

**ACCORDING TO
THEORETICAL PHYSICIST
CARLO ROVELLI, 'A WHITE
HOLE IS A BLACK HOLE
WITH TIME REVERSED' ::
THE DREAMQUEST
CONTINUES**

by David Spencer

By way of 'echoing' the beginning of last month's 'Newsletter' contribution, in which I quote a poem from the contemporary poet Ada Limon's collection "The Hurting Kind," 2022, imagine, if you will, having a dream in which your Inner Dreamer is presented with a rose, & when you awake from said dream, you proceed to 'pour' the delicate fistful of ashes from one hand to another, et Voila! Your Dream Rose rematerializes . . . Ah, & what then? An image more than casually suggestive of the 'Temperance' card from what T. S. Eliot terms a 'Wicked Pack of Cards,' namely the Tarot . . . Which, in its tUrn is 'preechoed' by not only Samuel Taylor Coleridge, but Thomas De Quincey; in this pARTicular 'Case,' our source is Jorge Luis Borges's aptly titled short story 'The Rose of Paracelsus' . . .

Lest ye be concerned that we might already be risking our balance with one foot over the edge of a well-nigh fathomless Nietzschean Abyss &/or Car{r}ol{!}ingian Rabbit h◊le{!}, where yet-to-be-decrypted Anasazi/Koyaanisqatsi-Kaliber conspiracy theories lure you into the faux-depths wherein the denizens of the deep threaten to pick your bones in whispers, let us 'ground' ourselves with the opening salvo of 'The Gospel of Mary Magdalene' :: "Every form fashioned by Nature will dissolve into its primal root, for the nature of matter is to retUrn to its Source." In other words, the 'baseless fabric' of these insubstantial realms is

No less intriguingly, there's Saint-Guilhem-le-Desert not too far from Rennes-le-Chateau, founded in 804 CE by the Merovingian Guilhem of Gellone, the legendary Duke of Aquitaine who inspired many 'chansons de geste' & founded the famous monastery of St.-Guilhem-le-Desert, which is now on display in NYC's 'The Cloisters,' the Guilhem of Gellone in question having been a major player in the Jewish Kingdom of Septimania in the South of France, which lasted from 768 through ca. 900 CE. Subsequently, this pART of France became known for its early Kabbalistic centres, Cathars & Troubadours, with a Seer of the stature of Nostradamus living a few centuries later in this curiouser-'n'-curiouser corner of Southern France. These seldom-noted connections merit a much more in-depth eXamination, but this brief overview is hardly the place to delve deeper into these subtly interwoven themes. Suffice it to say that the aforereferenced Mary Magdalene is increasingly thought by scholars in the field to have been the author of most if not all of the Gospel more commonly attributed to John. On that 'note,' I'd like to dedicate the dots connected herein to the eXtraOrdinary Black Madonna of Rocamadour.

Among recommended sources along these & related lines :: Karen L. King, "The Gospel of Mary of Magdala: Jesus & the First Woman Apostle," 2003; Cynthia Bourgeault, "The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the HeArt of Christianity," 2010; Jack Angelo, "The Healing Wisdom of Mary Magdalene," 2015; &, far from least, Emma Jung & Marie-Louise von Franz, "The Grail Quest," 1986.

prone to dissolve into mist, leaving not a {w}rack behind . . . In a cognate vein, as the Sage Pascal, later in the same 17th Century, eXpresses it so provocatively, "What a Chimera is man! What a Chaos, What a Contradiction, What a Prodigy! Judge of All Things, Feeble Earthworm, Repository of Truth . . . The Glory & the Scum of the UniVerse."

To bring this conundrum further up to date, Hunter S. Thompson confesses that 'All my life my heArt has sought a thing I cannot name.' Therein lies the rub . . . which in my world of para-aleatory associations suggests such archetypal pursuits as the multiform Quest for the Holy Grail, encompassing such sacred places as Wolfram von Eschenbach's 'Munsalvaesche' (commonly identified with Montsegur in the Languedoc), Glastonbury in Somerset, to both of which Grail- & Myth-haunted waystations I've made memorable pilgrimages.