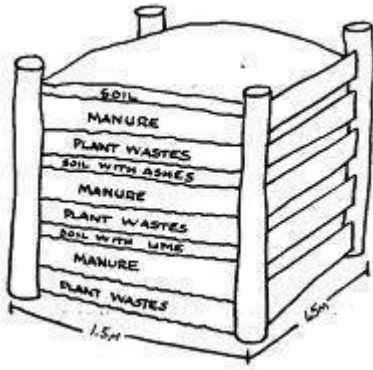
Tattoo Five: Can you name this land measurement tool from permaculture?



Tattoo Six: List as many ways that wind supports your life!



Tattoo Seven: Fracking is a way to extract energy from Mother Earth. Who benefits from this unsafe and destructive technology and how is it impacting our land, water and citizens?



Tattoo Eight: This is a type of compost pile? Where can you use the finished compost?



Tattoo Nine: This man is often called the inventor of permaculture. What is his name and where does he live?



Tattoo Ten: This is a indigenous house. Name it and explain how it keeps people inside warm?



Tattoo Ten: Name as many of these groups as you can! Are you a spiritual being? How?



Tattoo Eleven: What do you like about your local market? How does this experience compare to your local supermarket chain?



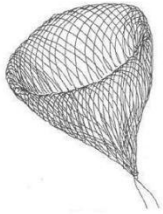
Tattoo Twelve: Where did learn about this idea? Are you incorporating resilience into your life now?

* * * * *

story pieces
our mythic pulse
points of contact
initiation stories 'r' tattoos
journey in the future

alchemic sparks
map coordinates

"Symbols in the Transition?"



Symbols can be actions and targets
Symbols are guesses and vibes
Symbols are under the machines, symbols are fire
Sacred & myth?
Symbols are the profit games we play and the air in our lies

Animation / Video

"Mother - Frack" - Animation Pilot for Children



Engaging the Vision - Building the Set

Our Heros Seek-out the Earth...

T1 & T3 are “Transistors”, powerful beings from a distant planet in our Galaxy that experience and share energy, data, even thoughts and feelings between distant planets

They have hacked into the Earth’s Internet in search of Nature and examples of human’s evolution

The Pilot Episode: "Mother - Frack"

T3 searches on alternative energy sources with their wave-ponder and examines a tall metal lattice tower

T1: Looks like an injector unit?

T3: Like a needle into Mother's arm?

T3: Does not look like care for their Earth.

T3: I shall call this structure "Devil's Tower"

T1: Primitive head gear man, come in!

T3: T3: He cannot think over the noise down there!

T3: That would be the Devil?

T1: Agreed.

T3: A secret scarlet potion!

T1: In a blue box!

T3: Why all these hoses on the lands, T1?

T1: They symbolize "snake and confusion."

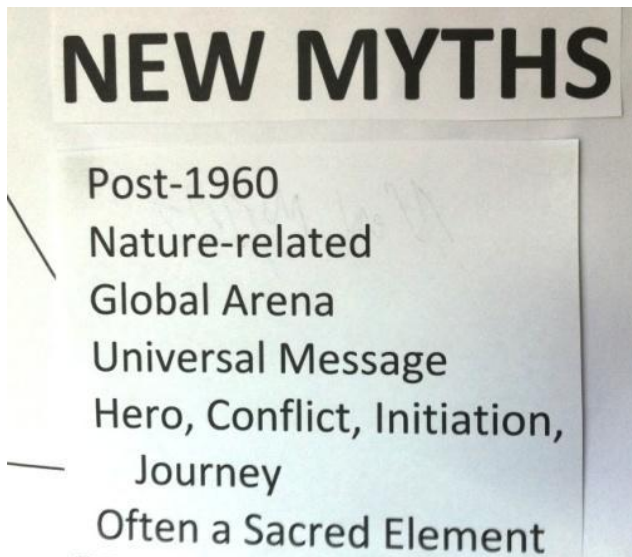
T3: They need to localize!

The Lesson of the Story?

Fracking makes our space friends crazy...

and our precious water toxic!

New Animation Model & Case Study for Transition Children



New Animation Model & Case Study for Transition Children by Willi Paul, NewMythologist.com

Purpose of this Project:

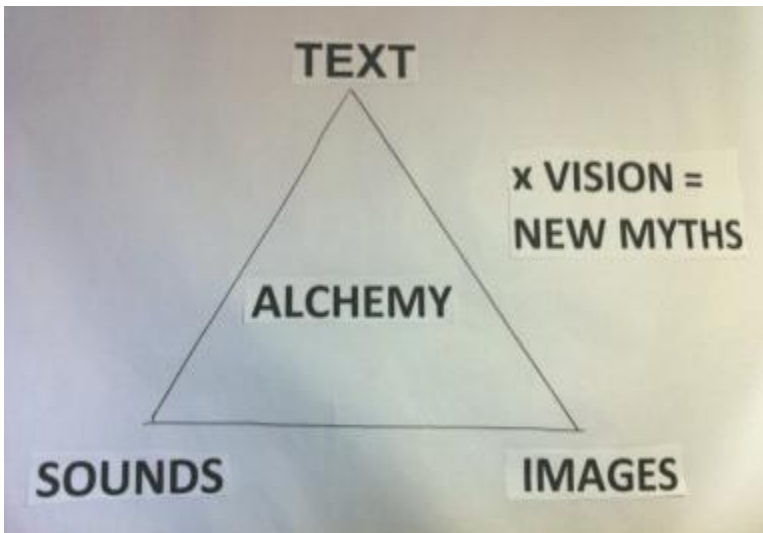
We need to create new consciousness with the images and messages that we make.

Today's children are super smart and have a great hunger for new stories and myths – to create and share them with other kids globally. So I am an advocate for creating new tools for kids: sound bites or sound tracks, essays, stories. I have published 34 new myths using this sound, text, imagery, vision, alchemy and new myth frame work.

Images! Children are bombarded 24 hours a day. They need a new perspective or process to break the consumption drone. Something more personal and magical like the new alchemy which is a “change experience.” This model helps to redefine and illuminate new alchemies and proposes integrations in through several creative steps.

