



✦ **Aristasia:** ✦
A Brief Visit to the
“Other Otherkin”

Galan Nivalis





FEMMEKIN – THE OTHER OTHERKIN!

AN ONLINE NEST FOR THE ALL-FEMININE RACES OF OTHERKIN



Introducing the Feminine Otherkin Races


This is a place for Femmekin Otherkin
the all-feminine
races of Otherkin.

SEE ALL LATEST POSTS



Latest Posts

RECENT POSTS





<p>Princess Mushroom</p> <p>Aug 23, 05 - 11:21 PM</p>	<p>The Rabbit Film</p> <p>I have long heard about <i>Harvey</i> - the film about the six-foot invisible white rabbit, but I have never seen it till today. I have to say it is truly topping. It also contains one of my favourite quotations (never call them "quotes" or Miss Prism will eat you) of all time:</p> <p>"I've been wrestling with reality for 35 years and I'm happy Doctor; I've finally won out over it."</p> <p>It reminds me of that utterly breathtakingly brunette and dashing Pit-defiant saying of Miss Falconer's:</p> <p>"Reality is blonde: we bend it to our will."</p>
<p>Isabel Trent</p> <p>Aug 23rd, 2005 - 11:23 PM</p>	<p>Re: The Rabbit Film</p> <p>Yes, well, reality has long been a leading cause of stress among those in touch with it, whereas blondes tend to avoid it completely.</p>
<p>Princess Mushroom</p> <p>Aug 23rd, 2005 - 11:27 PM</p>	<p>Re: The Rabbit Film</p> <p>To force a blonde into reality is as cruel as forcing a fish out of the water.</p>



Some Background

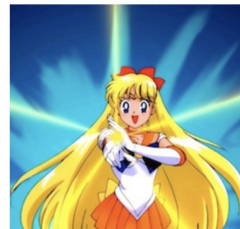
- First discovered Aristasia about 10 years ago (oh wow Time) while trying to research how to turn myself into a magical girl (you know, normal human activities, definitely not gonna awaken to anything later teehee)
- Has since become a *major* special interest of mine
- Much of it I find deeply compelling and resonant; much of it I also find deeply yucky and unconscionable. We're gonna take a look at a little bit of all of that today!

Magical Girls are For Real

Magical girls might seem a little unreal in some ways.

It is true that in everyday life we very often don't see girls in elaborate and stylish costumes unleashing spells against the forces of darkness.

However, many of the things that seem most contrived and unrealistic about Magical Girl stories are in fact very true and very much a part of our daily existence.





Handwritten notes on a whiteboard:

2%

130k	120k
100k	80k

4. Sap-1
58
Pamphlet

947

$\Delta t = gR$
 $a = a(R, \Delta t, g)$

Aquarium

Diagram of a container with a lid and a hole.



CHECK IN
&
REFRESHMENTS



The Iceberg Goes *Deep*

So detail will be missing. I highly recommend the Aristasia Reminiscence Project as a website for anyone who wants to learn more after the presentation.



WARNING

You are now leaving Cyberspace and entering feminine Elektraspace.

If you proceed you will no longer be in the 1990s.

You will be in a world founded upon that quality which your world fears most and most misunderstands: *innocence*.

If you choose not to proceed, please select "back" on your Web browser.

PROCEED

Her Imperial Majesty's Commission for Gateways and Boundaries.

What *is* Aristasia?

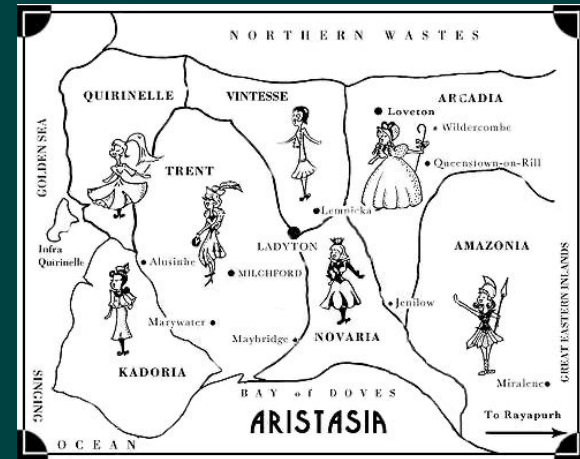
- An “all-women” group that started in the early 70s and ran till around the mid 2010s
- A blanket term that also touches on:
 - The Olympians/“Mob”: Oxford students known for traditionalist philosophy and elegant dress
 - Lux Madriana: A traditionalist NRM
 - St. Brides: A school one could attend, that also made video games
 - Wildfire Club: A publishing company for (non-)fiction and disciplinary equipment
 - Romantia: A co-ed offshoot that published physical newsletters
 - Chelouranya: A protectorate of the realm of Sai Herthe



