

Leaves from the Orchard



Avalonian Connections
Alan Royce

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Alan Royce has a very rare intelligence and he is a living treasure of Glastonbury; I consider myself very fortunate to be his friend. We share a deep interest in the occult history of Glastonbury - not so much from an ego-driven quest for archaic magic but as a way of understanding the many layers of religious and visionary belief that have been projected upon this poor beleaguered landscape. Conversations with Alan can jump from Glastonbury's Edwardian mystics to ancient Etruscans; from the obscure Star Lore of Alexandria to Mithraic practises on Hadrian's Wall; from medieval Glastonbury legends to his very real experiences of working with the local Genius Loci - the spirits of the land. He can truly think outside of the box and his ideas can often be challenging, stretching one's brain cells into new shape - he can be a bit of a trickster - but he is always inspiring.

Alan is a kind and gentle person; he freely shares his knowledge and insights with all who stop to listen; and then he usually sends them off with diagrams scribbled on café napkins and scraps of paper. It's wonderful that his many essays have been compiled to create this book - a treasure for all modern and future Avalonians.

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