The act of working with this model (solo or in collaboration) is **an alchemic act**. Integrated output plus vision is the heart of the tool. The final format (pdf, avi, etc.) of the resulting artistic piece is of less significance.

The Base Model:

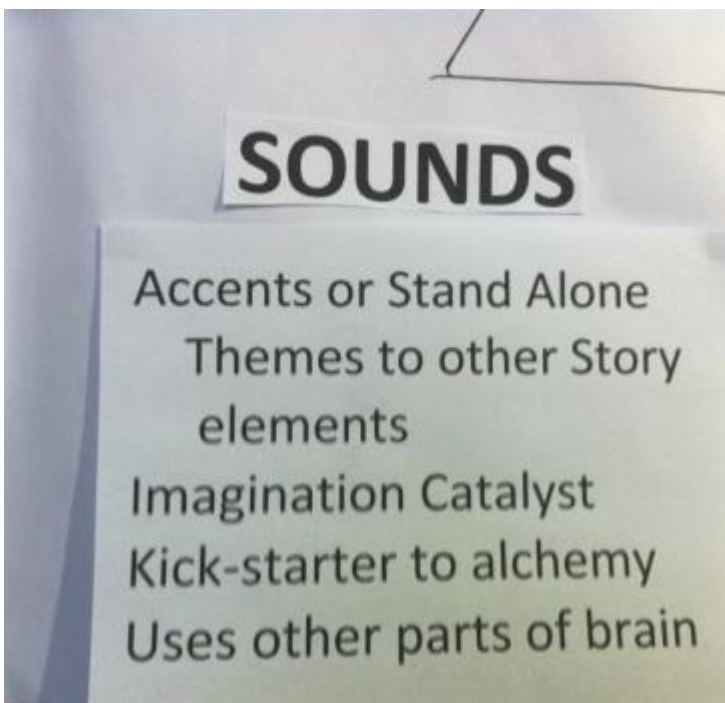


The New Animation Model alchemy is driven by two stages and the alchemic synergy between:

1. Text, images and sounds and
2. Vision(s)

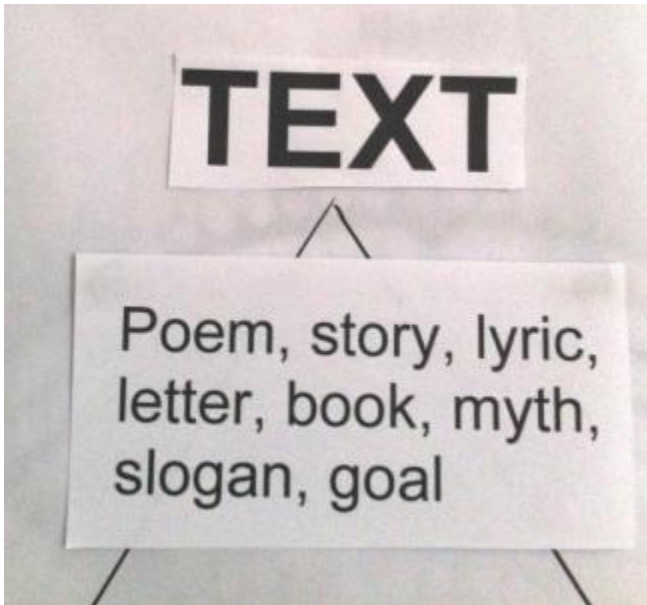
Defining the Terms:

Sound



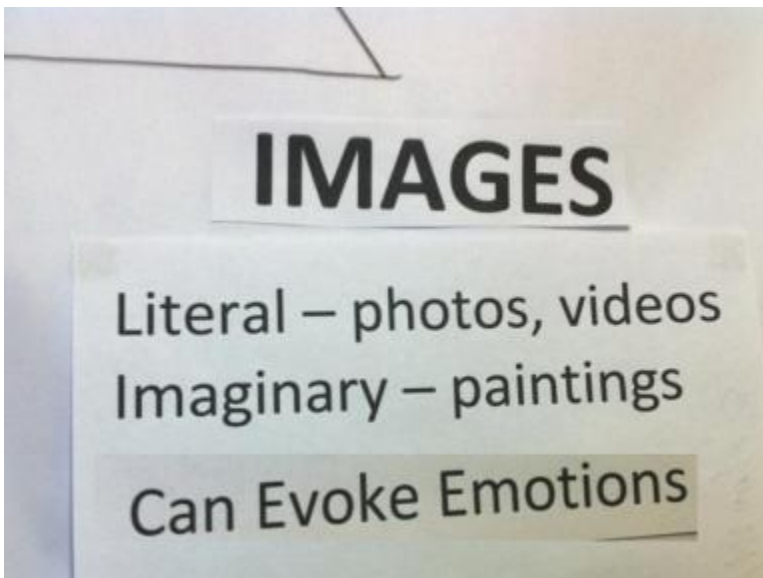
To me, sounds are the least understood but hold the highest alchemic potential for children's creativity. As **imagine connectors**, sounds are the connection to past worlds and a future sonic glue. Children can create soundtracks and musical lattices for their own visions. Soon gone are the corporate jingles and processed top 40 hit making from the "old days?"

Text



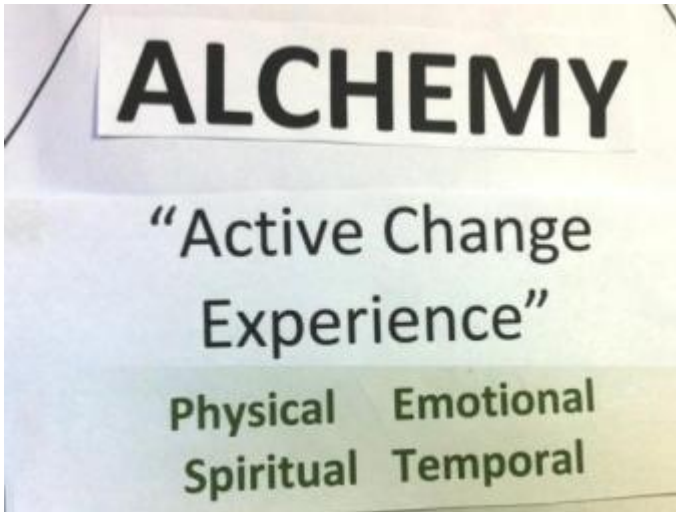
Perhaps the best understood, most rigid and traditional element for new animations, text are the quickest to deploy use in creative projects. As text / sub-text, credits, titles, etc., children can understand the meanings, placement and legal function of labels and captions with little training. But letters, words and phrases are also doors to deeper meanings (i.e. – poetry) and alchemic in combination with the other elements.

