

Moral Reasoning Fm'toth Gna'uln

Few things can spark debate than the concept of 'right' and 'wrong'. Differences in belief of what is "Right" lead to many a schism between friends and lovers. This article isn't here to tell you *what* is "Right" just to have you think on *how* you decide what is right.

First, let us discuss Moralizing in brief. Moralizing is defined as "having or displaying an overly critical point of view on issues of right and wrong, typically with an unfounded air of superiority." Moralizing has been used to justify a great many crimes and tragedies over the course of human existence. In essence, Moralizing is used to excuse one's actions while condemning another for the exact same action.

There is no doubt that the moral compass of an individual is heavily influenced by the environment in which they were raised; most children share moral values close to what their parents did. However, Moral Reasoning is the dissection of *why* or *how* you make decisions about 'Right' and 'Wrong'.

Let us visit two moral researchers Lawrence Kohlberg and Carol Gilligan. Kohlberg (1958) studied children at an all-boy's school and developed his theory of Moral development based on his observations. After his theories were published Gilligan (1960s) noticed a big flaw in his methodology, all of his subjects were male. In response she studied children at an all-girl's school and developed her own theories. What they share in common is that each stage is viewed as a progression or maturation of moral development. There is a great deal of information about these theories, but they will be kept brief here.

The purpose of discussing these is to help you understand the role of Choice in your life. For what reason are you making a particular choice? The higher the Reasoning, the more likely the choice is to be beneficial to not just yourself but to those around you, which is a goal of Unification.

For simplicity's sake, Kohlberg will be prefaced with "Masculine Voice" and Gilligan with "Feminine Voice".

The first Stage of Moral Development is the **Preconventional Stage**:

Masculine Voice: Characterized by weighing choices based on if an action will cause harm or what benefit you will gain by it; the basic concept of Punishment and Reward. Of the two, doing what is 'right' to avoid punishment is considered the most basic of the Preconventional stage. Society as a whole, ironically, operates in this most basic of the basic Moral Reasoning. People follow laws, in no small part, because they wish to avoid the punishments that occur for breaking them. There is no immediate benefit to the Self for following the laws outside avoidance of Punishment. An example would be driving on the correct side of the road because you don't want to risk getting into a wreck or getting a ticket.

This may be apocryphal, but a police district tried to encourage good driving, not by punishing bad drivers, but by rewarding good drivers. When they saw someone doing well on following traffic laws they would pull the person over and give them a certificate which could be redeemed at a variety of local stores. The police had to stop doing this because there was sharp upswing in high-speed chases. Turns out the people driving the best were also the ones most likely to have something to hide; running drugs, expired license, no insurance, and etc. The people more likely to speed or drive without perfect adherence to the Laws of the Road were the ones who were otherwise good citizens!

Feminine Voice: Focused on individuality and for that reason is very self-centered. Meeting personal needs take precedence over meeting the needs of others. An example would be not sharing your food because you are hungry.

The second Stage is known as the **Conventional Stage**.

Masculine Voice: This stage is focused on the societal importance of 'Right' behavior; initially for Acceptance by others then moving into doing what is Right because it benefits societal order. The later stages are characterized by following laws because they are important for maintaining the function of Society. In this case you would drive on the correct side of the road because if everyone does this, traffic moves faster.

Feminine Voice: Helping others meet their own needs; frequently to the point of self-sacrifice. Such as giving your food to someone, in spite of being hungry yourself because it is the 'right' thing to do.

The last stage is known as **Post-Conventional**.

Masculine Voice: Laws and rules are no longer rigid and are forms of flexible social contracts. Actions are done to do the most good for the greatest number of people while respecting differing viewpoints and opinions.

This can extend to say that a Law that should be enforced in one area should not be enforced in another. This stage ends and moral reasoning has reached its pinnacle then moral decisions are made based on Principles and not upon laws. In essence, laws lose their meaning. You act in accordance with the Principles which will extend to situations where the laws are not written to cover. This is summed up by saying 'You do the Right Thing because it is the Right Thing to Do'. The road analogy earlier would be extended in this situation to say that there are times when it is Just to drive on the wrong side of the road.

Feminine Voice: The sacrificial nature of the second stage has resolved and efforts are made to meet the needs of all without sacrifice to herself or others. It is about recognizing how your actions affect others and taking responsibility for said actions. In this stage, she shares her food instead of getting rid of all of it or hoarding it.

While it is relatively easy to enter the highest stage of Moral Reasoning in the Feminine Voice, the same can not be said for the masculine voice. This is because even if someone is capable of operating on that level, they frequently find it easier to operate in society at the lower level. An example would be Speeding in your car. You may feel it is OK to speed and that the speed limit is really just recommendations... until you see the police cruiser parked on the side of the road.

There is also a danger of operating in the Highest Stage of Masculine Reasoning because it can lead to the Air of Superiority mentioned in Moralizing.

Government has a vested interest in keeping society functioning at the lowest possible stage the majority of the time. In some cases they benefit from encouraging Conventional Reasoning, but consider that the Power of Government comes from Law. If society operated in the highest stage of moral development, then there would be no need for formal Government; because Law would no longer hold the same meaning.

