



“until.” new myths from 2016 by willi paul, mythologist, planetshifter.com

Hi Folks. A first to me! **Synnecrosis** is defined by one site as “the living together of two organisms in a mutually destructive relationship.” Perhaps you are getting at humans and Nature? Please be careful how we use the word “myth” as it has many uses today. I use it to mean universal stories. I do make the distinction between old myths and new ones. If you wish, look at this early piece for one take on my vision. Please consider the future through my [new myths](#).

- WOX

prelude

"Piece of Crap"

Tried to save the trees
Bought a plastic bag
The bottom fell out
It was a piece of crap

Saw it on the tube
Bought it on the phone
Now you're home alone
It's a piece of crap

I tried to plug in it
I tried to turn it on
When I got it home
It was a piece of crap

Got it from a friend
On him you can depend
I found out in the end
It was a piece of crap

I'm trying to save the trees
I saw it on TV
They cut the forest down
To build a piece of crap

I went back to the store
They gave me four more
The guy told me at the door
It was a piece of crap

Neil Young – "Piece of Crap"

until.

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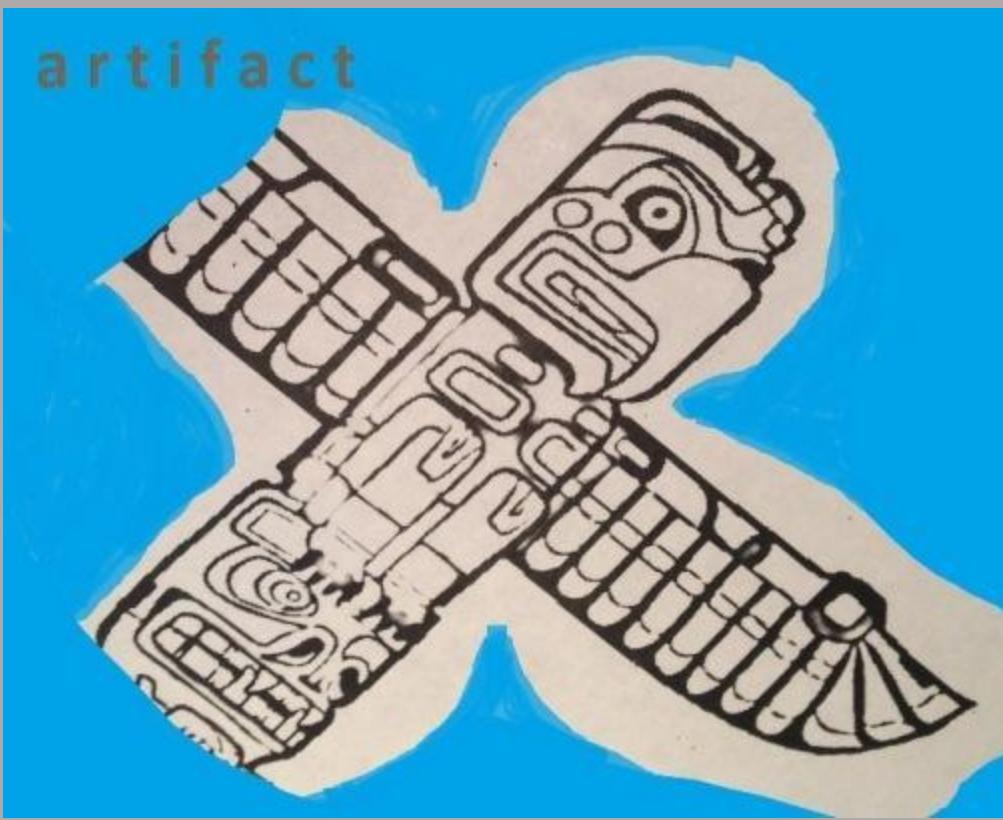
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[Burnt Eagle Clan](#) - New Myth #75 by Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com Media

Totem poles symbolize characters and events of a myth or the experiences of ancestors or living people. Some of these characters may appear as stylistic representations of objects in nature, while others are more realistically carved or they may represent supernatural beings such as the Thunderbird.

Artifact – The 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. ([Myth Lab](#), W. Paul)

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Burnt Eagle Clan - New Myth #75

A small seed gathering party returns with fruits and seeds from ground cover and bushy plants, using pieces of leather for containers.

3 women lay-out the seeds in a circle to dry them in the Sun.

An elder selects certain seeds for storage, a dry underground chamber that the group dug near the forest edge.

First Mother has lugged water in carved-out wooden bowls at the banks of their glacier-fed creek since 3 Men came into the area and joined the group.

The hunters and gatherers have four camps in the region that they visit depending on the time of year and health of each ecosystem. They use pebbles to make simple pictures and trail markers.

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A Boy finds a strange object on the river shore many steps from base camp and uses the log over creek to bring it back to camp.

It was burnt and jagged-edged. Is it a map; a signal? Who did this carving? Is that "Curved Beak"?

The carved and burnt object resonates within the group as spirit animals connected.

She sees the Bird from High Above in the carving with one broken wing.

The group dances around the object, shouting skyward in a prayer song to a higher power.

The feather and fire dance comes later that night, a clan gratitude ring of calls and whirling dust.

The strange object from the river becomes a community compass, placed in the crotch of an old redwood tree, then burned at the next fire circle with the charcoaled faces of the group's children.

The moment the Girl dragged the object out of the water, a type of magic or shift was activated. One by one, the group was forever changed a little more thru wonder and fear - tested in their ground-felt purpose.

Can we call them the Burnt Eagle Clan now?



"The Permaculture Land Re-distribution and Lottery Act of 2019" - [New Myth #76](#) by Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com Media

The [Dust Bowl](#) (1930's) - With insufficient understanding of the ecology of the plains, farmers had conducted extensive deep plowing of the virgin topsoil of the Great Plains during the previous decade; this had displaced the native, deep-rooted grasses that normally trapped soil and moisture even during periods of drought and high winds. The rapid mechanization of farm equipment, especially small gasoline tractors, and widespread use of the combine harvester contributed to farmers' decisions to convert arid grassland to cultivated cropland.

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Once a regional example of sustainability, the Bay Area is now slowly constricting, a halo-stained [ouroboros](#), from lack of food and housing resources, energy terrorism, deterioration of infrastructure and ongoing graft in both corporate and government sectors.

The Drought Years brought some folks into the streets demanding change while others followed the cyclical "doom and gloom economy" over the cliff. NorCal Permaculturists joined forces with Occupy, the Sierra Club and other land reformist groups to peacefully redistribute land for a new community farm family.