Images



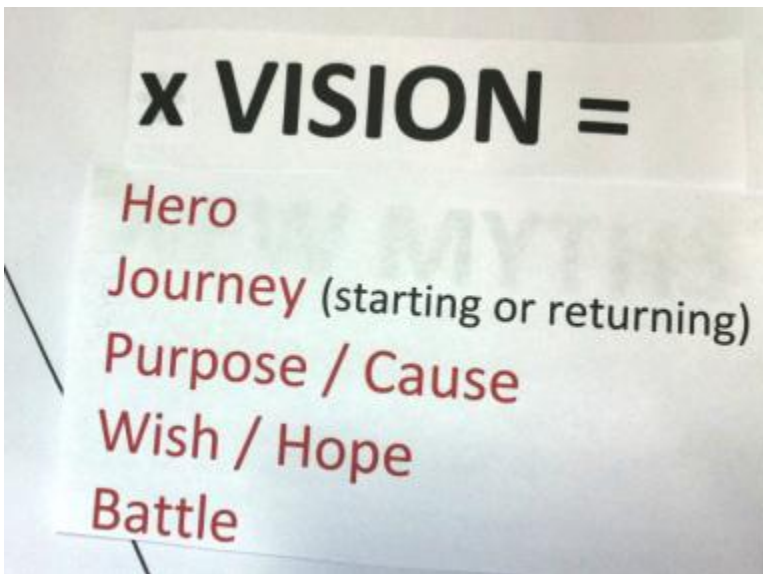
Images are the third major component for alchemic recombination in this model. Like text, images are also a rigid and machine controlled / traditional element for new animations. Images without sound can invite us to add our own inner voice or upload a soundtrack or over-power us with an historic or family references.

Alchemy



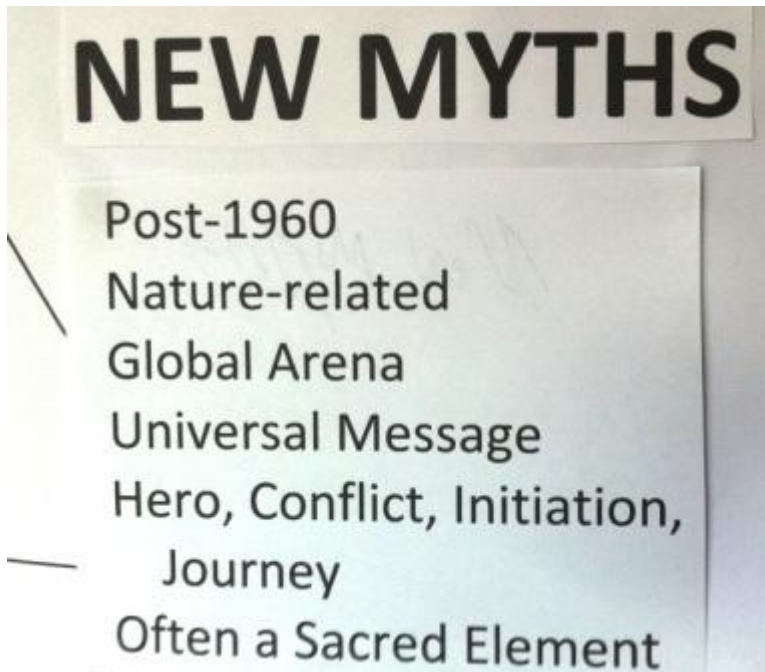
It is often interesting to watch a child playing a video game or listening to a tune. Where is the alchemic change in each? It could be argued that the more text, sound and image elements that kid has to bring to the experience the better? The model speaks to **an active creative process** – not a reactive one. Commercial television with its 1950's routines and soap operatic, brain numbing control is one counter-example to the goals of the animation model.

Vision



A child's vision can be fueled by many things: heroes, memories, material wants, a global view or fear. This animation process can be key to both the start, middle or return stages of a journey to test the world and return home to tell the tale. Vision is best summed up as hope and a willingness to fight for your dreams. Joseph Campbell's work is key here.

New Myths



There is no more controversial piece of the model than the proposed resultant or the New Myths. And this comes with a multiple premises: including that the **classic myths** can longer stir our creativity and initiate our children's journey. And two: there is **a sacred symbol or ritual** that binds all people together.

* * * * *

Case Study: The Edges of Nature

[Source](#): "Pescadero breach deemed a success"

By Samantha Weigel Daily Journal correspondent

Text

The ongoing momentum of state and federal marine conservation agencies geared toward preserving the Pescadero lagoon and preventing fish kills was determined to have paid off in early December.

Eighteen years ago, experts began to recognize a significant impediment at the lagoon winding under Highway 1 that resulted in the death of hundreds of steelhead trout. The population of steelhead trout has diminished from 600,000 in the 1980s to a scant 200,000, said Chuck Bonham, director of the California Department of Fish and Game. During yearly months of disconnect, the temperature of the lagoon rises and decreases oxygen levels in the water, affecting the procreation and resiliency of the native fish. As the fresh water rises above a layer of salt water, the water column begins to stratify and creates unsafe conditions for endangered and threatened coastal marine life.

Representatives from California State Parks, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, California Fish and Game and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are among the participating organizations. After receiving permits from the various government agencies, Patrick Rutten, a representative of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Restoration Center, put his plan to restore the lagoon into action Oct. 4.