It is no small Irony that Jesus preached the highest level of Moral Reasoning. In Matthew 22:37-40 he says "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang the whole law and the Prophets." He says, plainly, that only by following *two* principles then you follow *everything*. Yet, how many of his professed followers get caught up in the minutia of rules? Let us learn from their failure.

From the Nameless Mists A message from the Council

Fellow Cultists,

Thank you so much for your dedication! As we enter a new year for the Advertiser, we are excited to bring you fresh content. I hope everyone had a chance to catch the Dark Spirits Day broadcast, and look out for more broadcasts for upcoming holidays.

On the publishing front, the artwork is streaming in! We have just secured the next five concept sketches for the archetypes. Be sure to check out our Patreon for those.

I am immensely proud of how far we have come over the past year, and I look forward to seeing how we continue to grow. Thank you for joining us on this journey of self-growth and reverence in the void.

Your humble Harbinger,
Phlegethotep
[Nyth application](#) [Comment card](#)



The Eldritch Case Files

Serialization by Dominie Mordecai Fezzel

She wheeled me slowly down the hall. To each side were rooms cut off from the hall by a locked sliding glass door. Some had curtains covering them, others did not. Some were occupied with patients in soiled gowns. One of these patients, with the ID tag reading P-442, ran at the sliding glass partition. There was a hollow thud upon contact and P-442 staggered back, his nose bleeding. He made to run once again at the barrier but stopped short, collapsing to the floor. It was then that I saw a thin translucent mist creeping slowly into the room with P-442 from the ventilation duct.

Another of the cells held a woman with a shaved head. She sat in the middle of the cell with her knees drawn up to her ample chest and she rocked there back and forth muttering in a strange alien language. The walls of her cell were covered with bizarre symbols written there with whatever she could get her hands on. I saw that some were written with a dark crimson fluid, others with a almost black substance. And still others in a substance I dare not think of.

"Just a little further" the nurse said in a sing song voice, she sounded excited, giddy even, like a child on Christmas morning. "A little bump! Tehehehe." I didn't like the sound of that.

The room she brought me into was small and lit with an eerie dark green light. It was unsettling and I shivered despite myself. Another nurse was there, sorting through surgical equipment and upon noticing the other nurse come in with me she said,

"Did you try the cider?" The other nurse parked the gurney and depressed the foot locking mechanisms.

She then replied, "Oh yes, I found it rather sweet" the other nurse had finished with her sorting went to a machine and started to connect wires,

"Sweet you say? I found it overwhelmingly tart." The other snickered, "We must have drunk from different batches." She then began to connect wires to leads that had been placed up on my body earlier.

There was something in the far-off shadowy corner that caught my eye. It was darker than its surroundings and seemed oily to the sight. It ebbed and flowed and crept along the odd angles, it folded in upon itself until it was almost non-existent and then it seemed to melt like wax and gain an abstract sort of form again. It made no sense. My eyes wanted to shy away from this thing in the corner, but they kept straying back. It did not want me to look at it, but my mind was a curious sort and such oddities caught its attention. But when the door to the room opened unexpectedly it drew my attention away momentarily and when I looked back the amorphous shifting shape was gone.

In through the doors came a short man with glasses, his elbows bent with long latex gloves on, "Let's get this party started, tee off is a n a hour." This doctor pulled on a face guard over his mask and surgical hairnet and he then went to the sorted surgical implements. The giggling nurse was oddly silent and so was her cold companion. I glanced once more towards that corner with the elusive shade that was and not there and for a moment, I could have sworn I saw something more tangible, something solid, a glistening onyx clawed arm with lighter gray blotches over areas of the arm, like melasma, or psoriasis. But it moved too quickly for my eyes to focus on the rest of it. It darted across the room and was past the two nurses and doctor, using them as a sort of cover. That hideous clawed hand though lingered for a moment on the shoulder of the doctor and he must have felt it because he laid his cheek to that side for a moment, like a pet dog would when its master touched it.

The door swung outward and back shut. A nurse, I don't recall which, perhaps it was the giggling one, placed a mask over my mouth and nose, "Deep breaths dear" she said with eyes that were just too wide. "Night. Night" I knew no more.

