

Faithful Servants - the Land & I by Suzanna Yahya Nadler

Today's Leo lion lunar eclipse roars to be noticed as it grabs the title of being a blue moon (the second of two full moons in a month) and a super blood moon (appears reddish and large since it is the closest to the earth); however, outside of all the fanfare of names, its close relationship to the asteroid, Ceres places prominent. Ceres is another name for Demeter whose story is woven with the land and its fertility. The feminine consciousness, in this case the moon, is aligning with Gaia, alias Ceres. This is what the world needs now!



In the myth of Demeter, she turns her back on the people of the world by allowing the land to go into seasons of fallowness, or fall and winter, as an expression of her grief and loss over having her beloved daughter, Persephone abducted into the underworld for half of the year with Hades. The underworld was the place of the afterlife, whether that be the light, or the shadows, or the hell realms. Persephone being a child of the earth goddess, her beauty and life force was a balance to the world of Hades; just as Demeter's seasonal grief and resultant stasis

and death of the plants displayed the shadow side to the fecund, colorful earth. Demeter had to sacrifice the joy of her life to bring balance between the worlds. As Rumi says, "Good and bad are mixed. If you don't have both you don't belong with us."

Rod and I have been meeting with our contractor to build a barn that digs us deeper into this plot of land, financially, emotionally and spiritually, an affirmation to my relationship to the earth. A part of me wants to just travel, have fun, retire, even while my solid, grounded lunar voice of balance shepherds me into a deeper relationship with the earth. My novel business, *Yahya Divine Elixirs*, is connected to the new barn construction and ultimately a way to bring young people here who want to learn about tending the terra firm of this piece of heaven on earth. This is not about

money for me, but is a creative and healing expression of my alliance to the land. Then, the most amazing part is, I can share and mentor others in elixir making.

During my morning meditations, I pray to be used by the land, even as I simultaneously shape it. This is the relationship of the moon and Ceres, back and forward, seeing what is needed in this land, and then being willing to root into it. Letting the land be a reflection of the self and the self a reverberation of the earth.

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