



Stories & Fables for Climate Age Kids #2

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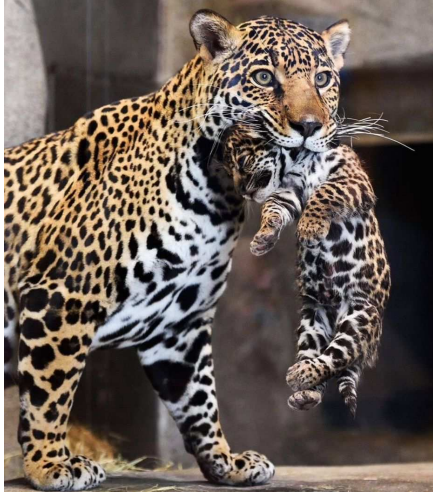
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Jaguar Fire Dream

Lush, dark green jungle ... Bird calls ... Lumbermen set the jungle ablaze with flame throwers ... Jaguar running hard against death ... Burning jungle initiation ... Mother Jaguar delivers a water born baby at rivers edge ... She swims up river with her cub in her teeth ... Looking for a human-less, free jungle space to hunt and raise her cub ... Her Journey in a fire storm



Extinction Rebellion's Dunk Tank at the County Fair

"The 2019 Santa Clara County Fair is on! Take a look at all there is to do and see over the 4 day run of the Fair. You'll want to listen to music, do some serious shopping, marvel at the exhibits, check out the competitions to see who wins the blue ribbon – and you cannot skip the food!"

###

As Dean falls 3 feet into the dunk tank below, he catches a glimpse of a smile from the little girl who threw the baseball and hit the Extinction Rebellion (ER) symbol at the intersection of the "X." It was Joe's idea to bring the dire messages of the global group to the County Fair, a decidedly sweet candy apple and petting zoo scene. His comrades are milling around, talking up the end of the Earth, in support of a 180 degree reversal in fossils fuel use.

"The future of the Earth and all living things on it now depends on whether we do enough in response to the climate crisis to limit its impact by radically transforming our energy production and consumption, our agriculture and forestry, our priorities and perceptions." (ER)

###

Extinction Rebellion's Dunk Tank

The Bay Area ER dunk tank is a fund and consciousness raiser for a global call to stem

the use of fossil fuels and clean-up the mess they have created.

To juxtapose this “full clean ahead” movement with prized cows and the ferry wheels is a site to be seen and heard. If you hit the bar and dunk the character on the bench for a \$10.00 donation, ER will give \$2.00 back for each successful dunk. No one said that the fair was fair. It is a fund raiser, after all.

A die-in is too much for the fair, with a danger of alienating citizens.

#####

There is a myriad of lessons and values in play at the dunk tank. Some extracted from Permaculture:

The tank is a local event, but with a global vision

The event integrates a variety of concerns and values

Use entertainment to speak to the issues

No generator required

Local ER leaders staff the tank, adding credibility to the outreach effort

#####

As Dean is helped out of the tank, to a chorus of “ER, ER, ER”, he wonders where the water in the tank will end up at the end of the day?



Bequeath (The Wetland Spell)

When Doc inherited the farm outside of Eugene, it came with a small, greyed-out pond with an earthen dam at one end that helped keep the water level high in her small aqua-ecosystem during times of drought. At peak, the water level is about 3 feet. Right now, the level is 8 inches and going down due to climate change's sun dried roar.

According to the good doctor, a spell is required to turn musty old oil soaked marshes into healthy wetlands.

A spell is like a song that you say.

#####

Guardian, ecologist and green tea romantic, Doc is both mystic and bill payer. In addition to the spell, she also has a red tee shirt with this mantra tagged on it from EcoGlow, Inc., a local wild places rehab service:

“Natural Screening, Cleaning, Restoring”

Only she is the dominant indicator species in her backyard wetland redo.

“Native plants vs. invaders!”

#####

“Bequeath (The Wetland Spell)”

“Oh, Great Western Water Gods
Pollinate our Wetlands
So humans plants and animals
Can partake in your splendid flow”

Doc wrote the spell back in college but didn’t know why until the water went down to a trickle and the Moon stung the cracked land.

#

In reality, Doc was actually praying for animal fighters at the peak of their game, each connected in the food chain like a greyhound and a station.