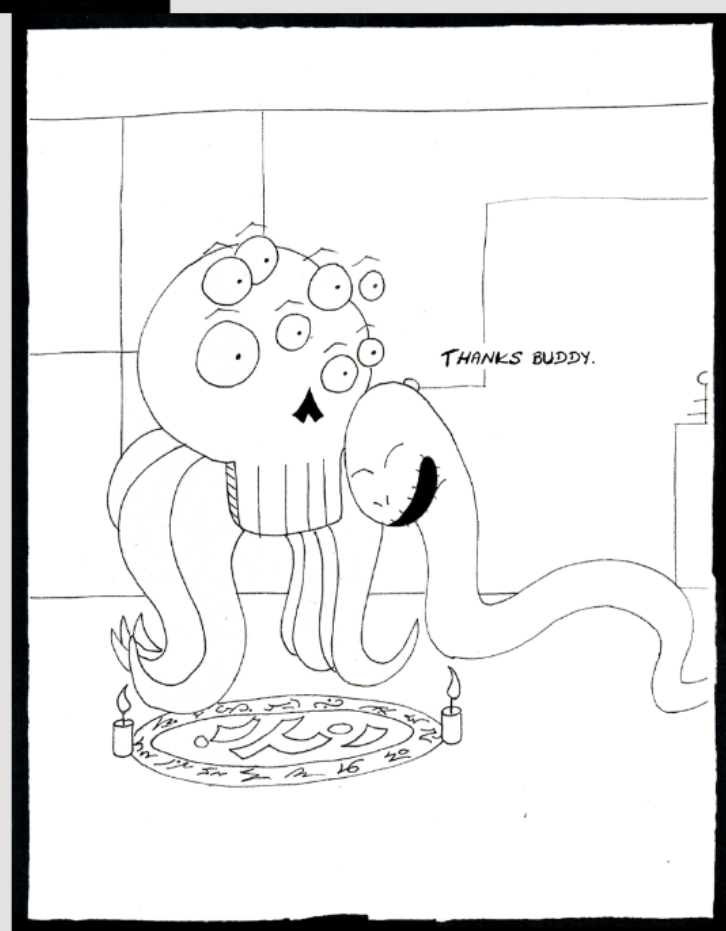
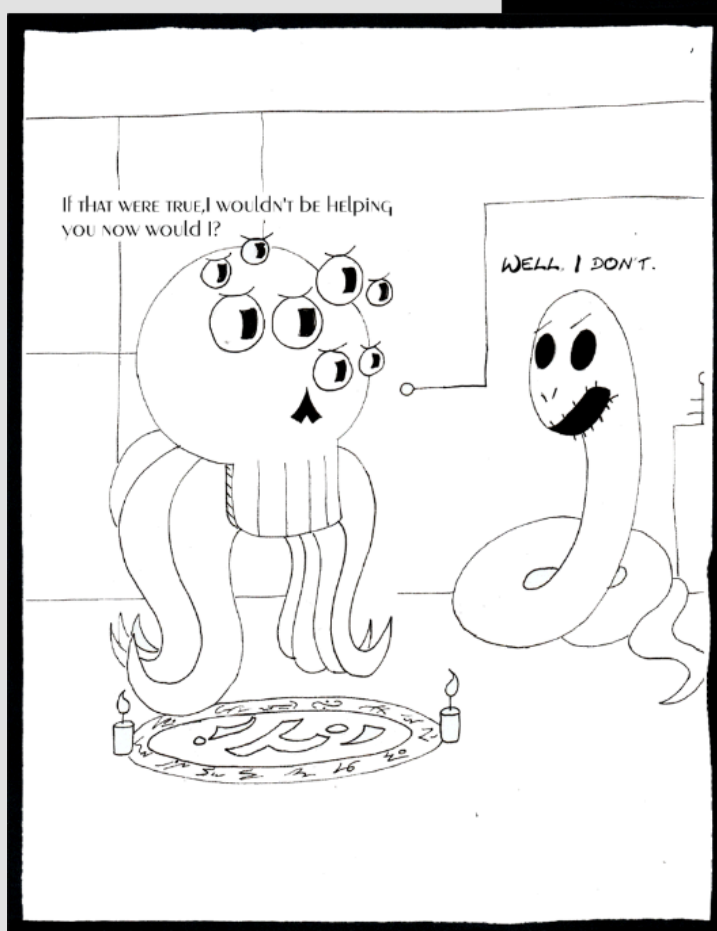
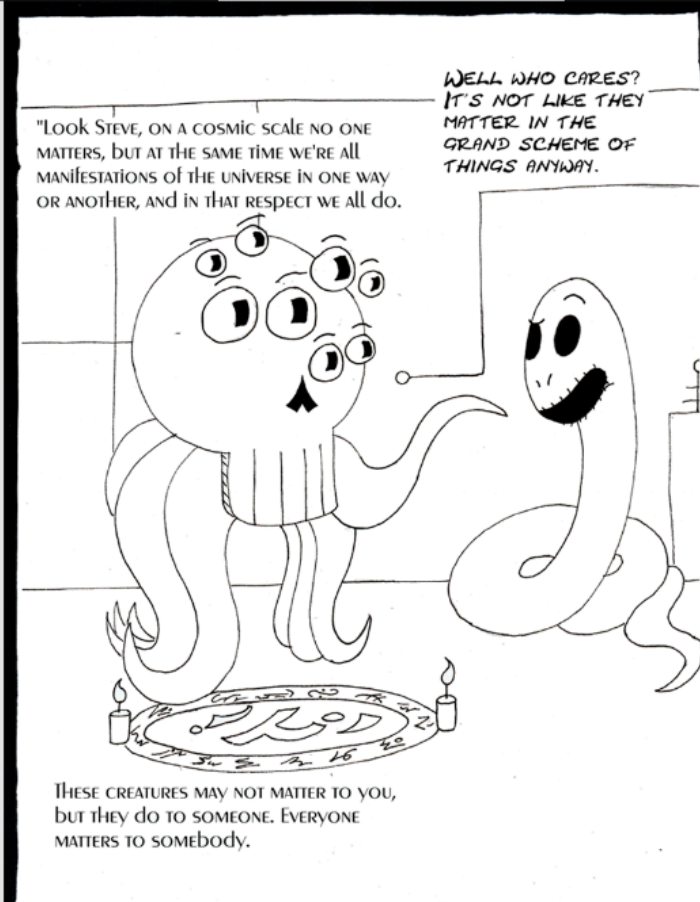
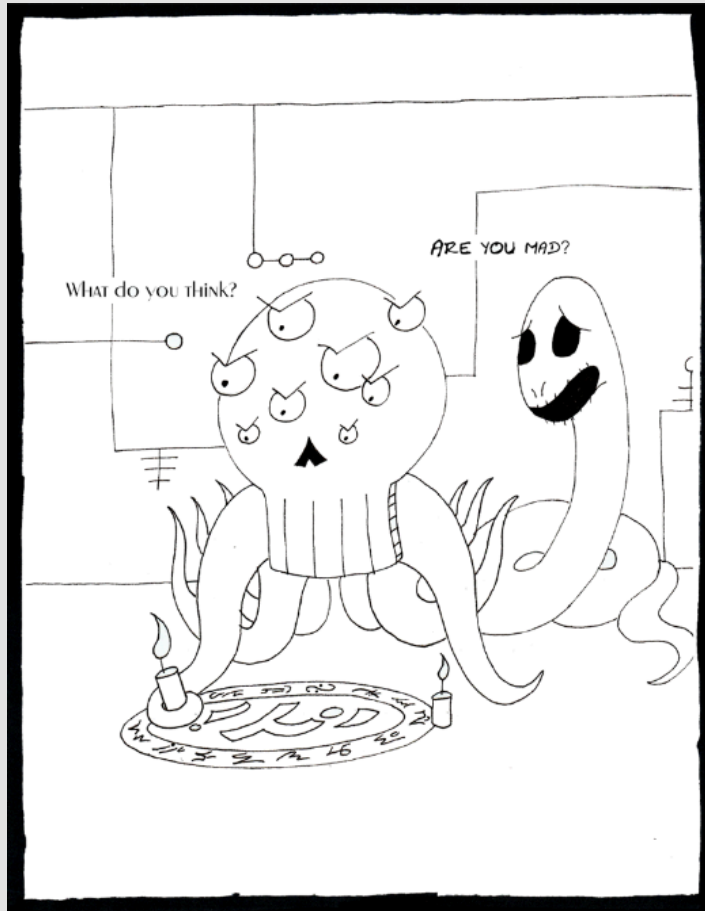