But, no, what is Aristasia really?

- A world!
- Aristasia Pura: The “imaginary” world with its own geography, biology, history, technology, cultures, magics, etc.
 - As distinct from Telluria: This physical world
- Aristasia-in-Telluria/Elektraspace: Manifestations of Aristasia Pura that we’ll return to later
 - As distinct from The Pit/The Void: Telluria after circa 1964, when civilization supposedly fully collapsed

The point here is that Aristasia is, as a young friend recently said, not a *club*; it is a *world*. Not everyone has to like the same things. To say “I don’t like Aristasia because Aristasia does this” is to treat a world as if it were a club. The mistake is easily made because in Telluria we are small.



The Eclipse: *Why* is Aristasia?

- Aristasia formed as a reaction to what was seen as an atomized, deracinated, and deformed world
- Traditionalist—the perennial wisdom (and especially that of the Feminine Principle) had been not just lost, but wholly inverted
- Ergo, “the civilised few are both permitted and mandated to create their own civilisation”—to fill the Void with something *Real*



Bridgehead: *Is Aristasia?*

- Opinion on the reality and/or fantasy of Aristasia Pura varied at first
 - “The ‘real Aristasia’... is certainly (at least from the perspective of our world) an imaginary place; but it is also the inspiration and the guiding image of another Aristasia, the one which... exists wherever two or three Aristasian girls are gathered together.”
- Operation Bridgehead, 2005, declared Aristasia to be spiritually present, establishing the idea of “Exile Aristasians”





The introduction of the term to the Aristasian community was inevitable, I expect. Given both communities share similar feelings of otherness, I honestly found it rather surprising the term wasn't discovered and used earlier. It was discovered by the Aristasians around the time when the otherkin community had entered a period of extreme skepticism, though. If you posted about your experience of otherkinity in an otherkin-specific venue online, you would be expected to rigorously defend your conclusions about yourself. This was seen as healthy, but was, in retrospect, ridiculous posturing. Still, most otherkin, happening upon Aristasian posts, met them with this same aggressive questioning that they usually provided.

Given how controversial Aristasia was from the beginning, most of those communities concluded the posts were bizarre "cult recruitment" attempts. In actuality, I believe the Aristasian interest in the otherkin concept was quite **genuine**. Still, otherkin were harsh with them, if I remember, and even more so than they usually were with each other at the time. This cold and unfriendly approach to newcomers in otherkin communities has since faded, thankfully.





In many cases we have *felt* what is right. Being chelani or melini is what we *are*. it makes sense to us. It fits, it is. When being human women makes no sense at all.





Intemorphs are not here to convert anyone. We really don't mind if people believe in us or not. We hope they will be polite enough to accept our beliefs as our beliefs, but other than that, we are not trying to convince anyone.

The very few people who *are* intemorphs will say: "Yes, that explains it. That is the key that makes everything else fall into place." Those are the people we exist for – our own kin. And that is why you don't see us around Otherkin places or anywhere else very much. We really do mind our own business!





Some Otherkin – going simply by what I have read in this thread – appear to identify strongly with current Telluria and use its concepts to make assessments of anything else. That is not how an exiled intemorph feels (I should not have thought it would be how an exiled elf feels either – but I am not one, so how would I know?) An exiled intemorph assesses life from an intemorphic standpoint, not a human one. She usually feels lost and strange in Telluria and seeks out her own kin.

Does that feel familiar to you? Or does it feel strange and alien? And if alien, alien to *what*? To elfkind? To dragonkind? To humankind?



