

met Gronw Febr, a local Lord, and laid with him until they were married. Blodeuwedd had tied herself to one associated with the darkness, as the hedgehog courts eternal night in the season of winter.

was in place Gronw emerged from his hiding place and threw the spear, injuring Lleu. Little did the pair know that Lleu would not die that night, his uncle Gwydion appeared by his side and transformed him into an eagle, saving his life.

Blodeuwedd and Gronw returned to court. Unbeknownst to them Gwydion raced to Lleu's side and nursed him until he was well, returning him to his human form and, soon, returning him to court too.

The moment Blodeuwedd felt Lleu's light upon her once again she knew it was too soon for her to return to spring. She

In order to ensure their union, Blodeuwedd and Gronw decided Lleu's life must end, however this was easier said than done. Lleu could only be killed at dusk, in a place not solely inside or out, by a riverbank, with one foot on a goot, and with a spear forged during Sunday Mass for a year. So, once Lleu returned, Blodeuwedd and Gronw executed their plan; when Lleu

longer reached Blodeuwedd, she

transformed into an owl and flew off to inhabit the night until she was ready to feel the bright sunlight once again.

Lleu demanded retribution on Gronw. Gronw acquiesced but requested a large stone be placed between them. He needn't've; Lleu threw the spear so hard it went clean through the stone and instantly killed Gronw.

Lleu ascended the throne of Gwynedd. Blodeuwedd spent her season of darkness and mourning soaring the skies.

Inspired by Joanna van der Hoeven's analysis in 'Women of the Mabinogion'.

FOLK STORY The Seasons of Blodeuwedd

Hailing from Wales & The Mabinogi!

Blodeuwedd had magic humming within her. She'd been made human from the flowers that grew throughout the land she now stewarded, and whose roots formed the earth itself. Together with her husband Lleu Llaw Gyffes, whose name reflected the light which emanated from him, they ruled court bringing love and life, as does the new spring. Sadly, yet inevitably, this couldn't for business and his light no longer reached Blodeuwedd, she

HOW TO FOLD & READ THIS ZINE



This zine is designed to be printed double sided on one sheet of A4.

Start by folding 8 equal rectangles, 2x4, so that all the folds bend happily both ways.

Fold along the middle short fold and cut from the centre, half way down so that you meet the next short folds.

Open this out all the way and bend the 2 end folds and 2 middle folds in the same direction so you are left with a square shaped space.

Squash this square so you have a cross then squash the cross so it folds together like a book with page 1 as the front page. Do the same from the other side to read the rest!

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RPH PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS...



ECHOES IN OUR TIME

FOLKTALES & VERSE

A zine by Rowan Prescott Hedley



September 2024

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We've hit 6 months! I'm so proud, thank you.

The pager/walkie-talkie

explosions, presumed by Israel, are devastating, concerning,

and unsurprising. Israel have remotely exploded personal

devices as assassination weapons as early as 1996.

See last month's Zionism Special for a glimpse into how

Israel got here.

6

7

8

1

2

3

4

5

and will again, I'm absolutely sure I'd be a safe haven for her, in whatever form or capacity she wanted Warts and all, full fat and frank, bloodied and wounded. I hope she knows that if she ever needed I wanted She is the one I didn't know And couldn't have had, even if I had noticed

Because for me she's worth it. She was my best friend. I wish I knew her as well now as I did then.

I want to be wherever she is, with all her chin hairs

She's funny, when she means to be and when she doesn't even try

She's so smart she runs rings round everyone I've ever seen her defy

She's warm and brash and always told me the truth

On many occasions when it wasn't what I'd have liked her to do

She's abandoned me, completely, and I have her. We've come through both

Once she was no longer physically at my side

Love lost before discovering it was love must be the hardest kind.

She was everything, always Until she wasn't.

She's still magnificent but I worry no-one in her life now tells her it.

She should be told every day.

She is bright, she is dim She thinks the hairs on her chin aren't supposed to be there

I met her before I knew what 'meeting people' meant. One day she wasn't there The next, she was the reason I was happy to return again

She crept up on me, not literally

She couldn't creep up on anyone even if she really tried

Despite her diminutive size I mean, I only noticed the space she occupied

Loving in Autumn

ORIGINAL POEM

SPOTLIGHT

TW: Rape This month has seen Gisèle Pélicot hold her head high at every public stage of the court case against her husband and 50 other men accused of raping her over the course of 10 years in which her husband dragged her to do so. Usually we would promote naming the accused as well rather than only humiliating the woman seeking justice, however Gisele's conduct has inspired protests across France against systemic sexism, chanting 'the shame must change sides'. Read my article for some insight on the seemingly insignificant beginnings of such violent rape culture.



RECOMMENDATIONS

'Burnout: Solve Your Stress Cycle' by Emily and Amelia Nagoski – Enlightenment on the somatic world of stress and recovery. Framed specifically in the toil of sexism on the body and mind, this book details how to complete the stress cycles which otherwise build up within us.

Extraordinary Attorney Woo – Gorgeous Korean TV show centred on an autistic rookie attorney who loves whales and is great at her job when people around her allow space for her needs. Funny, insightful, poignant, and a little romantic.

OTHER THOUGHTS & HELPFUL INFO



Local libraries: vital community spaces of knowledge and support. Use them when you can!

QueerAF: an online journalism network platforming queer creatives and changing media.



Jessamyn Stanley: fat, black, and accessible yoga - The Underbelly.

BreakThrough News: platforming poor, working-class communities and social justice movements.



Good Law Project: using law to make a fairer and greener UK.



Disability Rights UK: disabled collective who influence positive national change.



RPH PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS...



ECHOES IN OUR TIME

THE B - SIDE

A zine by Rowan Prescott Hedley



6B

7B

8B

1B