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The Further Adventures of Yog and Steve

By Snyarlhuthoth and Fm'toth Gna'uln, all rights reserved by illustrator and author



Reflecting on a Year of Growth: The Temple of the Old Ones

Yog-Kadageth

As we approach the end of another cycle, it's time to look back and reflect on the incredible progress and milestones we've achieved as a Temple over the past year. This has been a year of expansion, innovation and unity. One where we've seen the strength of our community flourish and the bonds between us grow ever stronger.

The *Arkham Advertiser* made its triumphant return on November 1, 2023, marking the beginning of a new chapter in the Temple's history. This publication is more than just a newsletter; it's a living chronicle of our journey, capturing both the momentous and the everyday events that define us. From the resurgence of the *Arkham Advertiser* to the groundbreaking developments within our organisation, the past twelve months have been nothing short of transformative.

In April, we completed the first draft of the *Liber Veterum* — the "Book of the Old Ones" however at this time it lacked this formal name. This project, a true labour of devotion, was opened to the Nyth for a final review. With artists now contracted to contribute their vision, the Tome is nearing its final stages of completion. This sacred text will soon be a reality thanks to the dedication and commitment of everyone involved. The process has been meticulous, with every detail being carefully considered. The anticipation for its release continues to build as we move toward the day when it will be printed and shared with all.

It might sound similar to the Void Meditation practices which you might learn about as you progress through the Miskatonic University or when you read about it in the *Liber a Veterum* but while it is ostensibly about clearing the mind and allowing it to wander, it is still a practice; you will prepare for it, sit down to commence and decide on the length of time for which you will engage with it.

April also saw the official launch of the new Miskatonic University site, marking a significant step forward for our community. This endeavour represents not just the creation of a digital learning platform but a gateway for all who wish to join our ranks. Through structured courses, members can embark on their path from Initiate to Acolyte, to Cultist and beyond, learning the core tenets, rituals, and philosophies that bind us together.

May was a month of decisions and new beginnings. The Nyth and Council members engaged in a thoughtful and spirited debate to name our sacred Tome, finally settling on *Liber Veterum* — a title that resonates with the ancient knowledge and cosmic mysteries it holds. With each new development, we are reminded of our purpose: to seek deeper understanding, to honour the Old Ones, and to grow as individuals and as a collective.

