

Fairy Tale

Magickal News in a New World

March Issue 2011

WIZARDS AMONG US

Jessica (pictured below) sits at home and practices a simple levitation spell in her room.

As a student at the Toronto Academy of Magick and Alchemy, levitation is one of the many skills she has to learn before graduating the four-year program. Along with Math, English, and History, Jessica's education will include Elemental magick, defensive spells, and alchemy.



"We're very proud of her," her mother says. Janine is a dental hygienist and very supportive of her daughter's pursuit of the magickal arts.

"But what kind of jobs will be open to her after graduation?" I ask, wondering how a student of magick will survive in a technology-based world.

Her father sits forward and eagerly answers, "Oh, they've assured us that she'll have her choice of jobs once she graduates. With magick, she can do anything."

Janine adds, "The Academy in Toronto specializes in a number of fields, including new and exciting careers only available to those with magickal gifts. Jessie's advisor recently informed us that there are new and exciting opportunities opening up for wizards in the government and in law enforcement!"

DID YOU KNOW?

According to Merriam-Webster, the word *Wizard* means "a wise man" or "a very clever or skillful person." Though the term has now come to define a small group of selected individuals who attend magick academies, the word would have once been interchangeable with the words *Guru* and *Sage*.

It is believed that witchcraft and wizardry share common beginnings, though they have since branched off to represent very different groups of magick practitioners.



WIZARDS AMONG US

After speaking with Jessica and her family, I had the unique opportunity of talking to Dean Matthias, head of the Toronto Academy of Magick and Alchemy.

“What do students gain from attending your school versus attending a witchcraft school or joining a coven?”

“First and foremost, our students gain structured, hands on learning from an accredited facility. We at The Toronto Academy of Magick and Alchemy are a recognized educational facility. Our students receive a degree that opens up a number of opportunities for them out in the real world. Whereas covens and witchcraft centers simply cannot provide that.”

“Do you feel this is something that witchcraft centers could one day offer?” I ask, sensing his disapproval the moment I mentioned witchcraft schools—

like the one in Hamilton, Ontario. The Spiritual Center, owned and operated by Roisin Wells, is one of the largest magick and witchcraft facilities in Ontario.

The Dean answers me calmly, “While anyone can light a candle and recite an ancient incantation to help their crops grow or find a sweetheart for Valentine’s day, only a wizard, trained in a specialized facility can reach the full potential of their abilities. Thanks to the knowledge and experience passed down through the centuries—that has been collected and carefully distributed through our experienced staff—our students

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Next Issue

Six of the most magickal places in the world!

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are able to take the lead in advancements in multiple fields, such as molecular science, botany, and in even forensic sciences.”

“Is there any danger of magickal students replacing the need for modern day experts in these fields? A question that has been asked by many since the appearance of magickal kind eleven years ago.

“Not in the slightest. It is a rare individual who is born with the ability to harness and manipulate energy—and each student is unique and often finds limitation as a result of their natural ability. For example, a student who naturally gravitates towards water would have difficulty controlling fire, and a student with a natural telekinetic ability, often has no connection to elemental magick whatsoever. Nature, in its infinite wisdom, limits not only who is gifted with such an ability, but also how far their ability can go. It’s all a part of the natural process of evolution.”

I take a moment to consider what he has said before responding. “So, you believe that nature limits the number of individuals gifted with magick and the abilities themselves, thus keeping a kind of equilibrium between those who are magickally inclined and those who are not?”

“Correct.”

My stay with the Dean is short, however I pause before leaving, and give myself some time to take in the dusty tomes that line his bookshelves and the carving of an ancient tree that branches out behind him—and I realize I am staring at a pocket of the old-world, nestled into our modern times, and I’m reminded of a quote by Arthur C. Clarke:

“Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.”

Is it possible that one day, there will be no difference between those who are born magickally-inclined and those who simply have the technology?

One has to stop and consider the magick mirror from fairy tales. Magick mirrors had many powers, but what sticks out the most in my mind is how they were used to view people and to communicate, not unlike the cellphones and tablets we use today—they not only act as mirrors, but record video and are used for phone calls and texting.

Perhaps human society is a lot more magickal than we think.



Kyra Singh is a freelance writer and full time coffee drinker. She is one hundred percent a bookworm and hopes to help mankind to understand and embrace the new world of magick.