Based on an appropriate tide schedule, the daytime breach occurred when the sunlight was at its highest and allowed photosynthesis to help raise the oxygen level in the water, Rutten said.

“For the first time since 2000, no fish kills occurred in the Pescadero lagoon following the breach of the sandbar,” said Jim Milbury, spokesman for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries.

Approximately 40 volunteers convened at the lagoon to begin the day-long process of manually breaching the 75-foot gap between the lagoon and the ocean. Using shovels, the volunteers were able to forge a channel allowing the warm fresh water and the cooler ocean water to mix. As expected, this effort was short-lived and the channel closed within a few days with nominal effect. After continuing to monitor the post-breach decreasing water quality in the lagoon, it was determined a second breach would be necessary, Rutten said.

Supported by the fraternal service organization the Native Sons of the Golden West, an excavator was rented to conduct a more substantial breach a few weeks later, Rutten said.

“It hurts our feelings when people say it’s only 200 or 500 steelhead dying [each year]; any fish kill is too much,” said Tim Frahm, Native Son of the Golden West member.

After six hours of excavating an extensive aqueduct, the lagoon breached significantly.

“We lowered the volume of the lagoon by a full ‘foot’ and created a channel that introduced cold, oxygenated seawater into the lagoon. The lagoon lowering also stopped water from flooding the marsh and tules, which prevented a water quality issue from setting up,” Rutten said.

This time, the channel lasted just more than a week and the water quality improved for a minimum of two weeks, Rutten said. By substantially lowering the water volume, Rutten and his colleagues “reset” the lagoon by decreasing the temperature and mixing the stratified water column with oxygenated water. Seemingly temporary, the breach essentially bought time until the lagoon naturally breached on Nov. 30, Rutten said.

“We had no fish kill and subsequent water quality monitoring indicated the lagoon had high quality steelhead conditions from the surface to the bottom,” Rutten said.

This timely success will likely have no direct impact on future years’ stratification and poor water quality in the lagoon. However, a permit has been issued for a third breach, fish kills have currently been prevented and information has been gathered that will assist in determining a long-term solution. A major factor in assuring continued support of the lagoon relies on the formation of an independent science panel.

“The science panel process is proceeding well. Dr. John Largier, University of California [Davis] Bodega Marine Lab, has volunteered to chair the science panel. John is a recognized expert in estuarine science and I have a high degree of confidence in John’s leadership and scientific expertise,” Rutten said.

The information gathered by monitoring the water quality that affects healthy estuary conditions before and after the breach, and eyewitness accounts of the variability in fish kills will be provided to the panel to govern future planning.

“We absolutely learned a lot about how we will conduct the 2013 breach. We did collect a substantial amount of water quality data that will be provided to the science panel,” Rutten said.

Perhaps just as significant as the physical results, was the ability for the various organizations to conquer the years of bureaucratic dissonance and get to work.

“From NOAA’s perspective, the breach was an absolute success,” Rutten said. “This was the first ‘management’ effort in 18 years to prevent a fish kill and it worked.”

Images



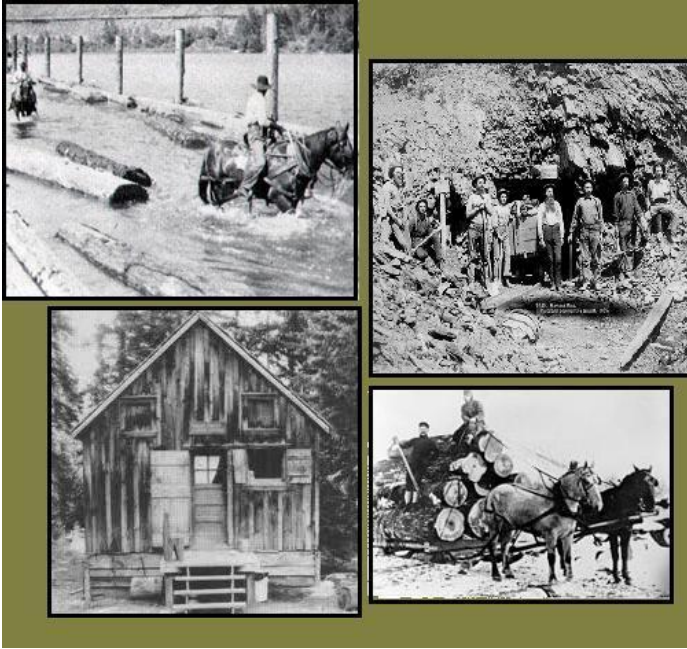
Sound

Play “[rumblings](#)”

Questions: Engaging the Animation Model to Stimulate New Myths

1. What are the inputs and outputs in the steelhead case study?
2. Could this project be successful without the cooperation of many agencies and local citizens?
3. What is an estuary? Could this place be a symbol for a larger message?
4. Why do so many people value a few hundred steelhead? Are these fish sacred?
5. How does the steelhead ecosystem mirror the human ecosystem that is trying to save it?
6. What is the cause or campaign here?
7. How is alchemy in play in the estuary?
8. Could the steelhead and its journey be a mythical character in your myth?
9. Which formats seems to stand-out for your piece? Power Point? Video? Illustrated essay?
10. Is there a ecosystem in your area that needs your assistance? Your vision?
11. Permaculture Principles talk about “The Edge” – how does this transition area play in the the estuary case?
12. How to capture and incorporate the sounds of the ocean, beach, splashing creek, birds, and workers?
13. Are you ready to be a hero?

"Cascadia Dream & Rituals" - Children's Video



ritual past
cut & sweat
stack & sell
dam & burn

church-born myths
resource separation
growth chains
evoking fools' gold blessings
mother's hands & knees
cascadia dreams
natural de-selection
segregation

close your eyes

our garden planet
relocation vibration
Nature teaches resilience
convergence
love is light in our circle
the backyard ritual?
permaculture is people care
all hands harvest the reward
homesteads and clear skies

open your eyes

New Myths

Alice Greening and the Parking Lot Sharing Expo. New Myth #35



“At this special holiday event, we’ll have a re-gifting exchange, share holiday decor, and have a few holiday-themed demos. Bring your bikes, bike supplies, homegrown fruit, vegetables, eggs, herbs, honey, flowers, paints, markers, books, shirts, skirts, pants, fabric, yarn, paper, sheet music, patterns, books, garden tools, craft tools, toys, kits, seeds, unwanted gifts, and more. Be sure to bring a bag to take home the bounty, so you’ll have enough for gifts!”