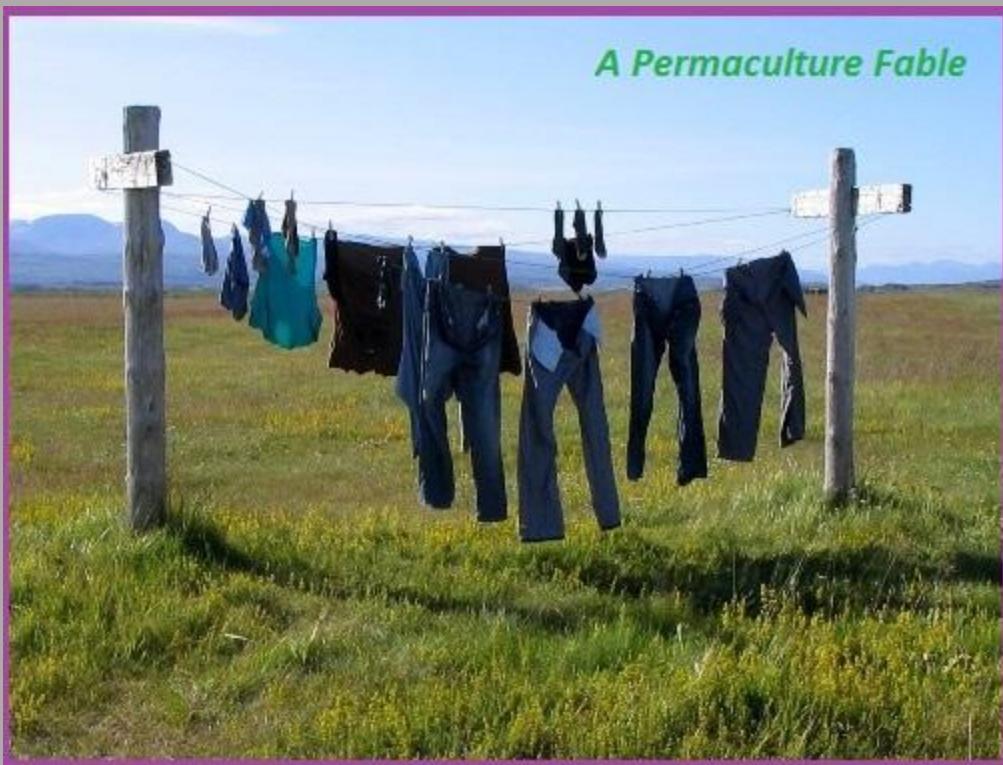
Bumper stickers pillaged: "No cars, No Walgreens", "Duck GMO!" and "Give Our Children Land!"

The Permaculture Land Re-distribution and Lottery Act of 2019 brought qualified city gardeners together to build small-scale agriculture settlements where once huge tractors and pesticide sprayers paved the land for corporate profiteers like Monsanto and Del Monte. [Care for the community and sharing the harvest](#) ethics were written into law and implemented.

"Going forwards to travel backwards, some claimed!"

Not everyone won land from the lottery.

More urban land was also offered to families and farming organizations throughout the Bay Area by religious groups, schools and corporations in an effort to grow healthy food and train the jobless. One important result from the Act was a renewed sense of neighborliness and community security for all.



A Permaculture Fable

[The Clothes Line Garden Club](#) - A Permaculture Fable for Children by Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com

The life cycle of the Clinger family is geared to the Four Seasons

Planting seeds in the Spring

Watering the fields in the Summer

Harvesting crops in the Fall

Canning and repairing in the Winter

Round 'n' round they go...!

This spring Mom C. hands each kid a small paper bag of mixed seeds, collected from their farm.

"What's what in this crazy collection of seeds?" they exclaim.

"We'll see, won't we!" smiles Mom.

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Each kid gets a small batch of land out back by the clothes line to raise a garden and each ponders how to tell what plants and flowers the seeds will grow. Photos are taken. They even ask Jude, their farm manager, what to do. Right now, they have only so much dirt and so much compost for this journey.

Summer comes quickly to this part of the country and sprouts of various thicknesses, colors and heights are coming through the soil and up to the Sun. The water bucket is busy!

The small paper bags of mixed seeds are now "head scratcher gardens" of tree saplings, flowers, beans, potatoes - and many weeds!

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Mom Clinger helps the little farmers sort and separate the baby trees from the vegetable shoots, and puts the flower starts in the long sun-faded boxes in the front of their house. She teaches them where each type of plant community grows best and congratulates them on their stick-to-it-ness.

"Do you remember which seeds grew up to be what kind of plant?" she laughs.

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The Moral:

You may never know what ideas will be important to you until you love them to life! Or: Diversity can come in small paper bags.



"Taking the Food Forest to City Hall"

International Permaculture Awareness Week

San Francisco August 21 - 26 2016 Free-for-All

[**"Taking the Food Forest to City Hall"**](#) - International Permaculture Awareness Week. New Myth #78. Vision by Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com Media

Prelude -

'Permaculture has to [get political](#) if it will have a role to play in taking on that unfairness with the urgency it merits, which is impossible unless we develop ways of meeting everyone's needs while also restoring ecosystem health.'

'Of course protecting what (permaculturists) value, in ways that are [legal and nonviolent](#), is always first. But if these efforts fail time and time again, then should we mindlessly continue with them? Most people involved in permaculture realize that we need deep and radical political change. Yet no movement in history has achieved any deep, radical change through solely legal and non-violent means.'

"If you find political activism fun, that it's your passion, by all means go for it. I find that too many people have gone through environmentalist work and hit burn-out. Personally politics is not for me. It's not joyful for me. I do see that the system is beginning to break-down and I want to concern myself with creating solutions." David Cody, [Urban Permaculture Institute](#) from: "[Does permaculture scale-up?](#)"

"A [permaculture convergence](#) is by nature a largely secluded affair; I have presented at three to date. The public is invited but it seems that the only the converted attend." – Willi Paul, "[Pathways to Community Resilience](#)."

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Morning Banter @ Kick-off Rally:
- International Permaculture Awareness Week, SF -

"Trees on Wheels just showed up! Did they sign the liability waiver?"

The **GMO-Free** crew wants to spray fake pesticides on the speakers at 1:05 PM. - something about the Monsanto Spies hiding-out by the juicer?

"Is there anybody from the **New Planet Army** ready to speak? The folks dressed in white?"

Sisters from the famous Oakland-based Black **Permaculture Raiders** want more time to haul in their part of the Food Forest demo.

The **SF Pot Club** is missing a shovel. And a kid.

"Parking tickets go to the Mayor's Office. Have you seen the draft **Seed Library** speech?"

"Is that trout stream from the **Aquaponics** exhibit or a municipal water leak?"

"Did the **rocket stove** demo folks get a permit to camp out with the **food trucks?**"

The **Pagans for Spiritual Resilience** are raising hell again.

"Tell the **Permies for Drones** campaign that they cannot photo-bomb the Boy Scouts."

"**DIY** wants to sit next to the Alameda Alchemists at the potluck. Something about sneaking marketing strategies from the **Transitionists.**"

"Anybody heard from the **Frozen Tofu Man?"**

Amen.



["Giger's Harvest Tradition @ Root River"](#) - New Myth #79 by Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com Media

Giger, former Prep Cook and L.A. Antiquer, now the ageless handy man at the "last resort" called OddFellows Park, cited between Forestville and Guerneville, Sonoma County, CA. Son of Merle and Biff Stormgate, he was born in 1958 in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Besides a broken down stop sign and a shady grey 25 cent wash'n'dry, this Redwood bend in the road offers a boat dock for the tourists where Giger launches his annual fall trip to the family ruin on the Root River.