Our community has continued to thrive with events like the first annual Temple Design Competition. The winning design, now featured on T-shirts in our Cult Shop, symbolises the vibrant spirit of our community and our shared dedication to the path we've chosen.

Throughout this journey, we have remained true to our core values. We have committed to keeping our doors open to all, maintaining our decision to forgo membership fees in favour of donations and the support of our Cult Shop. This choice reflects our belief that the pursuit of knowledge and ascension should be accessible to everyone, regardless of financial means.



There were also moments of great creativity and inspiration. On September 2, 2023, the first concept sketches for the Tome, featuring Shub-Niggurath and Cthulhu, were delivered by our talented artist. The consensus was unanimous — the illustrations are nothing short of spectacular, capturing the essence of the Old Ones in ways that are both awe-inspiring and terrifying. These images will undoubtedly become iconic within our community, serving as a powerful reminder of the forces we revere.

This year, the Temple's digital presence also received a significant upgrade. On February 19, 2024, the redesigned website went live, offering a more streamlined and user-friendly experience. Alongside this, we launched a linktree, unifying all our digital resources in one place. This enhancement makes it easier for our members to access our resources and ensures that our community remains connected, informed, and engaged.

Reflecting on the past year, we see a tapestry woven from moments of triumph, dedication, and unity. The Temple of the Old Ones is not merely an organisation; it is a living, breathing entity — a community that thrives on the passion and commitment of its members. As we look forward to the coming year, we carry with us the lessons learned, the friendships forged, and the collective strength we have built together.

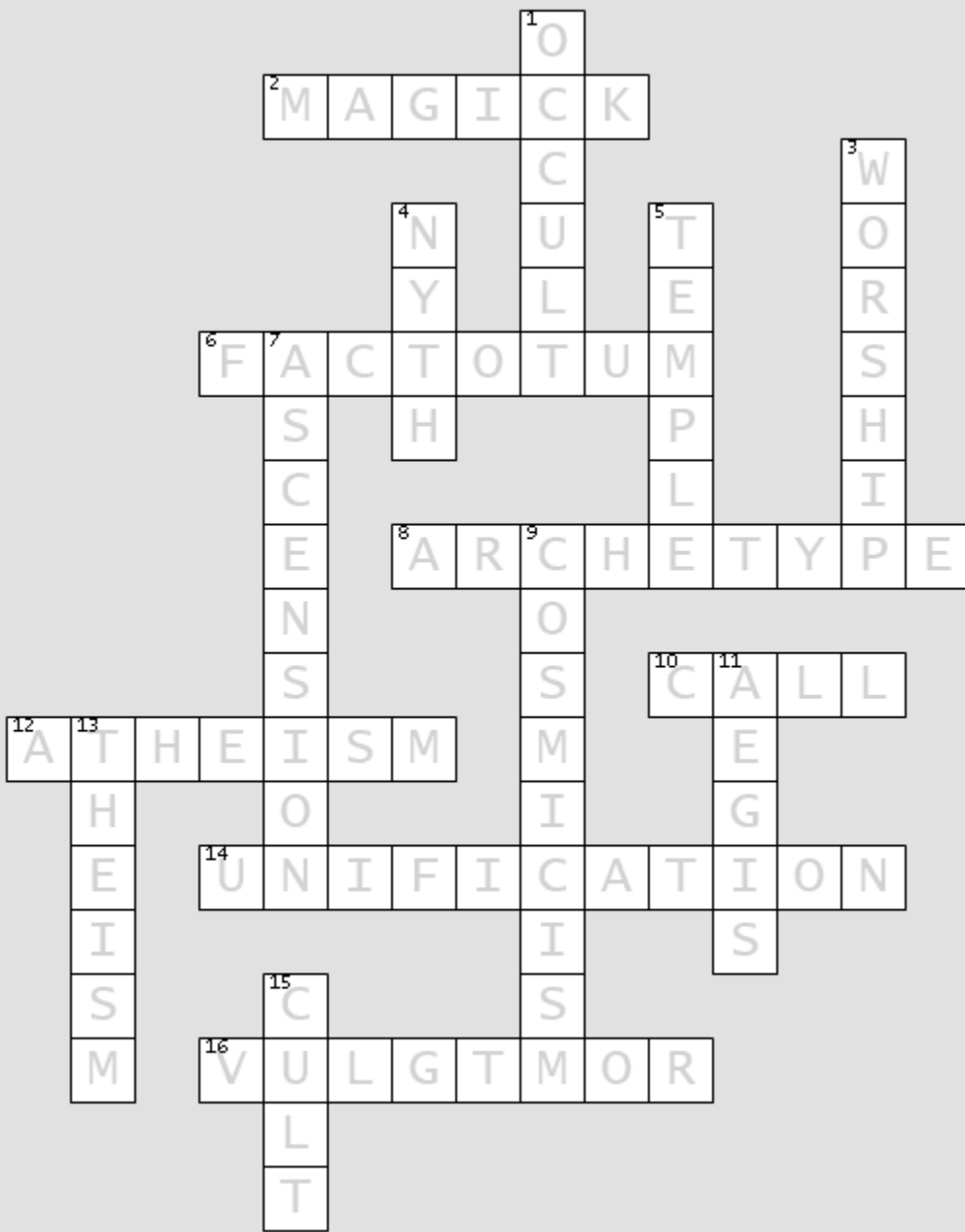
Thank you all for your steadfast support and invaluable contributions throughout this year. Together, may we continue to grow, learn, and ascend!

