


OCTOBER 2020

# THE SATANIC TEMPLE ARIZONA

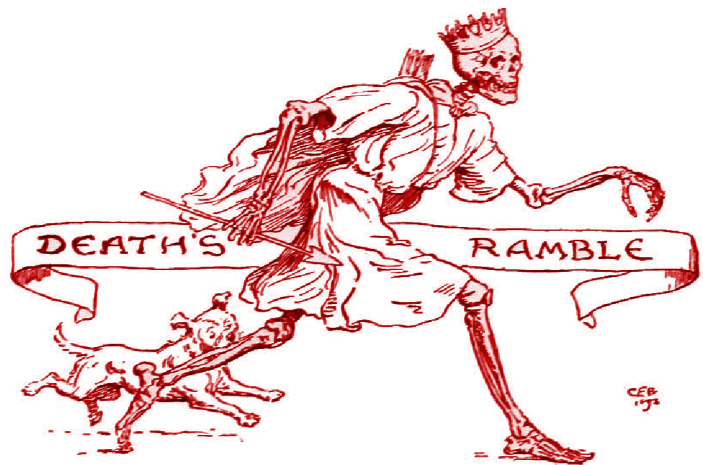


 This newsletter was created while we're still in the midst of a global pandemic, surrounded by an increasing drum beat of pseudoscience, endarkenment, and the rising tide of a Satanic Panic that never ended. We're a month away from an election that seems inevitably shrouded in controversy and conflict. It is times like this that being the adversary is more dangerous than ever, but it is also the most important. It is upon us to be an example of what we want society to be, continue forward regardless of the odds, to come together to support one another, and to build lives worth living-- lives that defy the zeitgeist by being rich in knowledge and community. Stagnation is death, and chaos is terrifying, but it is in chaos that progress can be made.

TST is growing and this chapter is growing. Growing causes pain, but we **must** work together as it is in our community that we are legion.

Hail yourself! Hail our community!  
HAIL SATAN!

- Karl Kasarda, Media Liaison



*Please note that some of the included links in this newsletter go to Official Member only resources, so if you're not able to access them and you are an Official Member, please contact your local leadership to fix that!*

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## **10/18/2020 - *The Devil's Playground*** (Tucson)

As a religious organization it is important to serve the community and take care of the earth we live on. We have started the process of adopting a park, and we will be doing a clean up of the park monthly, after 6 months we will be awarded a sign in the park.

Please join us the morning of October 18th at Joaquin Murrieta Park, for the third park clean up. We will have trash bags, gloves and garbage pickers. Face coverings required.

## **10/31/2020 - *TST TV Halloween 2020*** (National)

TST TV will have a special live streaming event from 8 pm - 3 am EST (5pm - 12 am AZ time). It will contain all sorts of ritual, fun, and everything you'd expect from TST on Halloween. Don't miss it!

# CHAPTER UPDATES

**TST AZ Chapterhead Nominees.** We're pleased to announce the nominees for TST AZ chapterhead! Congratulations to: Katie Diaz, Lynita Killen, Oliver Spires, Dresden Visage, and Pope Wonka!

Our election outcome will be determined by a ranked preference poll system designed by Zee Kay. Thank you, Zee! All official members of the Arizona chapter in good standing are eligible to vote. The poll is currently live (link on [TST AZ Official Members Facebook](#)) and closes on 10/9. We will be sending the results to our International Council for next steps.



TST AZ during highway cleanup.  
Photo by AZ member Patricia Moreno.



# INTERNATIONAL UPDATES



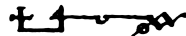
**Belle Plaine Veteran's Monument.** On 08/28, it was announced that the Belle Plaine Monument case will proceed. This case centers around the cube-shaped Satanic veterans monument that TST had been granted permission to install in the Veterans Memorial Park in Belle Plaine, Minnesota. It was to be displayed alongside statues representing other faiths in a "free speech forum" the City had opened, in keeping with the First Amendment.

However, after TST received permission, paid the installation fee, and created the statue, our permission was revoked. TST requested to be reimbursed for the expenses incurred, but the city refused, so TST filed suit. TST lawyer (and AZ local) Stu De Haan explains that this contractual claim is called Estoppel - "reliance to a detriment". Essentially, it is Belle Plains' responsibility to pay for

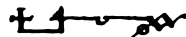
the costs incurred because they changed their mind after the money was spent. The city asked the Court to dismiss our claim, but the US District Court of Minnesota will allow the case to proceed.