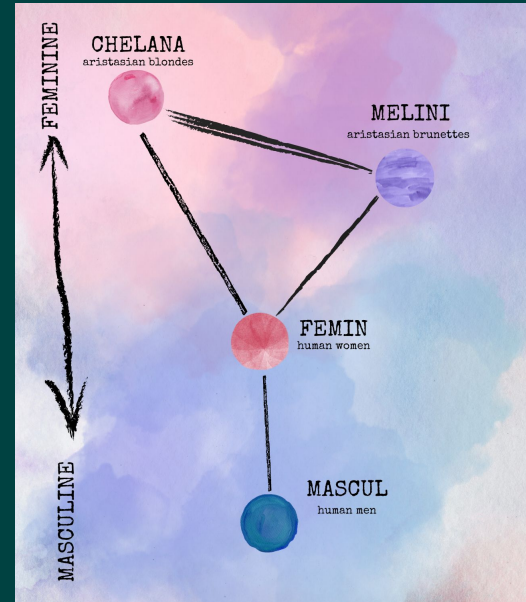


But I do not know you, honored Otherkin. I hope to know you. That would be an honor.



Gender: Perhaps I Should Explain The Blonde Thing

- Puran Aristasians are “intemorphic,” having complementary feminine genders rather than opposite feminine/masculine ones (“schizomorphic”)
- Two sexes distinguished secondarily by hair color
 - Blondes/chelani: Sensitive, gentle, cute, contemplative, spiritual, scatterbrained, “head in the clouds”
 - Brunettes/melini: Strong, level, adventurous, practical, utilitarian, harebrained, “feet on the ground”



Gender: Perhaps I Should Explain The Blonde Thing

- Not quite man/woman—important to note that no one gets out of being silly in Aristasia
 - “One might say that brunettes are the dominant sex, but blondes the superior sex.”
 - “Why are most blonde jokes one-liners? So that brunettes can remember them.”
- In Telluria, based on personality and not physical hair color, “pink ribbon test”
- But also, personae!



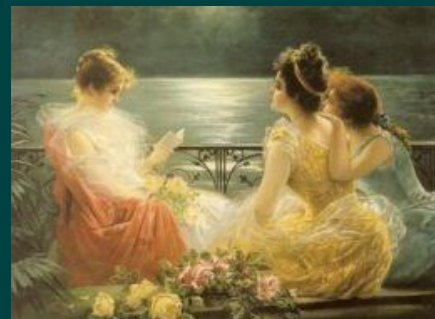
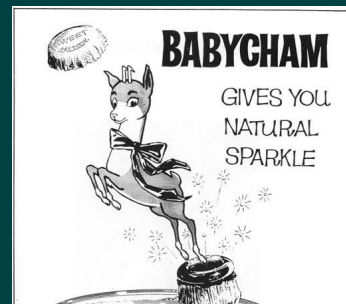
Racination and Life Theatre: *How is Aristasia?*

- Racination: “..the process (or rather processes) by which we can undo the damage which the Pit has done to us, regain our stolen innocence and revive our trampled joy and wonder.”
 - Re-establishing roots, etymologically speaking
- Life Theatre: “...acting out roles – not for the benefit of an audience but as part of our own lives.”
 - “It’s nothing like what you call role-play.”
- Aristasia-in-Telluria (or Elektraspace, aka. the Internet) meant real clothes, real music, real deportment, and real people—*nothing more, and nothing less*







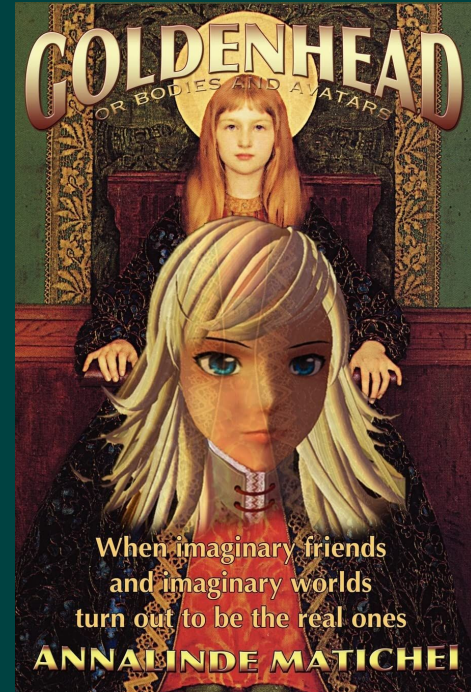


“To call [real cars and real films] 'old' in Aristasia would be a great gaffe. They are contemporary, while the Pit equivalents should be referred to in the past tense, as something which, for us at least, is dead and done with.”