* * * * *

A local seventh grade girl from East Palo Alto is curious to experience what her teacher calls the "new local economy." Alice Greening rides her bike over HW 101 to Palo Alto to check-out a new kind of “neighborhood sharing event” that looks at first glance like her thrift shop turned inside out! Curiously she finds an old silver dollar in the shrubbery as she parks her bike and wonders what she can buy with it. Each time she gets the same response: “Nothing! What do have to share?”

Her first stop is the bike man who is giving his time and expertise for free to tune-up everyone’s two wheelers. Alice sees a ton of bikes at the gig. But where is the car repair booth, she wonders? What she doesn’t get yet is that sharing is part of a larger heart-felt movement to create local relationships and resilient communities.

"Cars are losing favor in this circle," she smirks. With her old Schwinn now tried and true, she looks for another table to explore.

“Come over here dear, calls the cookie lady!” “Do you want to put some frosting on a cup cake and eat it at the Expo?”

“Are you teaching us something, Ma’am?”

“Oh Yes, indeed. I am sharing my experience as a start-up home bakery business. Frost-up a red velvet while I explain the bizz: batter to sprinkles!”

Alice walks on, rubbing her silver dollar and whipping off frosting from her cheeks, chagrined, wondering if anyone at this strange Expo will ask her to spend it. Ahead on her right, a large blue sheet is on the ground, covered with little piles of clothes. A woman drops clothes onto the sheet and walks on while another is sizing up a blouse.

“What are you looking for today?” Alice asks the woman.

“Nothing special. Just good to hang out here. In Brazil we have a family tradition of sharing; we need no parking lot expo to take care of our generations!” Alice is admiring a red scarf.

“It’s yours honey! Give back what you can!”

There are many exciting things just ahead in the parking lot, and many colorful people to check-out. Piles of books, house plants, fabrics and seeds. People playing weird instruments.

Alice guesses and says hello to one of the organizers of the Expo.

“Ma-am?”

“Hi!”

“None of my friends are here today. Can we hook-up our neighborhoods somehow?”

“Can I ask you to take back some flyers to your churches and schools?”

“Cool beans.”

“Ma’am?”

“Yes, Alice!?”

“Here is a dollar for the sharing fund.”

"Alice Greening and the East Palo Alto Permaculture Brigade." New Myth #36



I feel the rumblin' in her ground. I feel the rumblin'.

I feel the rumblin' in her ground. I feel the rumblin'.

When Will I learn how to listen? When will I learn how to feel?
When will I learn how to give back? When will I learn how to heal?

I can feel the weather changing.

I can see it all around. Can't you feel that new wind blowing?
Don't you recognize that sound that sound?

And the earth is slowly spinning, spinning slowly, slowly changing.
When will I learn how to heal?

Neil Young, Rumblin' – [Le Noise](#)



After the East Palo Alto City Council approved the kids' application to create a permaculture crown in the weedy corner lot at Samson Street and Victory Avenue, owner old man Jones came down to meet the kid's with his "fresh vegetables are coming" smile and a bolt cutter.

"You guys really made a great garden plan for the lot. I think you will discover many treasures on your journey. Ummm, sorry again for the weeds and rust ahead." I got the City to run a water line for you.

Alice: "We will test the soil to see what nutrients we need to add and then compost the tall grasses. Zippo's Market is donating compost from their deli."

The East Palo Alto Permaculture Brigade was spawned from Girl Scout Troop 911 activists and a few venturous Boy Scouts and Occupiers! The only requirement to join the green rebels is to swear to uphold the principles and ethics of Permaculture.

The group cut two access points into the plot, at each far corner. They will bungee cord the ragged fences back to closed each evening until gates can be created. The six foot chain link fence is a great perimeter edge and a security arm to keep the right traffic in and out.



The Brigade's advisor, Mz. Amanda Bay, rented several scythes to take down the thick weeds to a 4" stubble so the kids could turn over the soil and plant food crops.

They discovered an old brick and wooden shack on the third day of site prep and held a meeting in it to discuss its renovation and possible re-uses. The place is standing on spirit ...!

"A School?" Too small!

"Seed propagator?" Needs shelving.

"Tool storage?" Maybe!

A club house for the Brigade?" Big Enough?

"Wait and see what the land and the City Council say to you?", Coos Amanda.

The permies soon discover that their lot slopes gently into the middle of the space where a 6' Meyers Lemon is bearing fruit. The tree was not visible from the street nor the ariel photos from the City Planning Department.

Alice: "Wow. Massive PR and a funding idea, guys!"

Four days later the kids were juiced, selling their sweet lemons in 6 packs and lemon aid on the weekend in support of the project. And they made the Transition Palo Alto web site!

Henry and Buck also launched a new ritual for the team, singing fresh harvest songs and dancing around the tree under each full moon. It's a green rumblin' thing.

Basic to the Permaculture science are the creation of compost strategies and paths and edges.

Alice: "This lot is a new soil-transport system. An integrated set of sun-driven parts."

But no one actually knew what she was talking about....

The new garden just seems to work sacred-like for the Brigade, as the team is just as much a seed to its growth as the tiny vegetable pods they lovingly place 4" deep in rows around their magic Lemon tree.

"the mystical seed ball missile from god." New Myth #37



wondrous resource capsule crash lands in Central Cascadia

The Salem Trans-Tribe took a direct, heavenly hit in broad daylight this morning, according to Cheq, the coast horse messenger and guide.

"It's very shinny," he shouted. "30 feet long, metallic, standard hand-made candle shape with some powered orange and black burn marks from atmospheric entry wounds."

"Where did it land?"