May The Stars Align!
The Temple of the Old Ones

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Crossword



ACROSS

- 2. Willed change
- 6. Chosen by the Council to be personal assistant and be their voice when absent
- 8. Deities of the Mythos when used as representing facets of the True Self
- 10. One of the Three Pillars, To have Heard the Old Ones
- 12. Belief in the absence of Gods
- 14. One of the Three Pillars, a person is not an island
- 16. Prayer or meditation Beads used by the Temple

DOWN

- 1. Knowledge of the Hidden
- 3. Reverence towards a Deity or Devotion towards a Principle
- 4. One who serves, has higher level of responsibility of the Temple
- 5. Place dedicated to the service of a deity or deities
- 7. One of the Three Pillars, personal growth
- 9. Foundational Principle of the Temple of the Old Ones
- 11. Temple's version of Witch Bottles, used trap harmful energies or forces
- 13. Belief in Gods
- 15. System of religious veneration

Divination for November 2024

By Kadish Ph'ee

The Horrorscope

Azathoth,

This month, you will awaken to find a mysterious key under your pillow. Its purpose is unclear, but you will instinctively know that it opens a door you should never, under any circumstances, attempt to locate. Ignore the persistent whispers calling you by name as you go about your grocery shopping.

Cthulhu,

The stars have aligned and, well, it's a bit complicated; something about your neighbour's dog, the phase of the moon, and the specific alignment of the wallpaper in your living room. Anyway, avoid reading any historical texts that reference the 12th century. It's for the best.

Dagon,

Beware of any jars you come across this month. Their contents may seem innocuous at first glance but could spiral you into an existential crisis. You're also likely to misplace your wallet in the most inconvenient of places. Possibly under the floorboards.

Darkness,

You will be burdened with the suspicion that the birds have started to follow you. Fear not; they simply wish to communicate a minor administrative error in the celestial bureaucracy. However, if they begin spelling out warnings in breadcrumbs, take the hint and avoid public transportation for a week.

H.P Lovecraft,

A foul stench will invade your senses, though no one around you seems to notice. It will linger for weeks, growing more intense each time you deny its existence. By the time you acknowledge it, your socks will have developed sentience. Treat them with kindness, for they know too much.

Hydra,

This month, you'll hear strange scratching noises coming from beneath your bed, but upon inspection, nothing will be found, except a dusty cassette tape labelled "Play Me Only at Noon on a Tuesday." You don't own a cassette player, so it's probably fine. Still, invest in earplugs.

Hastur,

A fog will roll into your town, and with it, a tall figure that offers unsolicited advice on municipal bylaws. Politely decline their suggestions, as their knowledge is questionable at best. You'll also find an old receipt in your coat pocket that seems to change every time you look at it. Do not return to that store.

Nameless Mist,

Expect a month of inexplicable déjà vu; each day a repeat of the one before, yet somehow wrong in ways you can't quite place. Don't worry because only one of these days is real. The others are just the universe misfiring. It's probably best not to think too hard about it.

Nug & Yeb,

For reasons unclear, you will become inexplicably skilled at an obscure craft, like knitting eldritch runes or building cryptic mazes out of cereal boxes. While this skill will serve no practical purpose, it will draw the attention of something. Watching you. Just smile and wave when it does.

Nyarlahotep,

This month, you'll be inexplicably drawn to the library's basement archives, where you will discover a book that seems to describe your every movement as you read it. It's mostly benign but gets weirdly judgmental about your breakfast choices. Avoid wearing red on Wednesdays; the book disapproves.

Shub-Niggurath,

You will find yourself strangely compelled to count the number of steps it takes to walk across every room you enter. The significance of the numbers will elude you, but you'll be convinced they hold some dark secret. They don't, but the obsession will last for at least three weeks.