Issues?

- The “secessionist” rhetoric of later Aristasia especially skews perhaps unhealthily escapist
 - Goldenhead’s ending being genuinely concerning
- However, much of Aristasia seems escapist in a more constructive manner than most other ways of “escaping”
 - Living a Real Life, not merely fantasizing about one
 - Static pilgrimage



28th-May-2008 07:52 pm - Rayati y'all



[sushurichan](#)

My but we have been quiet around these parts.

Much of the Family is still in a slightly dreamy haze after the time we spent together in physicalia, plipping through Paris, Lolloping through London and Waltzing through Waltham Abbey.

One way or another some part of the White Rose Family was together for two and a half weeks. Long enough to fall in love with each other (if we hadn't done so already).

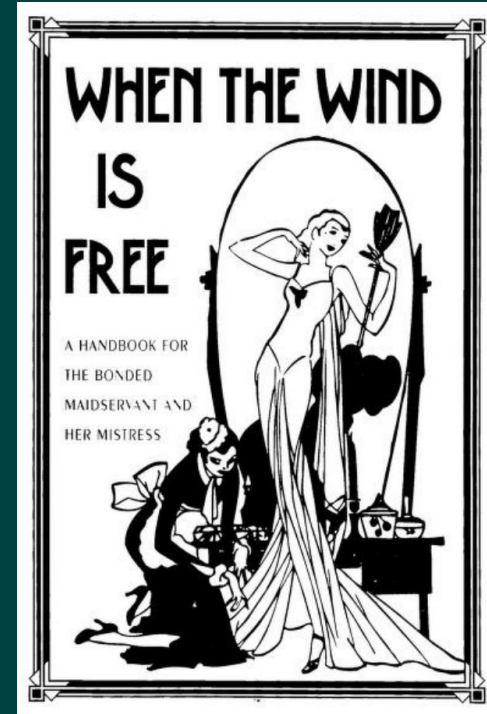
But there we are. One can't live in the physical world forever. One has to get back to Real Life sooner or later.

And Real life can be beautiful too. Here is a snapsie of the self dancing with my very dear Big Sister Miss Yatsenko back at the Embassy. Isn't her suit just the most adorable thing? And my frock was a present from dear Miss Kessel.



Issues!

- Just so we're clear! Aristasia was no utopia; those involved in Aristasia-in-Telluria were generally:
 - Gender essentialist
 - Pro-imperialism
 - In favor of corporal punishment and bonded servitude (though at least the former was phased out during Bridgehead)
 - Wont to fetishize other Tellurian cultures, particularly East and South Asian ones
 - Fond of heavily flirting with bigoted and/or fascist imagery and rhetoric, if not using it sincerely





That said!



- The Aristasians also had remarkably cogent and/or fascinating perspectives on:
 - Plurality, performance of identity
 - Gender, esp. femininity as separate from womanhood
 - Relationship anarchy?
 - Atomization of society and self-definition in groups
 - Artificiality and authenticity
 - The reality of magic





That said!



- And there's certainly no reason a Life Theatre project *has* to be bigoted and imperialist...



How to Put on a Good Life Theatre?