TST must now prove in court our Estoppel claim, as well as our claim that this was a violation of equal protection, which is guaranteed by the 14th Amendment. De Haan explains that "equal protection" is broader than a religious discrimination claim. Equal protection applies to any minority group or protected class, including (but not necessarily) a religious group. The monument is currently on display at The Satanic Temple's Headquarters and Salem Art Gallery.

*Thanks to Dresden Visage for the memorial photo.*



**Dark Arts Auction.** On 09/02, TST NYC announced the winners of their Dark Arts Auction, which raised \$233 for TST and the Religious Reproductive Rights Campaign. Watch the announcement [here](#).



**Grey Faction.** On 09/08, [Grey Faction](#) announced the launch of their new project, "A Rumor of Devils". Their goal is to collect video and audio testimonials from people who were personally affected by the Satanic Panic of the 80s and 90s. They hope to highlight the damage done by the false narratives of the Satanic Panic, in the hopes of preventing such witch hunts from happening again. For submission requirements and details: [arumorofdevils@gmail.com](mailto:arumorofdevils@gmail.com)

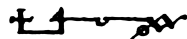


**Suryan Council.** On 09/08, TST Executive Ministry and International Council announced the formation of the Suryan Council (SurCo), TST's new leadership oversight and human resources group. SurCo was founded by Sebastian Simpson, Damien Blackmoor and Chalice Blythe, who are now serving as its first members. Read more about SurCo [HERE](#).





**TST Parenting Group.** On 09/14, an official Facebook group for TST Parents was announced. Join the group, People with Hellspawn, [here](#).



**TST and Black Lives Matter.** On 09/14, TST released an introductory statement from the new Satanists of Color Coalition. The statement (written by BIPOC members of TST) was the long-awaited assertion that Black Lives Matter; it reminds us of the second tenet and explains why it is more effective to support the cause as individuals rather than on behalf of a Satanic organization. The statement takes care to clarify that TST is declaring support of justice and this important movement, not necessarily to any particular group or organization. Read the statement [here](#).



**Devil's Advocate Scholarship.** On 09/15, the winners of TST's Devil's Advocate Scholarship were announced. Congratulations to Aubin from New York, Hannah Rice from Arizona, Hedera Belmont from Iowa, and Soda Lightful from North Dakota. Their winning submissions can be seen in the TST National September 2020 newsletter.



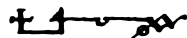
**TST UK Anniversary.** On 09/17, TST UK celebrated their one year anniversary of official chapterhood!



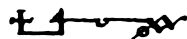
**TST TV - The Pueblo Revolt.** On 09/18, Karl Kasarda, Media Liaison of TST AZ, announced that his presentation "Early Resistance to Christianity - The Pueblo Revolt of 1680" is now available on TST TV. Learn the fascinating story of "how the Puebloan people united together in a successful revolt against genocide, colonialism and forced Christianization." Watch it [here](#).



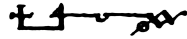
**TST Abortion Rights in Missouri.** On 09/21, we received word that TST filed an appeal regarding the Eighth Circuit Court's dismissal of TST's Missouri "Judy Doe" abortion case. This case centers on TST's argument that some Missouri abortion laws violate the religious freedom of members, in particular one anonymous member called Judy Doe. The Court dismissed the claim, so TST is taking the issue to the Supreme Court with this appeal. One could speculate that the recently-announced Abortion Ritual will play a part in this case, should the Supreme Court choose to hear it.



**RBG & Huffington Post Article.** On 09/24, D.C. Area lawyer Jamie Smith published an opinion piece on the Huffington Post, and the entire internet only read the headline. Panic ensued. Read the article [here](#). Read about the backlash [here](#). Many patient TST members took to the internet to answer questions and clear up the misconceptions of a panicked public.



**Publishing fundraiser.** Beloved author of *The Happy Satanist*, Lilith Starr, is raising funding in order to publish her next book on Satanic Practice. TST AZ member Dresden Visage had the pleasure of reading a preview of her new book, and had this to say: "It's going to be very important and valuable to our community moving forward. I encourage you to [give if you can.](#)"



**Reproductive Religious Rights Billboards.** On September 29, TST announced it had filed a religious discrimination suit against Lamar Billboard Company, after Lamar initially agreed to put up religious, pro-choice billboards in Arkansas and Indiana, but then broke their contract and refused after seeing the designs. (Example of billboard design below.)



