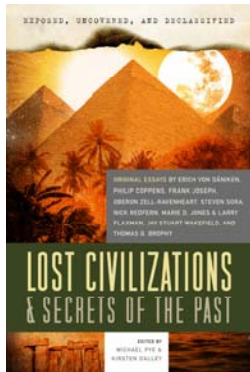


LOST CIVILIZATIONS

By Oberon Zell-Ravenheart

CHAPTER SUMMARY



Atlantis, Lemuria, the Garden of Eden—myths and fantasies of paradise lost, or actual places that have somehow disappeared from the face of the Earth? And what of the famous legends of a great and universal Deluge that are found in so many ancient cultures? Could there really have been a vast global inundation that drowned entire populations and submerged settlements throughout the world, to be enshrined in legend by the few survivors whose descendants repopulate the world?

The great majority of human history (or rather, pre-history) occurred in a world very different from the one we now inhabit. During most of that time, vast amounts of the Earth's waters were frozen into continent-spanning miles-thick sheets of ice covering much of North America and Northern Europe, and ocean levels were hundreds of feet lower than they are today—exposing as dry lands the vast areas of the continental shelves. This was the period of the Würm Glaciation, and it lasted for 59,500 years!

The choice locations for human settlements have always been at the places where rivers empty into the sea. When the last ice age ended 10,500 years ago, the melting ice raised the sea levels 400 feet, and the new coastlines moved hundreds of miles inland, inundating over 10 million square miles of formerly habitable land. Since all coastal communities were thus drowned, those few people who had survived in the uplands passed down legends of sunken lands, lamenting lost paradises...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Oberon Zell-Ravenheart



OBERON ZELL is a renowned Wizard and Elder in the worldwide magical community. He holds academic degrees in sociology, anthropology, clinical psychology, teaching, and theology. He is an initiate in several different magical Traditions, and has been involved in the founding of several major groups and alliances.

In 1962, Oberon co-founded the Church of All Worlds, a Pagan church with a futuristic vision. First to apply the terms “Pagan” and “Neo-Pagan” to the newly emerging Nature religions of the 1960s, and through his publication of the award-winning *Green Egg* magazine (1968-), Oberon was instrumental in the coalescence of the Neo-Pagan movement, which for the half-century has been reclaiming the religious heritage of pre-Christian Europe.

In 1970, Oberon had a profound Vision of the Living Earth which he published as an early version of “The Gaea Thesis” — that our entire planetary biosphere comprises the body of a single vast living organism universally identified as “Mother Earth.”

Oberon is a theologian and ritualist, creating and conducting rites of passage, seasonal celebrations, Mystery Initiations, Earth-healings, and other large rituals. He has traveled throughout the world, celebrated solar eclipses at ancient stone circles, raised unicorns, and swum with mermaids in the Coral Sea. He also designs jewelry and sculpts figurines of gods, goddesses, and mythical creatures for the Mythic Images Collection (www.MythicImages.com).

In 2002, Oberon gathered together many respected mages and sages to form the “Grey Council.” In 2004 Oberon and the Council published *Grimoire for the Apprentice Wizard*, filled with their accumulated wisdom and insights. That summer, Oberon created his proudest accomplishment, the online Grey School of Wizardry (www.GreySchool.com). As the school’s Headmaster, Oberon has been called “The real Albus Dumbledore.”

Living in Sonoma County, California, with his wife Morning Glory, Oberon is also the author of *Companion for the Apprentice Wizard*, *Creating Circles & Ceremonies*, *A Wizard’s Bestiary*, and *Green Egg Omelette*. All these have been published by New Page Books. Oberon has a weekly show on Blogtalk radio called “Over to Oberon & Ariel,” each Wednesday night from 9:00-10:00 Central Time.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Lost Civilizations

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- What is a Wizard?
- How do you become a Wizard?
- What kind of magic do Wizards do?
- How did you come to write *Grimoire for the Apprentice Wizard*?
- You have been called “the real-life Albus Dumbledore.” How is this so?
- What is the Grey School of Wizardry?
- How did you become interested in ancient mysteries?
- Was there really a Garden of Eden?
- What about Atlantis?
- How did you come to write *A Wizard’s Bestiary*?
- Which legendary creature are you most fascinated with, and why?
- How did you raise living Unicorns?