A PILGRIMAGE TO Q’EROS . . . . . . . . . . . . 6-11
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AN AMERICAN SHAMANIC PRACTITIONER . . 21-21
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Welcome to the 112th edition of Hoop. Sadly, you will have noticed we have password protected this, and in fact all our past digital issues. I didn’t like doing this, but it is a sign of the times, as we found that ‘bots’ - also called ‘crawlers’ - were putting their digital fingers into our files in a malicious way, which could have caused us costly problems. And so, reluctantly I had to place a small level of security on all our pdf files to slap away their digital fingers and stop them peeking. A simple password should be enough, so all our back and future issues will have the password dancer. This should stop the automated crawlers, and I hope it won’t present you with too much of a problem when you read the magazine. Just remember to keep being a dancer.

I will add, just to reassure you if you are at all concerned, these crawlers present no threat to your security, we do not store any details about subscribers online at all, the security issue was wholly confined to our previously insecure pdf magazine files.

And so to this issue. A big theme this time is the role of ancestors. We look at the role of ancestors and ‘roots’ in modern U.S. culture and how shamanism there has been affected by the displaced nature of a lot of that culture. With this in mind, we look at the nature of ancestors: blood ancestors, cultural - or lineage ancestors - and ancestors of place. We look at how to make fetish dolls in order to represent them on altars, and give a Tibetan ‘Hungry Ghost offering ceremony, done to pacify and feed ancestor spirits who are wandering and troubled.

We also look at personal empowerment and about how our culture can often infantilise us; and explore ways we can find authentic empowerment, through different methods of healing work that can deal with the past.

And we look at the sacred ways of two ancient cultures of the Americas, the Q’ero and the Hopi, who despite hardships in many forms, have held their sacred understanding of the cosmos and our connection to it.

May we all find strong roots and connection.

Blessings to all Beings
Nicholas Breeze Wood