**TST Ordination.** The TST Ordination Program is in its Final Preparation stage. All video lesson plans have been recorded, and the next phase will be piloting with TST leaders, who will be eligible to apply and complete the coursework to become ordained. Stay up to date by checking in [here](#).



**Blasphemy Day.** The first annual Blasphemy Day was 09/30. On 09/21, International Council member Dex Desjardins reminded us that while blasphemy is a powerful and important tool for catharsis, for breaking bonds that have oppressed us, and for fighting hypocrisy and theocracy, we should be mindful to use it in productive and personal ways. While we do have the right to offend, we must not use this as an excuse to degenerate other cultures, traditions or religions which did not harm us personally. Demonizing "the Other" and that which we don't understand is quite un-Satanic. With this in mind, TST members were invited to post blasphemous acts, art, music, or writings with the hashtag #TSTBlasphemy on Blasphemy Day. You should be able to still find those social media with that hashtag now.

## MEMBER CONTENT

Every month we'll be highlighting something awesome our members are doing. This newsletter's Member Content is...



### **SATANIC RPG NIGHT!**

TST AZ member John Parsons (@satanicmurse) runs his spine-chilling campaign "A Year Without Rain", set in a world that needs heroes but will take whoever it can. Based on the Shadow of the Demon Lord RPG. Wednesday nights at 8 p.m. on the [TST AZ Discord](#).

Prefer classic DnD? TST AZ member Ryan Hlawek is putting together a Dungeons and Dragons 5th edition adventure, "Descent into Avernus". Players

will descend into the first layer of the Nine Hells to stop a renegade angel and the ongoing war between demons and angels. Schedule TBD.

*Wanna join? Hop into the [Satanic DnD Night channel on Discord](#) or contact John and Ryan on the [Arizona Chapter Forum](#) on Facebook to sign up. New players and spectators welcome!*

Why RPGs? John: "I started playing in 2000 with friends from high school and instantly fell in love with RPGs, trying out all sorts of different systems and settings. I love the shared experience of communal storytelling with friends. It becomes a much more personal and bonding experience. Dungeons and Dragons, as well as RPGs in general, are a big part of my life and I just wanted to be able to share that with our community in a fun way."

## SATANIC SWAG

Looking for some new gear? Our ever changing [merch section](#) offers your favorite TST AZ designs on stickers, t-shirts, keychains, patches, and more. You can message the [TST AZ Facebook](#) page to purchase through PayPal or [follow us](#) on Instagram for a chance to win merch!



## THE EVIL EYE

***The Love Witch (2016)*, dir. Anna Biller.** Imagine a movie full of betrayal, seduction, and black widow-style murder... where the real horror is the main character thinks [The Satanic Witch](#) is the best self-help book ever written. This surreal gem of a film plays with the rise of New Age occultism and sexual liberation through the story of a modern witch (Elaine) who uses her powers of magic and perfectly applied eyeshadow to find love. Both sympathetic everywoman

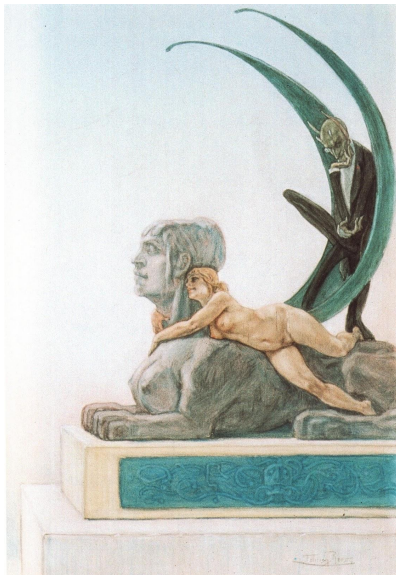
and murderous villain, Elaine is pushed and pulled by a culture that values beautiful women but also fears and dismisses them. Elaine's vintage looks are mirrored by the film itself: the color palette, the lush costuming, the sets - all of it is an Age-of-Aquarius feast for the eyes. *The Love Witch* is more feeling and aesthetic than plot, but the horror of being trapped in a damned-if-you-do, damned-if-you-don't system of gender roles is real.



