

others as you would have them do unto you. And those kinds of sensibilities are at the core of all of the world's religious, ethical, and spiritual traditions. Understanding the nature of these effects, and their consequences, may be key to the survival of our species.

David: That was precisely the point that I was trying to make when I edited the MAPS Bulletin about ecology and psychedelics. Psychedelics have played such an important role in inspiring people to become more ecological aware.

Roland: Yes, that follows from the altruistic sensibility that may flow from these types of experiences. Ecology can become a big deal with these experiences. If you really experience the interconnectedness of all things and the consciousness that pervades all things, then you have to take care of other people and the planet, right? And to bring this back around to death and dying, if everything is conscious, then death and dying may not be so frightening. There is a big and mysterious story here. •



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Reflected Bits of Light

By Willow Aryn Dellinger

I shook the moon with my fingers
as the sky chuckled beneath me.
When I lifted my hand from the river water,
the ridges of cream against black
fluttered back to its whole -
the perfect circle that rests on the
cusp of dishevelment in puddles
and rivers and seas across the world.
I feel the stirred river blossom into
drops off my fingertips as I
rearrange the molecules of night air,
just passing through.
I imagine what the passage of death must be -
perhaps something like a spontaneous night walk;
or maybe, one's life could be the quivering pallor of a reflected moon -
only momentarily disturbed before becoming
whole again -
as though we're all reflected
bits of light,
and life is an ephemeral illumination
of one another
for introducing color
to all the dark places,
until everything is light ...