A pontoon boat decked out with Grateful Dead stickers and a propane stoked kitchenette and a blow-up sleeping pad; an oar and a tiny outboard propeller to navigate the flood prone Root.

It's time-off for Giger, 3 miles downstream at the old Stormgate summer McMansion, a food forest and berry batch is weighted with apples, peaches and blackberries. His rituals dance in a submerged dock; the fire pit and the river's shoreline. All give face to the Harvest Tradition.

A tradition, weaving time:

"The River is the future. Water is the one thing we count on around here for the crops and wine." He calls to the Black Bird on this bow. But the NorCal drought of the last 7 years and counting has almost killed what little farming forecasting he has culminated.

"I love that fire pit." Giger is a grass burner, in more ways than one. "**Fire is now.**"

Mumbling now, he dribbles out something like: "That fucking old House." These days **Giger's past** is more akin to a barn yard rummage sale running down his paint peeled heart.

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Please understand that this is an archetype-fueled redneck who lives in the "**The Inbetween**" spaces like the morning fog; the semi-yearly rising and climaxing of the Root flood water; like the sticky smoke from his fire pit; the cries of the old boards falling off the house; and the curvy dirt-spray in the shore line.

Giger knows all about this nature / conscious – unconscious border stuff.

His Symbols? "River - Shore / Bank - Fire Pit – House." **Artifacts.**

He dreams about his geography. He would explain what he thinks is his calling: that his life's **Journey is also is his Tradition.**

And throw in a few easy rituals for glue.

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In many ways, Giger is like his old boat dock, sunken and decaying. A nice, old riparian growth. He loves to tell tour guests how the River is more akin to Time Travel – she gives us escape and shadow; a cool dive into mystery. He claims that the Root is the real Hero and thee Human / Nature interchange. Don't we all get that the River is multi-channel; a wildlife corridor?

But you must know that wondrous feeling from jumping off the edge of the boat and hitting the shore? 1 second of suspended life. Understand the transition between River and land. This is Giger's bioregion.

The pontoon party of one bangs all birds and beers to the bottom of the boat.

Let the rituals begin.

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Traditions are usually built on the backs of short-term, often seasonal rituals. Nature powered, often fire started.

Giger throws his fresh fish on the bank and ties up the boat with an old blue plastic rope. Over the next two days he will be busy with the **harvest ritual:** picking the fruit from the food forest and the berries from the co-starring thorny bushes. All are sealed in large ziplocks while the stems and leaves are piled next to the fire pit.

Evenings feature the **burning ritual.** The fire pit as caldron and alchemist. Dried grasses, leaves, old house debris and fish bones are up in flame and smoke. Giger gives thanks and sleeps next to the coals.

Fire Alchemy is the binder or spirit glue between "The Artifact, the Archetype and the Human." The burnt and crusted Fire Pit material is a delayed compost – next year all these elements create a potent soil compost which Giger takes home to his garden.

Last year' pit coal ritual is this years' soil - bagged prize for the return.

In the **final ritual**, Giger lights a candle in the old house to gives thanks for a bountiful harvest and renewed spirit with a prayer for another safe river run next year.

He mutters: "Tradition is Hope is Connectedness is Binding Nature with Human Kindness..."

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The Root River pontoon outboard engine wails. Giger? Refreshed.

Preserving a little **Spiritual Echo** until he repeats this Harvest Tradition Circle next year.

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Check-out [The New Myth Archive!](#)



["globeLAND: ePathy in the Post-Chaos Era"](#) - New Myth #80 by Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com Media

“Reality exists in the human mind, and nowhere else.”

— [George Orwell, 1984](#)

Recent News from the Chaos Era:

- + Monsanto and Genentech (MonGen Corp.) attempt to take over human genome database. Both company are taken-over by Anti-GMO forces and shut-down
- + 55% of all nuclear bombs are stolen, reactivated and repurposed for nefarious goals
- + California loses 6.25 feet of shoreline and 25% of municipal and private lands
- + Ford Motor Company markets a solar-powered three-wheel bike with trailer option at REI
- + Backyard and city gardens world-wide replace 93% of all commercial agriculture production
- + Syria is purchased for \$5 Billion and molded into an Eco-Tourism site by a Disney / CNN Travel partnership
- + Lack of clean water plunges humankind into severe de-population measures and mass migration
- + A new global séance series brings millions of frightened humans into an inner shelf

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[Telepathy](#) is the purported transmission of information from one person to another without using any of our known sensory channels or physical interaction.

An [empath](#) is a person who can psychically tune in to the emotional experience of a person, place or animal.

e-PATHY is the ability to hear and speak with anyone on the planet at any time, without permission, through the globeLAND chip and wireless network.

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Berlin St. Claire will never forget the fantastic turn that his planet took at the Global Population Congress 25 years ago today. Due to unending pressure on natural resources and geo-politics, attendees adopted a negative population growth strategy that permits that only a few children can be born each year per a global strategy. Consolidation and closing of many metro areas is now engineered with the invasive globeLAND personal wireless chip technology that fosters a new kind of transpondence or **community transparency** for each citizen selected to live on.

Los Angeles is now farmland. Juneau is a ghost town. Kansas City is a bicycle repair center. Toronto residents have been relocated to Enlightenment Towns in Costa Rica. Austin, TX is the old Silicon Valley.

The globeLAND Mantra: "Sun, permie-crops, water. IT."

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St. Claire was relocated to Marin County Enlightenment Town (E.T.) after the degree under the imminent threat of apocalypse. 205 others settled there. This is a neo-classic example of a **digital - non-digital collision** where cows, ground water and humans all have a wireless chip. Everything is reporting, and responsible to globeLAND Center. Many call this net Big Brother, rightly so. No firewalls. Nature is the new spiritual barometer. The sacred. One new world family tradition occurs on April 15, Earth Day, when all beings attend an e-PATHY convergence event called **SMORES** for 48 hours of community sharing.

The community is the Hero. One spirituality and no religion.