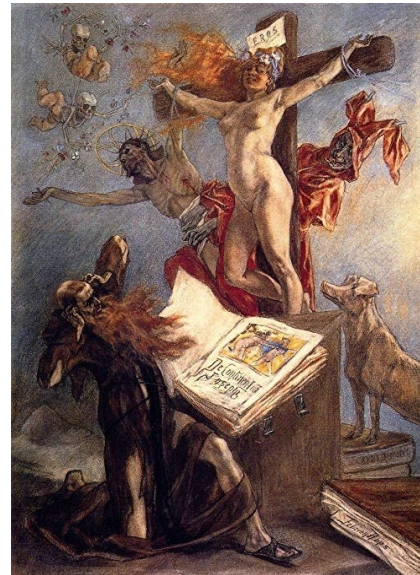
*Content warnings: Contains scenes which imply suicide and a threat of sexual assault. No sexual violence is shown onscreen. For more information, [doesthedogdie](#) has a comprehensive list of content warnings.*

## PARTING GIFTS

This month's public domain works are from artist Felicien Rops (1833 - 1898). Thanks to David Grasse, our Satanic art librarian, for the recommendation.



"The Sphinx", 1878 - 1882

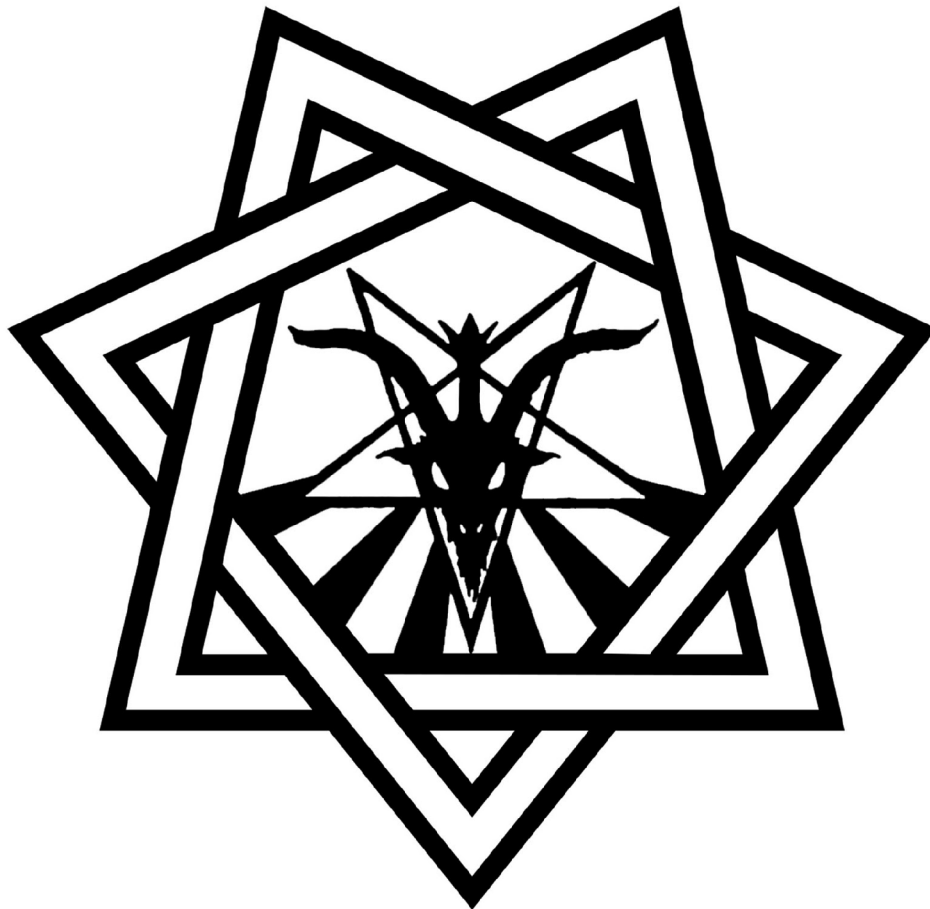


"The Temptation of St. Anthony", 1878

In the spirit of Blasphemy Day, we highly recommend Rops's painting, "[The Satanic Calvary](#)" from 1882. We cannot reproduce the entire painting here, as it contains explicit sexual imagery, but you can click the image below for a full view. (Which may give you flashbacks to the Pink Mass.) **You have been warned.**



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HAIL SATAN

Special thanks to the newsletter committee: Karl Kasarda, Joe G., Dresden Visage, Zee Kay, and Pope Wonka.