When the hawthorn flowers, we gather aound her because the goddess Beauty has shown herself. Whether distress or beauty urge, all of us at some time turn to a source for sustenance, a place of succour or comfort, a straight pole to lean against. It is good to find that place of strength within the Self as well as

the community. Mayday is a reminder of that navel which we can contemplate and strengthen in ourselves, instead of falling asleep on our source, which is also our major re-source. Beltane fire-hopping and maypole-bopping are just two ways to jog our memories.

PERSPECTIVES

I hope that the editor is right. That this spring will be the start of a whole new era. I am a sceptic about this sort of change. My experience suggests to me that we will have to muddle on for quite a while. I do not in anyway want to diminish what can be achieved with faith, for it can achieve miracles; the word is used deliberately.

Let me start with a story: ONCE upon a time. All that was good was white, all that was bad was black. All went well for a while. Then there arose an argument which caused great turmoil. Some of the clever bad guys noticed that some of the good guys got it wrong sometimes. They formed a union to say that GOOD was only valid if it was also right. The good guys argued that good was naturally right. The bad guys insisted that however good, they must sometimes be wrong. A conference was called to establish order.

During the process a bunch of YINS started the idea that apart from good and bad, or even right and wrong, they were losing out. The yangs who tended to be good and therefore white, felt this was an unnecessary complication and refused to consider the issue. The conference is still in process but as some of the young ones were not invited and did not know whether they were good or bad, or black or white, or yin or yang, they just got angry.

We are in a period of time when we must insist that not only must the joy of celebration be respected, but our anger must also be recognised.

Jeremy Style