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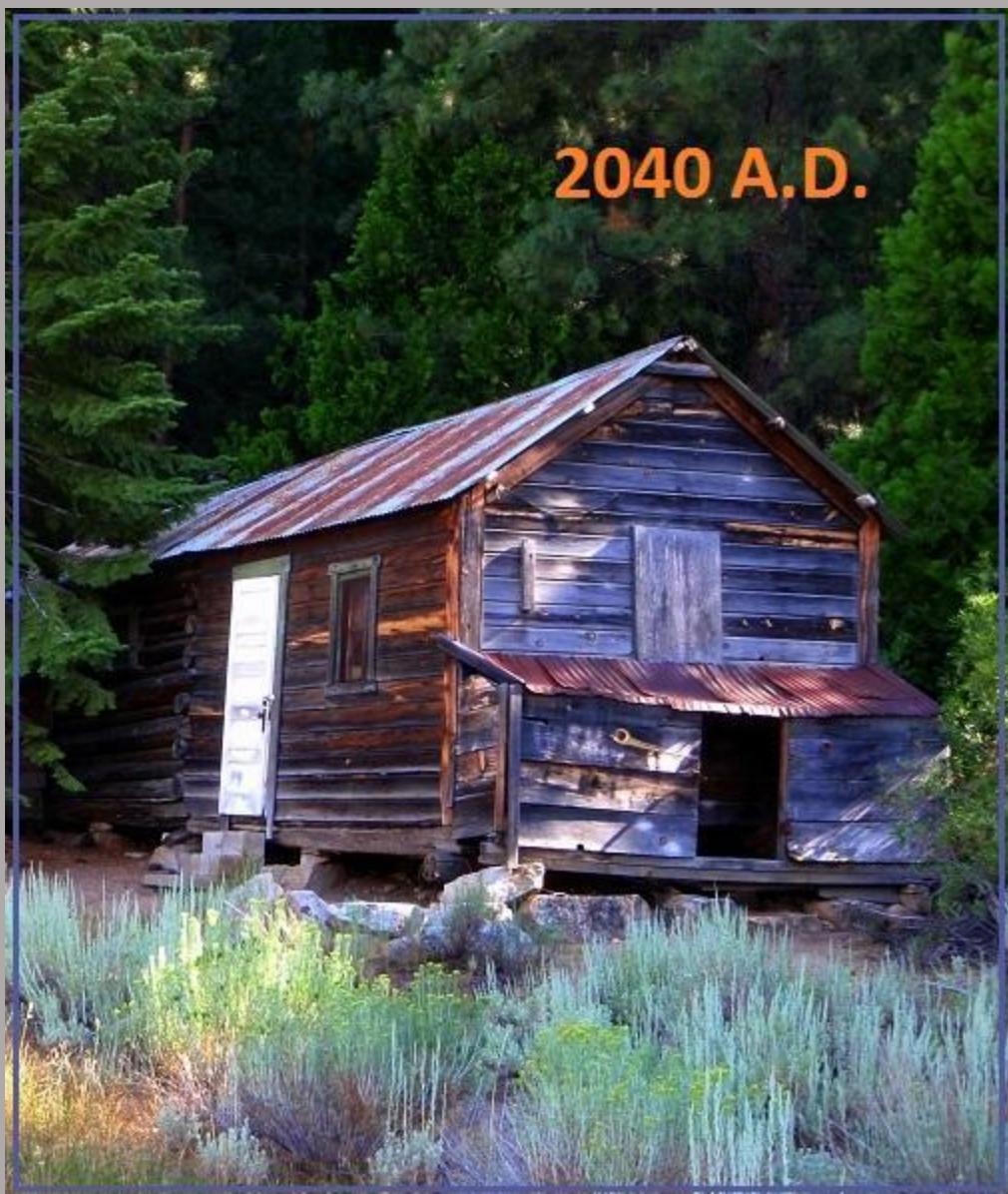
"I am turning into someone else. I am turning into you."

Is the Marin County E.T. an example of a collective consciousness? If so, is there now one unconsciousness? Exercising one dream? Supporters point to the universal wireless-driven database. One Big Ass LinkedIn Group!

The Earth is dominant symbol; saving her from human greed is the dominant archetype.

God's brain *on security?*

One free will.



[**“Permanent Convergence”**](#) - Freedom Springs Homestead, 2040 A.D. New Myth 81 by Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com

Note: This is Mr. Paul's submission for the [**“Writers and Artists Online Roundtable: Visions 2040”**](#) - 6/1 – 23. Presented by Planetshifter.com.

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Jacob J. Marklee founded a toll bridge crossing the Carson River in 1861. He aimed to tap into the traffic from the silver mining boom at Silver Mountain City. On June 23, 1862, he recorded a land claim of 160 acres in Douglas County, Nevada. A boundary survey took place, and the property ended up being in California. In 1863, Marklee died after being involved in a gunfight. When the Comstock Lode discovery took place, the town of Markleeville was founded on the Marklee property. Today, the Alpine County Courthouse sits on the former property, which is listed as a California Historical Landmark.

Survival is the new silver. Water is the new Internet.

After the oil trains derailed, and the processed food war was toast, and the reading lights went dark, Alpine County was bankrupt. Four families from the Davis, CA area heard about the mass exodus from Alpine to the cities southwest and set out for saner existence. “Migration out and migration in.” They aimed northeast for Markleeville and the abandoned Grover Hot Springs State Park in search of community and some transitional shelter.

[Grover Hot Springs State Park](#) is located on the east side of the Sierra at the edge of the Great Basin Province, characterized by open pine forest, and sagebrush and meadows. The park has a pool complex with a hot pool and a swimming pool hot springs, a campground, picnic area and hiking trails.

The 18 refugees are Seed Savers, Storytellers, Food Forest Defenders, Permaculture Teachers, Child Care Providers, DIYers, Post-Techie - Post-Hippie Salad Spinners; a few Guardians of the Post-Chaos World.

The grid is now just boot tracks in mud. The New West will not download the Old.

"Why did these people leave this area, Pops?" asked Dillion.

"Panic. Fear. No plans to make the shift away from the unsustainable." Shouted Rob.

The settlers began working with the surrounding land and the hot springs to integrate food crops, cob housing in transition to localized resource sharing and a rushed DIY life. Power poles and lines were re-purposed for shelter, garden edging and clothes lines. They blended water catchment, compostable toilets, food forests, water and pedal-power.

In an act of great cleansing and hope, they buried the former inhabitant's fire arms, cars, trucks, lawn movers and thermostats in the adjacent abandoned rock quarry and constructed a community shelter with the remaining free rocks and boulders by the springs.

The cold pool was converted to a root cellar just before Winter hit and serves the clan well in keeping vegetables and other items from freezing.

Seed balls and rocket stoves, forever, Amen.

At the first supper meeting after the trek up from the Valley, teams were set-up to handle security, food foraging, child care and spiritual support.

"This is our first tradition." Cooed Catherine. "We need to preserve the food that we carried up here and mix it with local edibles."

"Community will be first in our symbolic database; the seasons of Nature our ritual auger." People nodded. They did not consider this journey as a burden or an emergency but a long over-due shift in their consciousness and a change for the better for all of the Planet. They are in it for the long haul.

Certainly the "First 18" benefited from the infrastructure in the State Park but also from the canned food and household items in near-by, abandoned Markleeville homes and businesses.

"We give thanks and prayers for the people who left this place many months ago for an uncertain life in the urban geographies. They left here black and blue from the profit motive but we now choose sharing." Lamented Rob.

"What should we call this camp?" Smiled Jenny.

"How about Freedom Springs?" suggested Wilt.

Freedom Springs, indeed!



The phytos are dripping!