"Oddly enough, just meters from your community fire circle, a near miss, so to speak!?"

"The Light Network is sending an investigative team."

"It is cracked open at the front."

* * * * *

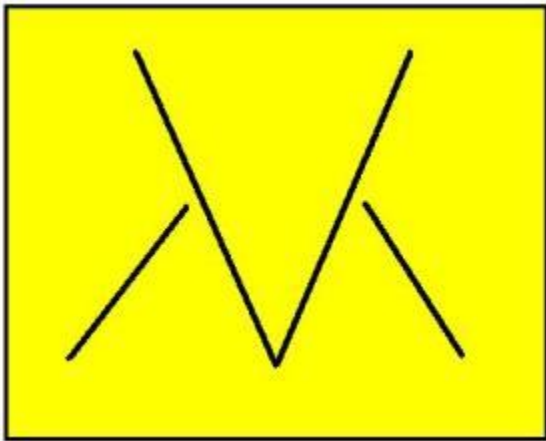
Jason V and two other senior permie's arrived from the Redding Regional Council on horseback after issuing a stay away warning to The Salem Trans-Tribal Head via carrier pigeon 24 hours prior.

"This thing doesn't appear to be from any Dark Force facility. Unfortunately Geiger counters went out with the toaster oven," laughed Jason.

"How will you gauge the threat?"

"Not sure, but that material on the ground seems like a good place to start."

* * * * *



The only formal signage on the missile was discovered after the twisted can was hoisted onto level ground.

"One big open cup and two small teepees?" Sandrum is lost. Alien spacecraft insignia is way past her graphic arts training at the University of Oregon Extension at Bull River Falls.

"Maybe the packages have clues to this meaning."

The Light Network usually deals with the immigrants, water squabbles and community land re-design. The four strange packages laid-out before the team should most certainly be a great risk to land and soul alike.

"No ticking. No smell." **Big Doubts.**

"Let's take these gifts into the old greenhouse. It's the only quarantine station around."

It is full of holes.

* * * * *

The first bag was emptied onto a seed sorting bench as surgical masks were adjusted and smiles sunken.

Then the second, third and forth: "**Pumpff...!!**"

It was soil, they thought, with additives. One bag included what appears to be green seeds.

“Could be the symbol on the craft is a measuring or planting instruction. One part to two parts?”

“But what material goes when and where, Cheq?”

“Dunno?”

“We need a spiritual ecologist for this mystery transmutation, folks.” Jason V calls.

* * * * *

Pond was nearby and spent the next 24 hours in the green house studying the alien alchemy, the missile coat and ... everything! By now most of Cascadia had heard about what many are calling a “mystical gift.” Big social hopes boil now for a faster cure to the post-capitalist fright than their beloved but routined permaculture. The blending of spirit and science across Tribe Land is still stalled and way late to catalyze a shaman-fueled Agri-Light Show.

“Let’s test all combinations of the materials in small amounts,” called Pond from the door.

“That way we can maybe survive any toxic reactions if things go wrong!”

They rigged-up a web cam inside the greenhouse to observe the experiment from a safe distance. The yurt will be crowded tonight!

* * * * *

It took two weeks to marvel with the 36 seedlings peeking through the magic soil in tray seven.

The Light Network investigative team issued a communiqué at the 6 week mark when the deep green, purple and burnt orange colored plants bore fruit. The greenhouse tasters are healthy....

At 7’ - 4” tall, the missile borne hybrid is a combination of pineapple and arugula. Half of the plants are now doing great in the outside garden. But equally amazing for Cascadians this season is that some of the leftover soil experiments were combined by Pond who started a super compost that never seems to get diluted.

Will the Pagans, the Techies and the Scientists now unite in Cascadia?



"Halo and Kat Wing of Caledonia Alley." New Myth #38



In 2042 the San Francisco Mission District is in bloom with organic cafes', food forests and walking paths. The streets are all gone, as are the cars and trucks that once clogged Valencia and 16th and the alleys with dark smoke and pesky horns. The fear from gentrification – a community diversity killer – has now been implemented in reverse. The Transition Movement arrived as the people's hero, killing the evil high rise developers, gated supermarkets chains and pirated water goons hiding in the High Sierra with a localized sword!

Sharing and bartering is the economic way in this land. The eco- confederacy called Cascadia. Repair and can, sprout and send.

This is a revolution of the spirit, Brother with Sister, Mother with Father. The people declared their neighborhood as a Holy Place and protected their seeds with the same vigor as the vision for the neighborhood. It was not an easy path to social and environmental justice. After the permaculture committee ripped-up the intersection at 24th and Mission Street, all hell broke loose! The last bus line was stopped here; a new bicycle path network sprang up in its place – and almost over nite.

* * * * *

Since everybody has a mask on, the flick-lickey flames from the backyard fire pit took on another role on this clear July nite in the Mission. Somebody twirled and yelped; a young boy jumped over the flames like a wolf with a reason. As the sparks flew away, up into the nite sky, the drummers began.

Fires always give people a weird warmth – an out of body experience, right? A power boost of shaman juice and pagan thrust. Since the soil returned from the concrete makers, magic has returned to the hearts and hands of the Mission Tribe. Compost is the best money a farmer can buy.

“Here, let me paint your body with blue henna hatching,” cooed Halo.

“Just as long as I retain my warrior status,” laughed Kat Wing.