Insect larvae bequeath Bull Frogs bequeath
Raccoons then Black birds
Finally, bequeath the mighty Eagles

She has the soup and the nuts; a true vision to make this metamorphosis bubble and shine.

#

The rehabilitation of her backyard wetland took many years, and many permits and spells, but today the tall native grasses and cattails command and clean; ducks and geese plop and feed on their winter migrations.

Now her wetland is itself a spell for Doc’s neighbors and local officials as other junk ponds come online and connect to a shining water syndicate near Eugene.



A Chant for Climate Age Kids

CHANT

Hug Your Planet
Hug the Moon

Love Your Mother
Love Your Father

Work the Wheel
Work the New Deal

Be the Chance
Be the Truth



The Boulevard Cutters

Gemini and Lou Lou are kids on a mission. They see vast potential in turning the town's boulevard spaces - the strip of land between the sidewalk and the curb - into productive growing land. They want to enlist the help of a local road builder who can cut the concrete into manageable chunks so the permaculture gang can remove it and replace it with enriched your compost soil and food crops.

This is called a "demo project" in the kid's alt-green circle. Planting greens for an urban edge is transformational stuff, but growing food for the community is the great reward.

#####

Lou Lou wants to plant a wheat substitute called Kernza. A cousin of annual **wheat**, **Kernza** is a domesticated perennial **grain** originating from a forage grass called intermediate wheatgrass (*Thinopyrum intermedium*). **Kernza** is in the early stages of commercialization.

#####

Gemini: We can mill Kernza into flour and bake breads and rolls for the food bank.

Lou Lou: Let's get some starter plants from the Farm to jump-start this "townie germination."

#####

The trick is to disguise the noise with a parade or peaceful action so the concrete cutter can do her job. There are two 4'x20' sections of boulevard to slice and dice and haul away for reuse at the recycle store.

The kids need a band to make the noise and a bunch of students from the marching band at the high school volunteered to "bang the drum."

#

The city planning staff discovered the plants long after the fact and actually gave the kids an award for the demo project. Kernza now waves at the car and bicycle traffic in the adjacent streets and student groups take self-guided tours.

With a permit, home owners can now transform their boulevards with flowers or edibles. It is a launching pad to the future where the ghosts of concrete are recycled and the land is shared.



Texting Extinction Rebellion with Poseidon

Poseidon is the name of a new mobilization tool.

Extinction Rebellion (ER) is the name of the Tribe!

#####

Poseidon is a synchronous text tool that also facilitates real-time instructions, mapping, and secure communications that support community building. Poseidon is Google Hangouts on steroids and can support 200 people (max) at rallies, and garden installations, alike. It features multiple simultaneous languages. This rebellion tool is open-source software.

Poseidon's options for story making includes text, pictures and videos - and posting direct to designated web sites. Framing real life challenges so you can help save the planet.

A teaching tool.

Texting with Poseidon.

#####

"The future of the Earth and all living things on it now depends on whether we do enough in response to the climate crisis to limit its impact by radically transforming our energy production and consumption, our agriculture and forestry, our priorities and perceptions."

Extinction Rebellion Western Australia

“ER is working both sides of the fence,” explains Rob5. “We are protesting at the highest government levels and at the same time creating food forests for our neighborhoods.”

“Rebellion culture! Permaculture,...regenerative culture.”

#

“Today we are deploying Poseidon to help coordinate a live protest at Parliament in the Capital.”

Sam: “Our maps show that the police have blocked off Grand Street. Where do we go now?”

Lucy: “That’s right guys. Turn right on Canal then full steam to the government sector.”

The hour glass symbol of Extinction Rebellion is everywhere. On posters, tee shirts, chalked on the sidewalks. The global tactic of ER is clear: push forward or loose it! Beats cable TV.

