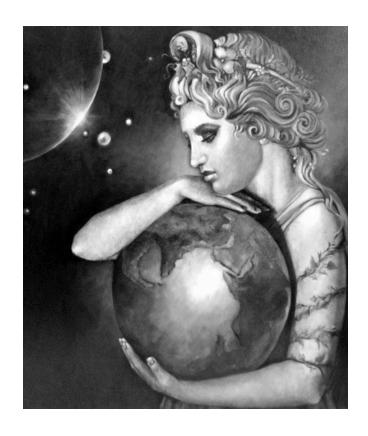
A Year With Gaia The Eternal Cord



Robin Fennelly

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INTRODUCTION

You hold in your hands a very personal book that will serve as a journal of a year of contemplation and action as you deepen your understanding and connection to our planetary home. This home is seen as the energy of the Goddess, Gaia, the Great Earth Mother and we as stewards of the physical world and our manifest form within it have access to the mysteries and gifts of this beautiful temple of nature.

Part One serves as an introduction to Gaia and some of the ways in which this Goddess is perceived as Mother Earth, Herself. There are many mythological readings that can be done independent of this book, and so I have not included them here. My approach has always been one of establishing the base ground of information about any Deity from my own personal inquiries and resultant experiences. Then, I look to the historical/mythological writings for confirmation and other visions to draw from. You have, in this case a year of experiences, so hold off on the "spoilers".

Part Two begins the weekly reflections and their focus. These are further divided into key concepts that form the vision of Gaia and the Living Earth. Each week you will be asked to interact in some way with Gaia and from that interaction new paths and ways of perceiving yourself, the planet and the archetypal energy of Gaia will unfold.

At the conclusion of each week's reading you are given an option of placing a bead on the Eternal Cord. The idea for this additional action evolved from personal work that membership of Coven of the Mystic Path, ASW were asked to complete as we embarked on the first year as a dedicated coven. In fact, many of the weekly readings were also the prompts for this coven work. At the end of the year, each member had a beautiful strand of 52 beads that was the manifest reflection of what they had uncovered on their personal path of working with Gaia.

Part Three contains a very special pathworking that may be used at anytime throughout the year to enhance your work. Instructions on how to get the most from the pathworking are included as well and I would encourage you to revisit it multiple times.

I have used poetry throughout the book as a tool to directly inspire the subconscious. Much like the dream state this style allows the images to form and the space of response to fill in the blanks for your own interpretation.

How to Use This Book:

I intentionally did not write this book to align with specific days or months. The beauty lay in taking what you need, when and as often, in repetition as you wish. It is, however intended as a stimulus for establishing regular weekly reflection.

You may also wish to keep a journal of your experiences and what you uncover as your truths regarding this manifest world and Gaia's life breath that flows through it. If you choose to also create the Eternal Cord, you may begin at anytime, but committing to this physical creation from the onset will infuse the cord with your energy aligned at the time of the bead's placement with what intention has been set.

Remember that this is a journey of your own footsteps. And, that the seasons and the cycles of time are only markers of where you have taken time to pause and look into the eyes of the Great Mother, Gaia. Many blessings..... Robin

Part One Gaia Is the Earth's Change

Starlight and brilliance of Sun's solar flare White and golden red Woven tapestry of Jet black Cosmos.

Green and brown Of fertile land Blue of sun kissed Watery basin.

Rainbow of color Spread across Pattern of cloth Textured and etched In crystal and stone.

Blackness of heated striation Of rock's core as gentle bud Pushes upward towards sun's Radiant blessing as Gaia sheds Her parched skin and dons Spring's Celestial mantle of lusty fertility.

Gaia takes many forms evolving and changing as we ourselves do. She is the breath of life that flows in the breezy currents awakening tree and leaf to moving grace. Gaia is the tumultuous waters that rise with the tides and peak in ecstasy reshaping the shore. Gaia is the fertile field that opens itself to the planting of seed and grazing of the four-legged creatures. Gaia is the shade of the forest, lush with evergreen and wood scented loamy earth. All flow one to the other and Gaia, the earth mother dons her mantle of Wisdom in the ways of time.

....Things change from season to season and in the never ending cycle that is life itself, Gaia remains steadfast and strong in offering up her body as our home and our refuge as Her fires burn brightly.

Gaia calls to us as a Mother calls her children to her and with each step we take, whether it be contained in urban or forest we seek the warmth of a generous heart.

....And, so I stand under an arch of evergreens at the edge of a forest, looking out and up at the cold winter night sky. The expanse and darkness of ancient tree and deepened paths at my back and still, they are not able to shelter the blowing winds that move through me seeking the warmth of Mother Earth. This place knows me and knows of my need to remember and awaken in the quickening of my Earth Mother's care.

Gaia awakens all life that stands inert and from this awakening new life takes hold. That which is frozen thaws and that which is overheated cools to an understanding of pure love.

.... Under the frost and rigid ground life is resting, but will soon quicken as Gaia reaches upwards; Her fiery fingers of quickening life touching each seed and stirring the earth into awakening.

Gaia holds Her supple body receptive to our praise and honoring and enfolds us cradled in the safety of Her bosom. Strong and flexible; anchored and foundational, what she