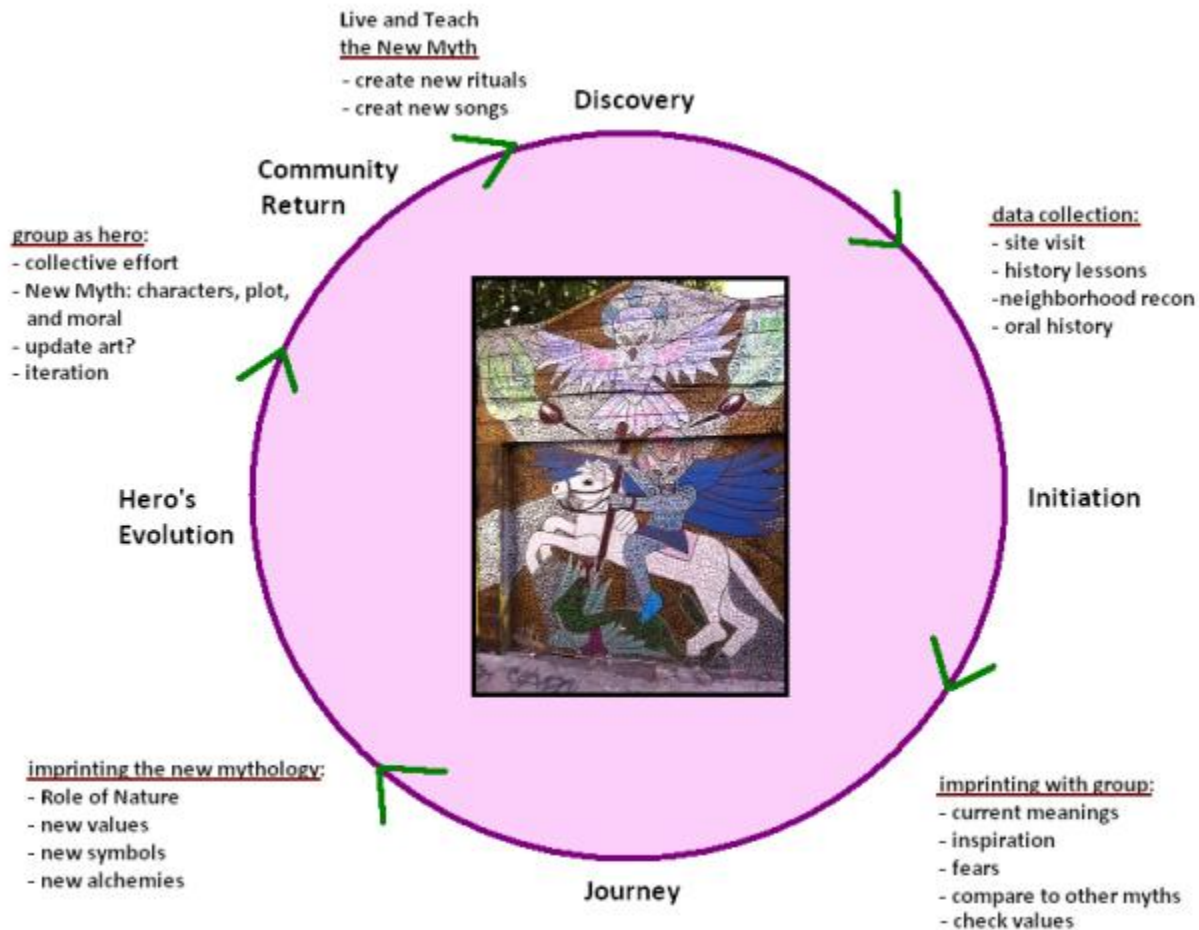
Their masks and costumes are an attempt to relive the tribal tale of good and bad times in the hood from the beloved garage painting still preserved in the former Caledonia Alley.

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The Light Network crew visits each fire dance, every seed sourcing party, keeping watchful eyes on the Children of the Sun.

Myth Lab

["Myth Lab: A Transition Workshop Primer for Imprinting the New Mythology." Site Video](#)



A Transition Workshop Primer for Imprinting the New Mythology

[Download the PDF version](#)

Willi Paul – NewMythologist.com

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The Artifact (for Workshop Primer)

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Introduction

The Myth Lab workshop is envisioned for neighborhood activists and media savor collaborators where a group of 4 – 12 participants spend 60 minutes to analyze a pre-selected Artifact and produce a new myth. **New Myth # 38** was generated by Willi Paul for this Primer and is not from an actual workshop but serves as an example for workshops to come. The image for the Primer is a “living and breathing” **graffiti painting from a San Francisco alley** (see locator map).

A process model is included that illustrates **mythic imprinting** with more depth. The goal is to integrate permaculture, transition, Nature and sustainability with the values and struggles in the New Mythology. The Myth Lab is designed as an interactive, open source and iterative experience. One goal is clear: we need to build our own messages and new myths to support our new food and governance systems.

Key Terms:

Artifact – The Imprintable Artifact is a Nature-Human combination; examples include graffiti, a bill board, historic sculpture, and a permaculture garden, with special powers and messages to the neighborhood.

Mythos – The pattern of basic values and attitudes of a people, characteristically transmitted through myths and the arts.