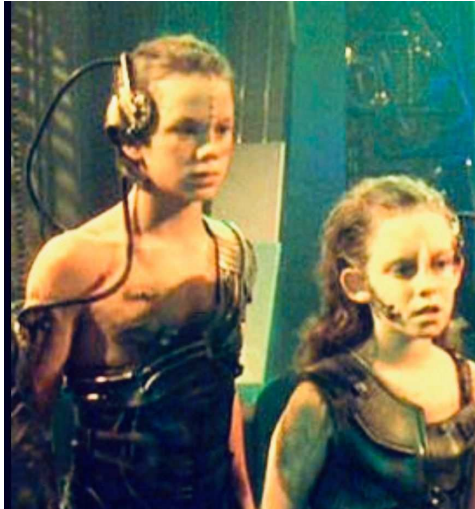
Rob5: “Global feeds, come in.” ERites from Cambridge, Boston, Vancouver BC and a swarm of other locations are streaming todays protest to other ER groups and environmentalists world-wide.

“OK gang. Park it right there,” texts Lucy.

#

After several heart bleeding speeches, cat calls, and rotten eggs, the human chain was unlocked and the crowd went back to various meet-ups in their neighborhoods.

“Nice work,” texts Rob5. “Seattle ER, you’re up next!”



Our Borg Children

The first children to test the brain-phone interface on a real scale were nicknamed “Borg Children” by the press after the infamous half-human and half-machine enemy characters on Star Trek.

The smart phone has been modified to plug into a socket in the skull allowing the brain to interact with the phone in known and unknown ways.

This project, from Apple’s 3rd Skin Labs, is from the mad scientists that brought us virtual rain and talking animals.

#####

Smart phones are plugged into their heads like a lamp in a socket. Kids operate on AI codes with no need to go out outside - virtual reality supports their experiences.

The brain recharges the smart phone. No typing needed. All typical finger-based routines are done via thoughts.

The attached (injected) smart phone learns and uploads experiences and memories from the brain as it downloads information from the wireless Internet.

#####

VR goggles and a smart phone jacked in to the skull. This begs the question: where does humanity end and programmed machines start?

Driverless children?



Last Journey at the Arctic Circle

“Where is the ice, son?”

The Elder spoke in a hushed tone. The Tribal Council has selected Gee’s Dad to perform the death ritual and float away on a chunk of ice, slightly increasing the already scant resources required by the coastal Indians.

“Father, you know very well that the ice is gone.”

“You mean that Climate Change has saved my life?” He laughed. Then he coughed.

“It is time, my son. I must do my part.”

#####

Gee knew very well that his brothers and sisters in his clan have devised an alternative to the ice. Up in the forest, there is a cave that no one uses, and supporting the frail and sick to pass is an important and sacred rite.

#####

After much discussion, the council gave each family with a near-death member the choice to go to the cave or die at home. Two days later, Gee’s Dad passed peacefully in the Arctic home that he was born in.



Wildflowers for the Roundabout (a creation fable)

“Our roundabout, or round space, has been a dirt patch for too long,” insisted Diana, a neighborhood kid with a vision.

Her friend Zale remembers a time when there wasn’t a Cul-de-sac sticking out like a sore thumb in the middle of the neighborhood, before the City covered the old creek and sanctioned a set of 12 same style homes for a “progressive suburbia.”

Thus is the quiet unrest along Sequoia Street.

#####

“What do you have in mind, little girl?” Said Roundy the roundabout.

“Uh?” Exclaimed Zale and Diana simultaneously!

“Yes, it’s me, the ghost of the lost creek, transformed into a traffic calming meditation.”

A talking roundabout is a new one to the wired children of Sequoia Street.

Diana: “Why are you an ugly dirt space?”

Zale: “How long have you been in there?”

“The developer never cared about me and now the weed folks have taken up

residence,” said Roundy.

Diana: “The soil is baked and unloving. This is the place to start.”

Roundy: Yup!

#

Diana reads off a web site passage from her phone:

“Sheet mulching, also known as composting in place, mimics nature by breaking down organic material from the topmost layers down. The simplest form of sheet mulching consists of applying a bottom layer of decomposable material, such as cardboard or newspapers, to the ground to kill existing vegetation and suppress weeds. Then, a top layer of organic mulch is applied. More elaborate sheet mulching involves more layers. Sheet mulching is used to transform a variety of surfaces into a fertile soil that can be planted. Sheet mulching can be applied to a lawn, a dirt lot full of perennial weeds, an area with poor soil, or even pavement or a rooftop.”

#

Roundy’s round space is 24’ in diameter. In a form of trick or treat, the kids went door to door to collect cardboard and compost from their 10 neighbors. They were overwhelmed with the response!