[“Phytoncides and the Forest Drip Coop” – New Myth #82](#) by Willi Paul, Mythologist, Planetshifter.com

Sylvie and Canyon are giving new meaning to the timeless phrase "living off the land" - they are collecting life affirming, naturally occurring biochemicals from their forest canopy called Phytoncides, or "Phytos," for naturopathic home remedies.

Phytoncides are antimicrobial organic compounds derived from plants. They are widely used in Russian, Ukrainian, Chinese and Japanese medicine, including holistic medicine, aromatherapy, and veterinary medicine. More than 5,000 volatile substances defend the surrounding plants from bacteria, fungi and insects. Phytoncides work by preventing the growth of the attacking organism.

Phytoncides are now a Nature-based, cottage industry for the young Montana couple.

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Canyon, a former permaculture teacher in Missoula, offers up a science drenched explanation to a neighbor: "Spices, onion, garlic, tea tree, oak, cedar, locust, pine, and many other plants give off Phytoncides. Oak contains a substance called greenery alcohol. Garlic contains disulfides. The shrubby sophora contains sophoraflavanone G. Pine contains myrcene and other terpenes."

Their business model is much less complex to explain than their science.

To gather the various Phytos from the trees, the duo invented a stretched and framed cotton sheeting or "nature drip wing" as a land-based fishing net for drops of moisture collected in times of heavy mist or light rain. The diluted liquid is then saved in recycled Bell jars for the processing.

From the wet bark of trees, they also collect Phytos with cotton wicks or strips for aromatherapy products.

The mixture of Phytoncides and water is then distillation with sunshine to concentrate it. This product can be added directly to the body as a tincture plus lotion mixture or added to a hot tub or bath for slow soak healing.

Sylvie loves to sprinkle the tincture in the pine boughs in their sweat lodge when they enjoy a cleanse.

The Forest Drip Coop is a deep community member and regular at the local Farmer's Market, selling creams, scent sticks and small concentrated liquid vials of Phytos - Nature's finest!



["The TechNo-Tribe of Palo Alto - 2031 A.D."](#) New Myth #83 by Mythologist Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com

Greywater is gently used water from your bathroom sinks, showers, tubs, and washing machines. It may contain traces of dirt, food, grease, hair, and certain household cleaning products. While greywater may look “dirty,” it is a safe and even beneficial source of irrigation water in a yard. Greywater can also be used to irrigate vegetable plants as long as it doesn’t touch edible parts of the plants. **Big Book, Page 237.**

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A little Draconia; a lot of Indian Summer on University Ave. “Profit is Resilience” is a bad joke around the fire pit. Sharing is everybody’s middle name.

Somebody just started a rumor in the camp: that the year is 2031. Nobody cares. Long days in the gardens and guard duty at night fill up most of each Tribe member’s time in Palo Alto now. It’s 4017 for all they know.

When the class and economic troubles erupted during the global environmental justice wars and crashed their beautiful for-profit tech utopia back in 2029, the PA residents erected an 18’ high barbed wire fence around the City, using material extracted from their own backyards and business plots, an irony that missed by anyone from the age of re-use.

They don’t know who they are keeping in.

The TechNo-Tribe runs a few outdated gadgets with a solar / pedal power wireless HON (hands on network). Many folks have primitive string and cans to talk over the day’s tasks. No shit.

At this stage, they have burned all of the trees in the re-zoned city in a low tech bid to survive and have to find other things to barter for fuel and fuel with the outside. The previous garage-bent civilization, and it’s cardboard, is long gone.

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In Palo Alto, you can post a notice of need on the fence community bulletin board. Bartering is the new dollar bill. Big Book, Page 7.

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The end of Internet-driven social media has created a new condition in the camp called “buzz down syndrome” that reduces communication between residents to a type of “psycho-babble.”

Good Shepherd Church of Silicon Valley has been vandalized and condemned so much that residents are shocked when a small team of anarchists open a rocket stove, bike parts and repair shop in the Nave. The Old Liberty Bank is their current medical clinic and pot club.

Soil tending and control is a big deal in the island as the streets have been torn-up in favor of internment farming with rows of soy beans and peas. Past the torn-out Caltrain rails to the west, Stanfordlands is a post-ag fortress that shelters their seeds for shoes and matches.

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One of the simplest methods of adding nutritious material to your garden beds is by incorporating well composted vegetation onto and into the soil. [Composting](#) mimics and intensifies nature’s recycling plan. The fertility of your soil also can be affected by how often you till the soil and the kinds of mulches you use. A compost pile starts out as a diverse pile of kitchen and garden “waste,” and matures into what soil scientists call biologically active organic matter. Big Book, Page 95.

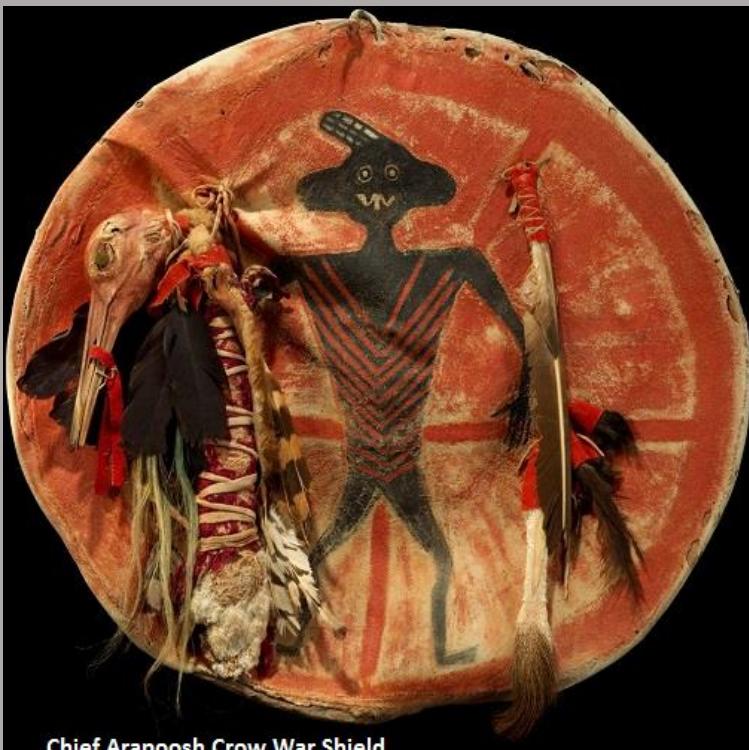
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The Tribe’s “Oath of Security” is one big unbent rule. If the community isn’t the Hero, maybe the fence is? The razor sharp, shadeless boundary is both ritual and routine, a prayer for a savior and the finger to a non-existent warden. If you believe in Jungian archetypes, the Palo Alto TechnoNo-Tribe has shifted psychically from: “The Internet and Gadgets Will Connect Us All” to “The Fence Will Save Us.”

The permaculturists are in a 24/7 surveillance nightmare while their sisters in the Transition Movement have stopped visioning the future to push a local veggie engine. Negative population growth is by default.