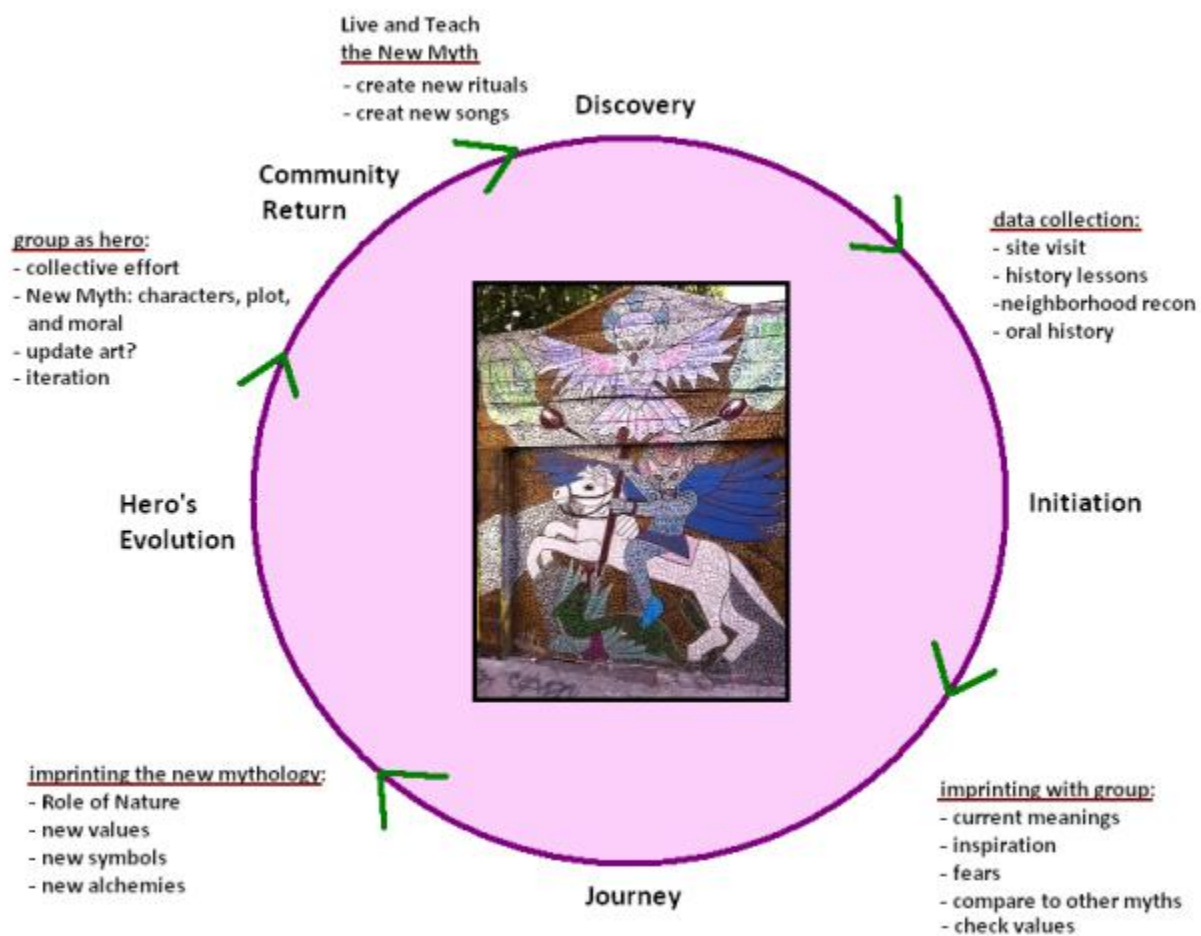
New Mythology – Is a call for new Nature-based, globally integrated stories without allegiance to any classic mythologies. New Mythology incorporates new symbols, new alchemy and climate change era rituals and is built for the future.

The Transition Movement includes new business exchange schemes where waste is used by another business; Transition is garden sharing that allows gardeners to re-use barren lands; the movement encourages people to choose local food and offer support for smart bicycle and mass transit systems.

Mythic Imprinting – Imprinting is defined as a two-way interaction with a selected Artifact that has generates synergistic meaning for both participants and the Artifact. Called “mythic imprinting” in the Myth Lab, this iterative and transmutative process is grounded in the initiation, journey and hero work from Joseph Campbell and is one way that neighborhood artifacts can help neighbors generate new songs, poems and myths.

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The Process Model:



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5 Stages of the Mythic Imprinting Process:

I. Discovery Stage – (Process Keys: Site visit – history lesson; neighborhood context; oral histories)

Artifact Data Sources:



Video: <http://youtu.be/M8tafQWldRw>



Locator Map to the Primer Artifact (16th @ Caledonia Alley, SF)

Site Specifications:

Size: ~ 10' x 11'

Place: Garage Door

Address: Caledonia Alley @ 16th

Paint Type: Unknown

Character Descriptions:

1. Owl with God Eyes and Crown flying into scene wings wide open to stop; white, pink, blue and purple
2. Two Hummingbirds entering the scene at 45 Degree angles (Mirror image-like); blue, green; red head, brown beaks
3. Winged Warrior – Man Kat Hybrid with God Eyes and Crown, Ruby Slippers; weapon-stick with sharp point stone
4. White Horse with Riding Blanket and Reins / Ring
5. Green Lizard with wings, red scale feet; red tongue flickering up

II. Initiation Stage – (Process Keys: imprinting with the group; current meanings of the artifact; inspirations; fears; compare to other myths; evaluate values)

Symbols (Characters)

Owl (wise predator) – with Alien Eyes and Crown

Hummingbirds (strong heart) – Scouts on Frontline

Kat – Warrior Hero with Alien Eyes and Crown

Lizard – Dark Force from Underworld

White Horse – Hero's Trusty Companion

Use of Colors

White, pink, blue (2) and purple

Textures of Skin (hatched) horse and lizard, road, feathers

Scene – a battle

III. Journey Stage – (Process Keys: imprinting the new mythologies; role of Nature; new values, symbols and alchemies)

Participants transmute historic values, symbols and alchemies into updated tools for a new vision and myth

IV. Hero's Evolution Stage – (Process Keys: group as hero; collective creation; iteration; revision of artifact; produce New Myth: character, plot and moral)

New Myth #38: Halo and Kat Wing of Caledonia Alley (earlier in this book)



V. Community Return Stage – (Process Keys: Live and teach the New Myth; create new rituals and songs)

Workshop participants share the New Myth with the community through oral and electronic channels, generating additional ideas and Artifacts for new rituals and songs.

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Mythic Imprinting the Neighborhood – Possible Outcomes:

One key outcome is that we design and share new artifacts that resonate from / with our neighborhoods.

We can create our own new stories, songs and myths without interference from corporate and governmental profit mandates.

The Lab can stitch together the ideals of permaculture, transition and Nature to further develop localization as the key guiding principle moving forward.

The Myth Lab is a low cost, high return process that can bring together all kinds of people: Nature lovers, poets and activists to create unforeseen synergies and messages.

As a new incubator, the “Myth Lab” can use many existing types of community artifacts to achieve creative and collaborative solutions.

Start to finish, this process is also akin to a “mapping” exercise, pointing to issues and next steps in our evolution.

Is this Chaos Era mythic process, driven by group imprinting, an evolved Nature / Transition mytho-archeology?

Questions for Students:

1. What makes an object a good Artifact for the Myth Lab imprinting process?
2. Do you understand why mythic imprinting is a two-way (human – Artifact) experience?
3. What other sources for new myths can you list?