An initiation in soil building and a transformation in spirit!

#

Over several months, the sheet mulched soil emerged triumphantly and the kids kept watering the plot to further decompose the matter.

“What’s next?” inquired Roundy?

“Wild flowers,” exclaimed the kids.

“And the bees that come with them,” beamed Diana.

####

“Put the sunflowers in the middle,” said Roundy. “Build your flower bed around them.”

“Sweet peas next.”

Diana and Zale are planting wild flowers including:

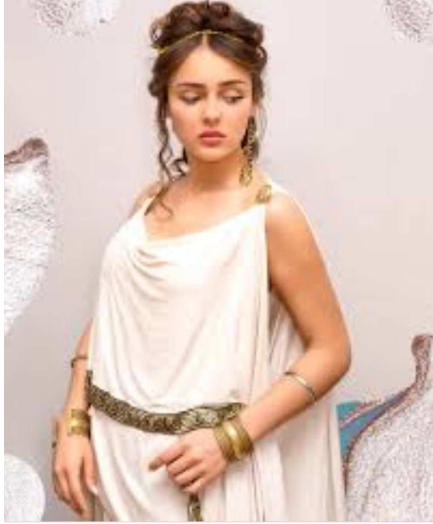
African Daisy, Baby Blue Eyes, Celandine, Corn Flower, Foxgloves, Iceland Poppy, Texas Paintbrush and more.

As the flowers emerged, the kids weeded Roundy’s new home and watered to keep the flowers happy.

Both the City Planning Department and the local permaculture guild gave the new roundabout an award for community building and environmental design.

####

The morals of the story? Is to listen to the land, it will help you see what will work with Nature; to share the vision and solution for the good of the community.



Promethia – Goddess of Climate Change

Cast of Characters:

Promethia

Goddess of Climate Change

Sister to Prometheus

Prometheus

A God of fire and burning of fossil fuels

Gaia

Goddess of the Rain Forest and Nature

#####

“The humans are burning down the Amazon,” exclaimed Prometheus. “The death toll on the plants and animals is staggering.”

“Fueling climate change, no doubt,” stated Promethia. “One can see the smoke and flames from space.”

Gaia is in Brazil, trying to put out the fires.

#####

Promethia was not new to her role as Climate Change Goddess, having been born with from a rib from Prometheus in the 18th Century. The pollution load from burning oil has only increased many fold since then.

A blistering, burning planetary apocalypse is consuming Earth and the Gods are behind a huge melting curve.

#####

As the polar ice caps melt, it would appear that Prometheus' fire brand is the strongest force that the Gods can muster. But Promethia's magic - and initiations - could prove to be stronger. Her brother has grown lazy.

#####

Promethia found Gaia refueling with water from a jungle stream to help the resistance fight down the flames. She could hold hundreds of gallons of water in her stomach, a true super hero.

"Hi Girl Friend, what can I do?" Shouted the Goddess of the Climate Age, to many the last Age of Man there will be on Earth.

"Fetch your brother," she called. "We need his fire to put out fire."

#####

Prometheus was no slouch when it comes to flying around the world. He was in the Amazon in four minutes flat from his loft in the lower east side of New York City.

ZOOM! Gaia: "Hey Man!"

"Yes, Mz."

"Do you know what a fire line is?" She always gets to the point quickly in a crisis.

"You rob the original **fire** of either fuel or oxygen with a carefully set second fire and you extinguish the wild fire."

"Very carefully," he nods.

“Use fire breaks, too. There are roads and rivers that will serve to stop the fires in their tracks.”

Prometheus flew off in search of the local Indians who can benefit from his burning heart and hands.

#####

Promethia set-up a command and control center on the eastern-most edge of the fires and invited the Gods to join in the intervention.

Everyone wants to know who is setting the fires!

“The lumber companies are trying to force the local Indians off of their tribal lands,” said Gaia. “Their illegal acts threaten lives and resources.”

#####

When the fires were put out, and the bad men went to prison, the Gods helped the locals put out the hot spots and replant the charred remains of the jungle. Small plants soon appeared along with insects and birds.

“A little heaven comes with a little hell,” exclaimed Promethia. And then off she went to the Arctic to tackle the ice melt challenge there.