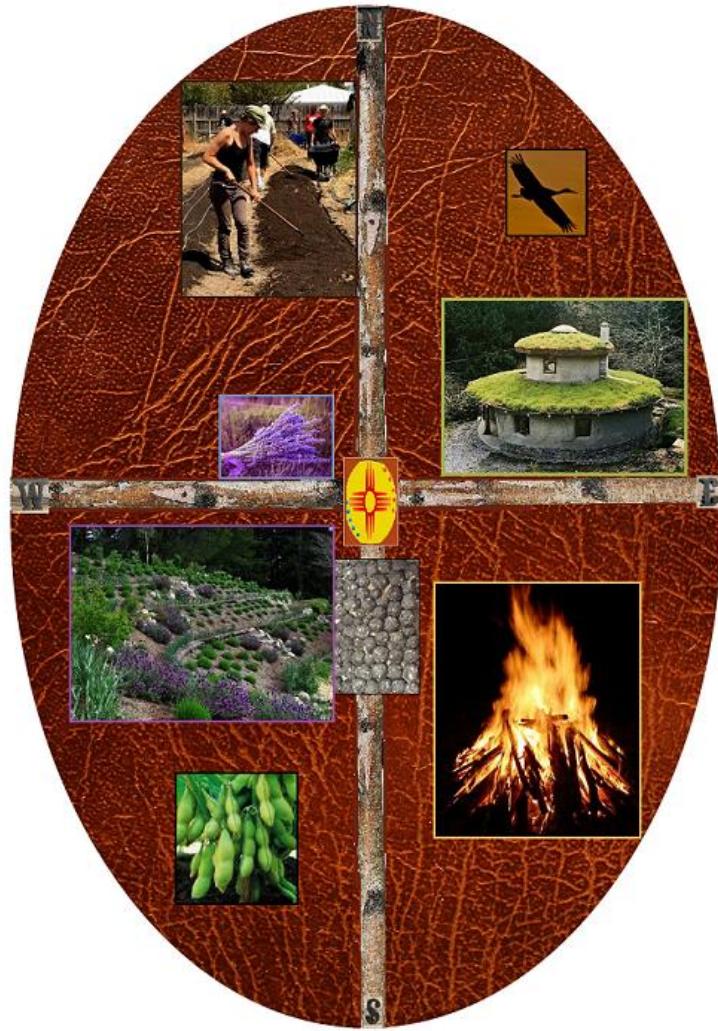
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‘In terms of new ongoing cultural connecting themes, rituals and traditions, Latin style barbecues, fire circles and community councils have become a foundational piece of the last Ecological Landscaper Immersion program. These were opportunities where we came together not to learn about things but to deeply connect with each other, provide a space for listening cultural mentorship, healing and celebration. In many ways it’s the glue that keeps these communities together and moving forward on their collective paths.’ Big Book, Page 103.



Chief Arapoosh Crow War Shield

(Artifact #1 and Myth)



SpiritShield
(Artifact #2 and Pre-Myth)

"SpiritShield: Mythology in Transition at the Permaculture Convergence"- Plus Assignment & Questions. New Myth #84 by [Willi Paul](#), Planetshifter.com

Introduction –

Raising consciousness is hard work, like transforming the war shield (hate) into a peaceful place (love); we need resilience-centric tools, bottom-up community processes to achieve new rituals and traditions. We seek a spiritual permaculture.

The alchemic sequence: **War Shield > SpiritShield > New Myth** is an artistic, participatory process; a timeline, story board, psychic protector and archetypical projection in the future. As a two-way conduit between the conscious and sub-conscious, the process of creating a new shield is one strategy to design and test new myths, rituals and traditions.

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What is a Convergence?

'A typical [Permaculture Convergence](#) is an inclusive annual weekend-long event. The Convergence brings together a remarkable diversity of people, all with creative approaches for designing living environments, and economic and culture systems that thrive within ecologically sustainable limits. PCC teams-up with local communities for 'Shoulder Events,' supporting our allies with tours, panel discussions, workshops, and classes. Everyone who practices the ideals of Permaculture speaks a common language all over the world.'

Workshop Roles & Nuts & Bolts –

- Group of 12 – 15 participants and a Presenter
- Presenter is the Recorder
- [Work Book](#)
- Whiteboard
- Usually a large outdoor Tent with benches (or a classroom)

The goal, as a group, is to use the mythic tools provided, and the War Shield, to design the SpiritShield - a permaculture artifact and creative foundation for the new myth to come.

SpiritShield Design Process Building Blocks -

[A] [12 Elements of Modern Mythology](#) (W. Paul, 2016) -

1. Para-normal
2. Universal struggle
3. Journey, Initiation, Community as Hero
4. Symbols
5. Alchemy
6. Nature is Sacred
7. Threat of apocalypse
8. Digital - Non-Digital Collision
9. Future/ Sci-Fi-based
10. Permaculture and Transition
11. New ritual and tradition
12. Rewilding

[B] Myth Engine - [Download Diagram](#) to see integrated design concepts:

1. Creative Wheel – 17 core values in New Mythology Permaculture, Transition Movement and Nature.
2. The Mythic Spark experience is also described as alchemy, a collision of opposites. An "ah hah" moment – a convergence. A leap in human consciousness with potential for evolving current global archetypes. This spark can synergize new symbols.

3. Artifact – The Artifact is a Nature-Human synergy; perhaps historic. Examples include graffiti, hero, a bill board, historic sculpture, and a permaculture garden, with special powers and messages for the neighborhood.

4. Mythic Imprinting – Imprinting is defined as a two-way interaction with a selected Artifact that generates synergistic meaning for both participants and the Artifact. This iterative and initiation process is grounded in the initiation, journey and hero work from Joseph Campbell and is one way that artifacts can help neighbors be creative.

New Poems, Pictures, Songs, Stories and New Myths are then envisioned, built and shared with the Community.

[C] About the [Chief Arapoosh Crow War Shield](#) (Artifact #1) and Myth –

“Arapoosh, also known as Sore Belly, was a prominent River Crow chief who lived in the first half of the 19th century. As a young man, while fasting, he received a shield, which gave him spiritual protection and the power of prophecy. Apsálooke (Crow) shields almost always derive from powers of what could be referred to as the Above World.

In Apsálooke belief, the beings of the sky—the sun, moon, various stars, clouds, and also birds—are very potent. When a warrior had a vision that communicated to him the particular powers of his shield, he would depict those powers, often from the Above World, on the shield. Sometimes they would be represented by the attachment of feathers and bird heads.

This shield was owned by one of the most famous Apsálooke warriors and leaders, Arapoosh. The shield is interpreted as depicting a hero twin named Thrown into the Spring, who at one time disappeared, taken into the sky. His brother asked several different birds for help, but it was only the cranes who knew where to find Thrown into the Spring so that he could be rescued by his brother.”

* * * * *

Building SpiritShield (Artifact #2) at the Workshop –

Participants consider New Mythology, Permaculture, Transition Movement and Nature elements which are then selected for the SpiritShield search based on their mythic potential and archetypical energy. Final images are silk screened on canvas then glued in place onto the stretched hide. Mythic imprinting helps in their artistic transition from the War Shield to the SpiritShield.