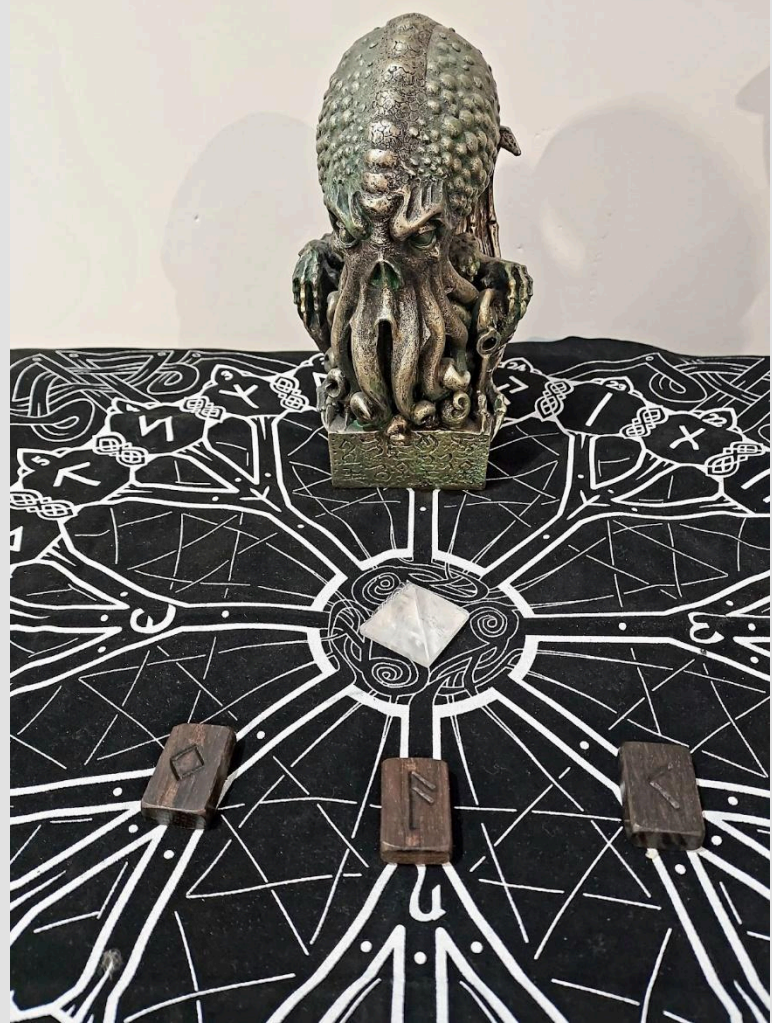
Yog-Sothoth,

A shadowy figure will lurk in your peripheral vision, following you at odd hours. Relax, it's just your personal eldritch escort. They're harmless and probably just bored. Try offering them a snack or a crossword puzzle. If they start asking for a turn in your video games, set some boundaries.

Divination for November 2024

Runes by Yog-Kadageth

Firstly, a ritual to the Old Ones was performed in order to cleanse the altar space.



Before drawing runes, the following question was asked aloud and with meaning! "How does the temple fair during the November month"

The following Runes were drawn.

Summary of the Runes

In November, the temple appears to be entering a period of **growth** (Inguz), **inspired communication** (Ansuz), and **illumination** (Kenaz). Together, these runes suggest a time of positive transformation. The temple may experience deeper spiritual insights and revelations, leading to renewed energy and creativity. This could be a fruitful time for both inner reflection and outward expression, as the temple harnesses the wisdom and light of these runes to move forward.

Detailed Reading of the Runes

1. Inguz (◊) – Fertility, New Beginnings, and Growth

Inguz represents growth, fertility, and the potential for new beginnings. In the context of your temple, this rune suggests that November could be a time of development or a new phase for the temple. There may be a focus on cultivating or nurturing what has been planted before. The temple might experience a period of inner or hidden growth, preparing for something more outwardly visible in the future.

2. Ansuz (𐌺) – Communication, Wisdom, and Divine Inspiration

Ansuz is linked to the god Odin and represents communication, wisdom, and inspiration. This rune suggests that the temple will be influenced by divine guidance or an increase in spiritual insight during this period. There could be significant messages or omens being revealed, possibly through dreams, rituals, or teachings. The energy of this rune implies that November is a good time for communicating wisdom, whether through sermons, teachings, or connecting with higher forces.

3. Kenaz (◄) – Torch, Illumination, and Creative Power

Kenaz signifies a torch or fire, symbolizing illumination, revelation, and creativity. It often speaks to the uncovering of hidden truths or the dispelling of darkness. In relation to the temple, Kenaz could indicate that this time will bring clarity and understanding to situations that were previously obscured. It might also point to a period of creative energy and the ability to shine light on important aspects of temple life or its spiritual practice.

Divination for November 2024

Tarot by Azhman Oriv

Question: what is the fate of the Tome of the temple of the Old Ones?

Card 1

Question: The Tome as it currently stands

Card: The Empress- upright

Old One: The black goat of the woods with a thousand young

Meaning: The black Goat the mother of all is constantly birthing new spawn into existence, it is the ultimate for of creativity and longevity – Our tome as it stands is a combination of many ideas and is an expression of creativity

Card 2

Question: What is the best course of action for the Tome

Card: The High Priestess-Upright

Old One: Elder God Bast

Meaning: Bast the Elder God, talks of arcane and divine wisdom and change that will come to the tome, but that these things must coexist to be truly effective. And while these changes may seem out of the blue it is due to correct divine insight that they must come about.

Card 3

Question: what is the worst course of action for the Tome

Card: Judgment- upright

Old One: Ghroth

Meaning: Ghorth, talks about how there are snap decisions being made about the tome, That there are many who believe they have learned for the past and reached a just clarity decision. Introspective is needed.