- The Romantians stressed *wholeness*
 - Later appears in the Aristasian Law of Manifestation—what you do outside of Aristasia is your own affair, but when you're in, you're in 100%
- Much of the method of racination is a matter of consumption—of goods or of media
 - Though later online discussions stress the importance of creating things—“you must not think that you are too clumsy to make anything. It is very naughty of you!”
- Also, community!

pieces of Babylonian diletantism. In my friend's room there was *not one thing* which spoke of the late 20th century. Well, that is not quite true—the room is a rented room and the furniture was not chosen by her and several items of furniture are judiciously covered with decorative drapes: but everything that is allowed to meet the eye is real. The books are all from the 1950s or better, not a single Babylonian volume mars the effect. The gramophone and records are clearly not a native whim-wham: they are her music that she listens to all the time, sometimes swapping records with her friends (myself included). They are not “collectors' items” or “conversation pieces” but objects of everyday use: friends and companions.



How to Put on a Good Life Theatre?

- The Romantians stressed *wholeness*
 - Later appears in the Aristasian Law of Manifestation—what you do outside of Aristasia is your own affair, but when you're in, you're in 100%
- Much of the method of racination is a matter of consumption—of goods or of media
 - Though later online discussions stress the importance of creating things—“you must not think that you are too clumsy to make anything. It is very naughty of you!”
- Also, community!

We have touched upon but a few aspects of racination. The methods used to achieve these ends are very various, including straightforward teaching; guided visualisation; individual and group exercises; watching “clips” from films with a view to increasing one's perception of certain aspects of racinated life and behaviour; analysing anything from an artefact to a piece of music in order to understand precisely what constitutes a racinated (or deracinated) cultural entity in all manner of aspects; dramatic work with personalities and aspects of personalities in order to discover and release one's true, unpoisoned self. All this (and much more) must, of course, go hand in hand with bringing one's personal life more fully into Romantia in a variety of ways. Here again, belonging to a racination group can be a source of help, advice and support.





How to Put on a Good Life Theatre?



- So, identify the things that compose *your* world and the mythic s'el(f/ves) that inhabit it. And then *do* things with them!!
 - “Where I come from...”
- Identify the things that break the immersion and do the most you can to keep them off the stage
- *Do what you can do with what you have*
- Deploy fantasy, visualization, and ritual (Aristasian examples appear in Children of the Void and A Weekend at Miss Martindale's)
 - Psssst Fairy Rockstar Glamour 201~
- If you have people you can do this with, *awesome*—can even be from different worlds




She mounted Granya, her trusty steed, and sped off over the Sea of Shadows. One did not need to feel *that* unprotected, after all. Granya was a *real* bicycle, and as much an extension of the Empire as the armoured interior of any Bentley or Austin. Certainly one would not wish to traverse that place on foot. Granya was a swift-winged charger and Lehnya an Amazon Knight, or perhaps a dark-eyed enchantress who, with a bolt of light from her fingertips could wither any pit-crawler where she stood and in her place would grow the true human being that she had been if the Eclipse had not happened.



"Of course it is my real name. I never use a name that is not scrupulously real."

"Why does 'artistic realism' always translate as 'drab grey' when life is actually full of vibrant colours?"





i had a conversation once with a friend of mine who dressed every day like it was 1912 and cultivated the manners of a gentleman circa 1912 and in matters of social considerations acted as though he were in 1912. Occasionally he would seem to be a time traveller in a foreign place, and sometimes you would swear that a bubble of 1912 surrounded him. And it would fluctuate. And I found his conversation very stimulating and his company charming, but I was brought up in an intellectual tradition that maintained honesty as a virtue. And at one point I said to him: "Don't you find it unsettling maintaining this persona all the time?" and he said something which has affected me since. First he quoted Oscar Wilde and said (correct me if i paraphrase) that Being Oneself is the most dreary form of artifice there is. Then he told me that at first it was uncomfortable maintaining the 1912 persona, but eventually it became second nature, and then, **it became first nature.**



LETTERBOX



For the Duchess

Sorry to use girls' Town for a personal message, but:

Dearest Duchess — I tried to post to you from both accounts before I left but both letters g'bdoinged. Where should I get in touch with you?

The Shroom

Personal messages are all right when necessary — this is a Village Noticeboard among other things! But if it is more than an inch long please make it sparkling and amusing, not only because it is for public consumption but also because it is for private consumption. Indeed, if you could even consider writing more than an inch of text to any one without being sparkling and amusing, you should write out 50 times: "I must make an Art of my life."