Symbols of the SpiritShield -

- Shield Base -Tanned Elk hide stretched (front) over re-used metal tent poles (rear)
- North, South, East, West signs – Birch twigs
- Lavender Flower Bouquet
- Hillside Food Crops
- Crane (in support of Apsálooke Myth)
- Southwest Indian Sun symbol
- Soy Beans at Harvest
- Camp Fire
- Seed Balls
- Cob House with Green Roof
- Humans adding compost to soil

* * * * *

Leveraging the SpiritShield to Build the New Myth

Assignment Questions -

1. How do you compare and contrast the two shields?
2. Which of the 12 Elements of Modern Mythology are pertinent to this New Myth?

3. Do any of these general story themes spark your interest for the SpiritShield Myth to come?

- a. Spring - Sun - Summer - Fall - Winter
- b. River - Land - Sun – Sky - Moon
- c. Soil Renewal - Planting - FAMILY - Tending - Harvesting

4. What design elements on the SpiritShield speak to you?

5. If you built a real, full-size SpiritShield, how and where would you use it?

6. Does the SpiritShield illustrate any specific ethics and values?

7. Has work changed your definition of spirit in any way?

8. What format would you like to use to create the SpiritShield New Myth (.png, .mov, word, etc.)

* * * * *

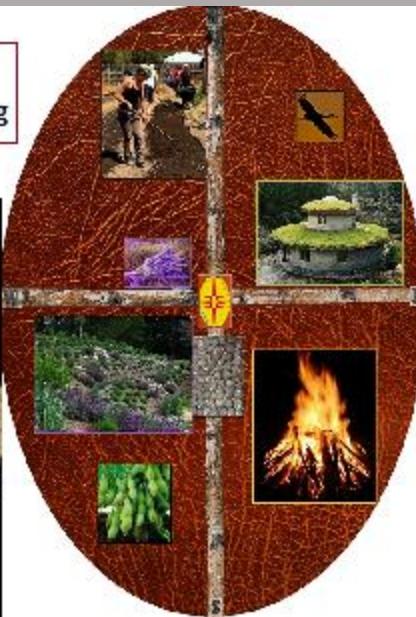
References:

New Book: "[MythicWarriors: Reader and Myth Engine, Permaculture, Nature, Transition and the New Mythology. Interviews, Articles, New Myths and Messages from a Mythic Journey.](#)" by Willi Paul and Planetshifter.com (iBook & PDF)

Willi's [New Myths](#) on Planetshifter.com

“The Secret Food Forest” – New Myth 72. Inspired by the “Mythology, Spirit and Permaculture” Workshop @ 2015 Northwest Permaculture Convergence. PDF + [Video](#). Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com Media

River - Land - Sky - Moon - Sun
The Permaculture SpiritShield Song



[“River - Land - Sky - Moon – Sun”](#) – [The Permaculture SpiritShield Song](#). Edu-Video + Student Exercise and New Myth #85 by Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com

[A] Description -

“River - Land - Sky - Moon - Sun” – [The Permaculture SpiritShield Song](#) is an integrated media vision that extends the alchemy and archetypes from New Myth #84: [“SpiritShield: Mythology in Transition at the Permaculture Convergence”](#).

The “**sound poem**” is a pairing of graphic symbols with a five broad subjects incorporating graphics, text and sounds in a YouTube channel:

Old War Shield > New SpiritShield > Permaculture SpiritShield Song

[B] The open-ended story theme that organizes the song is -

“River - Land - Sky - Moon - Sun”

[C] Dominant Archetype –

Consider “global synnecrosis” as the experiential archetype for this work as defined as ‘living together of two organisms in a mutually destructive relationship’, as **climate change pits Humans vs. Human Changed Nature** in a battle for survival. Or the archetype put another way: wantonly killing your host for short-term profit.

[D] SpiritShield Symbols and Interpretations -

Shield Base -

Stretched Tanned Elk hide (front) – re-purposing + **Metal Tent Poles** (rear) - recycling

Birch twigs - beauty and multi-use

Lavender Flower Bouquet - a present

Hillside Food Crops - permaculture in Nature

Crane (in support of Apsálooke Myth) - magic

Southwest Indian Sun symbol - four directions

Soy Beans at Harvest - sustainable food source

Cob House with Green Roof - green building

Humans adding compost to soil - enrichment

[E] Tools –

MS Paint - create text boxes, captions

Audacity -sound building

HTML - code for post

Movie Maker - Video

Web Search - Selecting Images

You Tube

[F] FreeSound.org Credits

Glaneur de sons
riviere-river.ogg

irad
earthM3.aif

shinshi
Into the Sun.wav

FoolBoyMedia
Sky Loop

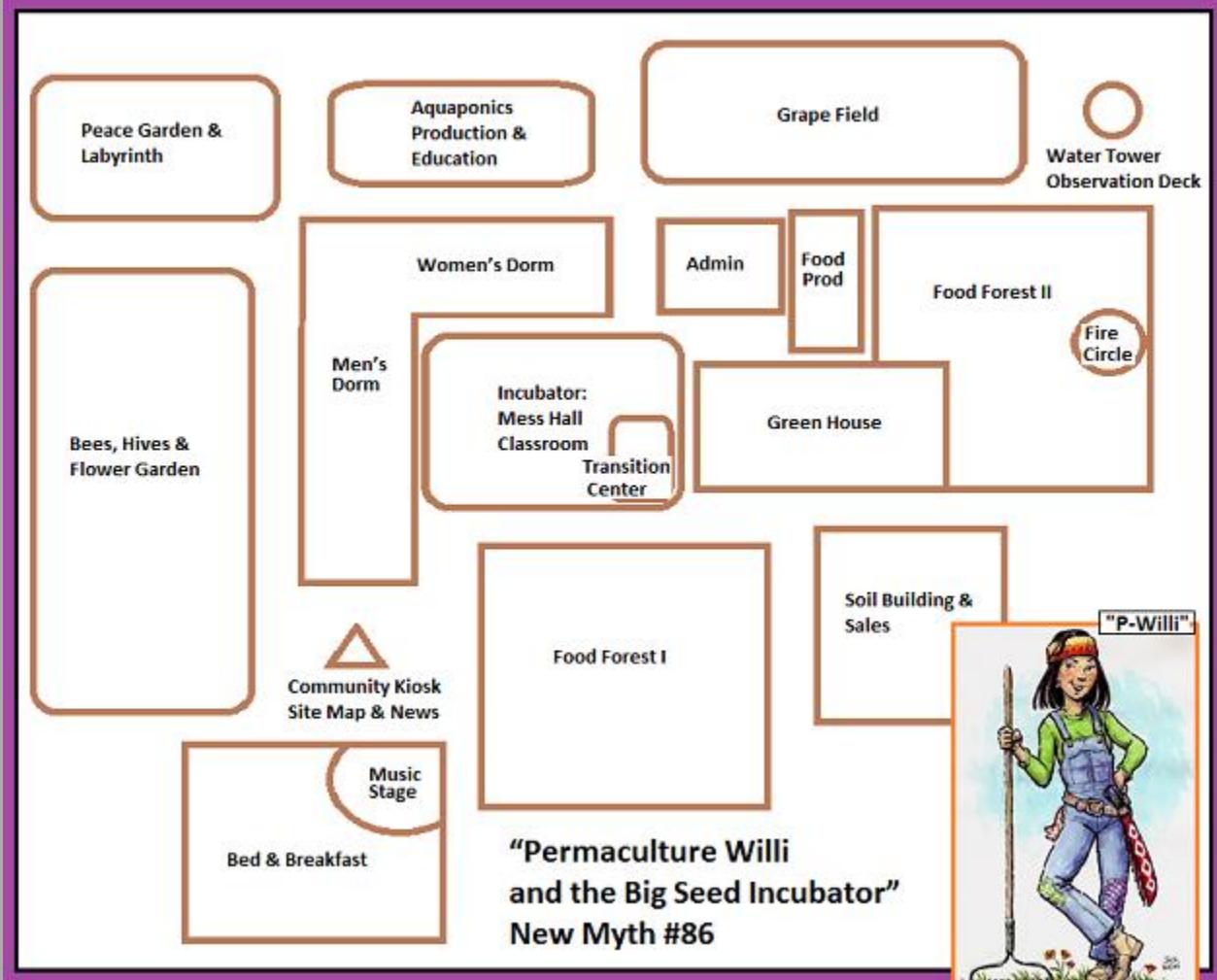
the_very_Real_Horst
2510-Tibetan-Bell-Ashlesha_Moon-Mercury-Pluto-03Min.wav