Card 4

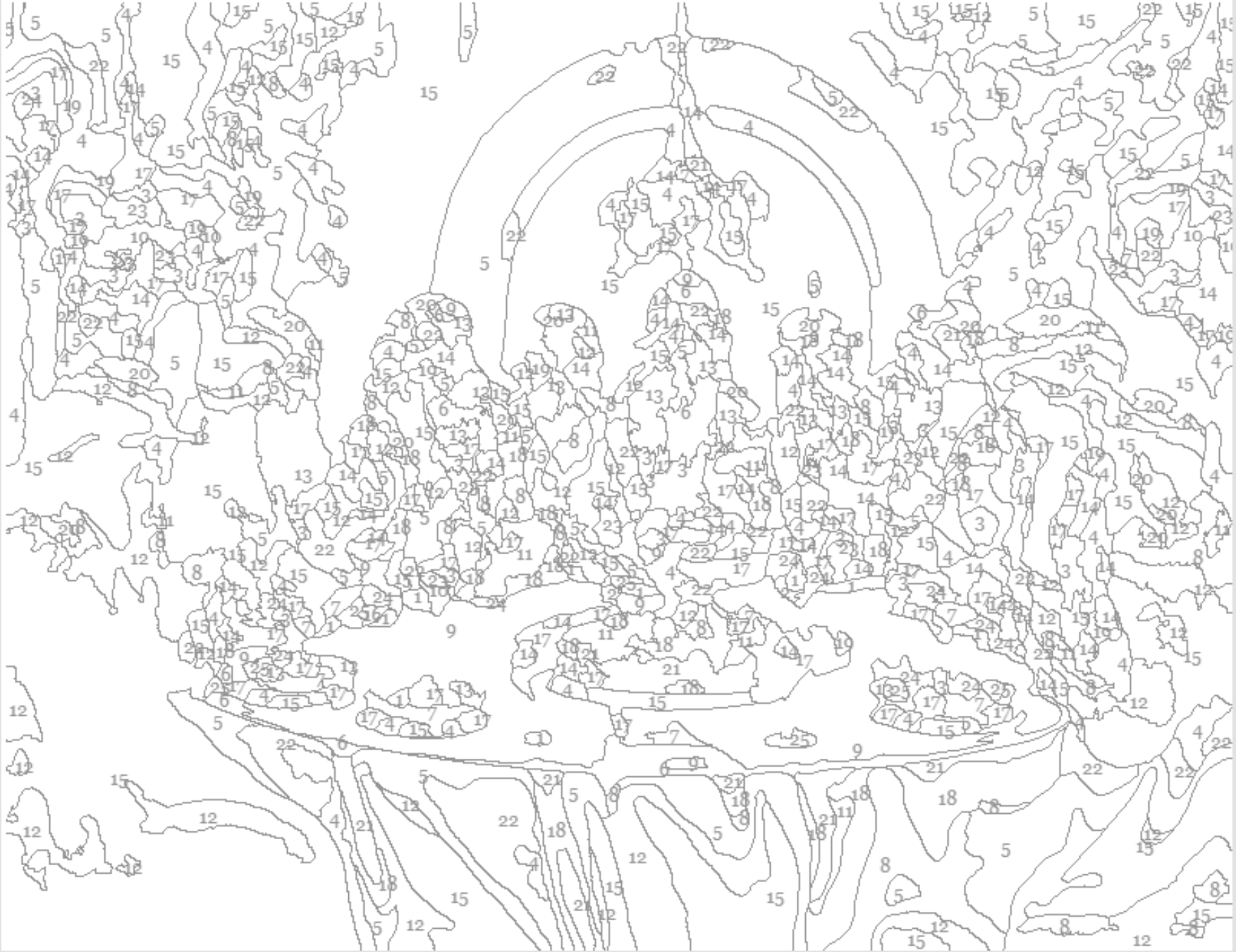
Question: to which Old One is influencing the Tome

Card: Three of wands -upright

Old One: SHUDDE M'ELL

Meaning: Shudde me'll wants there to be progress for the Tome it is aware of the failings of the first book "the bible of Cthulhu " and does not want us to repeat the same mistakes so it has taken over its creation so that the book stands in line with the Old Ones teachings for their temple.

Color By Number



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This Month in the Temple Current Events

October 2nd, 2024: Nyth Meeting

Attendance: Azhman Oriv, Fm'toth Gna'uln, Kadish Ph'ee, Kadorr, Phlegethotep, Shub'Kidast-Ghaistur, Yog-Nytharanak, Yog-Kadageth

Reviewed newly submitted artwork from Juan, we approve. Reviewed newly submitted artwork by Styx. Also approved. Scheduling of ascendance interviews goes into a new method.

October 26th 2024: Dark Spirits Day Celebration celebration hosted on Youtube and Discord. Video was well received and siblings spoken to in the call after the video had ended sounded excited for more content in the coming months. Nyth and Council are also positive about future method of celebration in this way.

Oktober 31st 2024: The term to describe a group of Nyth is officially voted on to be 'A shroud of Nyth'.