[G] References –

["SpiritShield: Mythology in Transition at the Permaculture Convergence"](#)- Plus Assignment & Questions. New Myth #84 by Willi Paul

New Book: "[MythicWarriors: Reader and Myth Engine, Permaculture, Nature, Transition and the New Mythology. Interviews, Articles, New Myths and Messages from a Mythic Journey.](#)" by Willi Paul and Planetshifter.com (iBook & PDF)

["Scenario Mapping for New Myths"](#) - Transitionites / Permaculturists, Survivalists and Technologists. By Willi Paul



[**"The Adventures of Permaculture Willi 4: The Big Seed Incubator"**](#) - New Myth #86 by Mythologist Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com

Enjoy the First Three P-Willi Adventures -

The Adventures of Permaculture Willi ("P-Willi") 1: "[The Glowing Labyrinth](#)" - New Myth 55

The Adventures of Permaculture Willi 2: [Contest to ReCreate the Permaculture Logo](#) - New Myth 56

The Adventures of Permaculture Willi 3: "[The Bababerry Trellis Prayer](#)" - New Myth # 57

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"[The Adventures of Permaculture Willi 4: The Big Seed Incubator](#)" - New Myth #86. Please see the site map provided.

On Sundays, "P - Willi" works the retail sales counter and cash register in the Transition Center as a part of her internship for the Coop. The Big Seed Incubator is doing magic for young teens like her and her friends. By cross-fertilizing job training, room and board, medical benefits and paying work, the Oakland "black soil and grey water" hub is a growing vision that integrates permaculture ethics with the localizing processes in Transition and a renewed spirit of sustainability and Nature.

"Yes, Ma'am, that's our sweet golden honey, alright!" boasted P-Willi. "I flew with the bees myself!"

"Have a look at the fresh, organic greens from our Food Forests. Our on-site grown and harvested fish is in the cooler." Turns out that this family is staying in the Big Seed Bed & Breakfast.

"How was the band last night?"

"Nice slow jazzy stuff." Someone called out by the hemp tees. Music and community education often merge on the B+B stage these days. "I'll take this olive oil and a bottle of your Incubator Syrah 2015, please."

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The Transition Center is a mini-incubator of sorts for the roughly 102 live-in residents and city dwelling staffers. Besides the retail and data center, the hiring and the credit/barter systems are run here. If you need to transform something from the old world to the new world, it happens here. The Administration building is thus free to reach out for green business deals and to operate the campus security system.

"Multi-use is a Mantra that all Bigs wear. Take the incubator, it is part mess hall, part classroom and part presentation space, depending on who needs it. It is our 24/7 share."

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Louie shows up.

"We made some kick-ass salad dressings in Prod this morning from the herbs in the Peace Garden!" he shouted. "These will sell out so call your Mom quick!"

"Can't wait, budvo." P-Willi's afternoon will not be all skate board magic dust and sun tea, however.

"My next dig is at Soil Building churning up the worms with the house compost." She called out but Louie was off and rolling.

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"Yes, Sir, the first 50 lbs. of our enriched soil is free with your own container."

"Isn't this whole place,... like a green house?" asked a new customer?

"Yes!" P was ready for this metaphor!

"We are a spirit-driven, plant lovin' people!" It says on the community kiosk. "Like a green house, natural sources and product flow through the space; wastes are re-recycled and our people and Nature are one. We are an Urban ecosystem."

"We help each other up and empower folks that come here to 'live in the future.' Foster kids, seniors, drop-outs are all most welcome at the Friday night Fire Circle and new member tour." Explained P-Willi.



[“The Hillsborough Alliance for Local Food Security”](#) - [New Myth #87](#). Dedicated to two 2016 Fall Permaculture Convergences at [Fort Flagler, WA](#) and [Hopland, CA](#). By Willi Paul, Planetshifter.com

Back in 2027, a **special Alliance** was born in the Bay Area out of the infrastructure collapse and subsequent famine and military coup in the United States. The permaculture clique needed land, a group out of Oakland called Planting Justice needed work for their members, while a spiritual house in San Mateo called the Unitarian Universalist was asked to mediate with rich land owners from the Town of Hillsborough Beautification Foundation.

The hub of the Alliance were the property owners who suddenly needed to grow their own food! They could offer their yards, wide and deep with rich, dark soils. Many had wells. Roof tops went solar. Swimming pools were transformed into aquaponic ponds; tennis courts - vegetable gardens. Drive ways = food forests.

The Burlingame Country Club and Golf Course became **The NorCal Permaculture & Transition University**.

* * * * *

Here's more dirt on the Alliance Members -

[Planting Justice](#) - A grassroots organization with a mission to democratize access to affordable, nutritious food by empowering urban residents with the skills, resources & knowledge they need to maximize food production, expand job opportunities, and ensure environmental sustainability in the bay area.

[Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism -](#)

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

[Hillsborough Beautification Foundation](#) - A non-profit organization whose volunteers raise funds and manage projects to beautify and maintain parks, school grounds, and other public spaces in Hillsborough, CA.

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Early meetings of the Alliance were held at the UU Church for a neutral, yet spiritual, setting. The vision was always to share the land and the harvest. Shared housing soon came to the agenda as homes were converted to permaculture worker residences. The new Hillsborough community was a garden campus and a model oasis for the post Chaos-Era.

The **California Permaculture Works Program** was political compost.



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