

## Hope of the Land by Suzanna Yahya Nadler 4/10/17

Today I feel the weight of the world on my shoulders! On the last of a 5 day anticipated break to see films and discard responsibilities, nothing is going as planned. So far I needed to cancel two meetings, take my dog to the vet, and probably forgo the last remaining films at the Ashland Independent Film Festival . The only thing that hasn't changed is I am still at my computer trying to write this newsletter. Everything that I write, I want to delete. Somehow, nothing quite speaks to the discombobulated state I am experiencing. I keep wondering if anything has to do with anything else or is it possible that I am in a separate bubble? Like my sick dog, a part of me longs for comfort while another aspect wants to sulk and isolate.



Tonight the moon becomes full in the relational constellation of Libra, opposing the “me first” Aries sun. This is the time to put yourself into the shoes of another. Watching the documentaries at the film festival definitely does just that. The oppressed and degraded Guatamalan Mayans have struggled for their land and freedom 500 years! Their battles for equality resemble those of the poor and African Americans in our country. Or there is the multinationals’ greedy control of the rich resources of the Congo that pays for young soldiers to rape and kill

their own people, destroying their relationship to the land and family! If we open to our interrelatedness, these atrocities are also what we know.

Without my own relationship to nature, I would go into despair. Maybe, many of us have retreated into our selfish corners to avoid feeling the cruelty that is regularly perpetrated upon our world community, upon our earth. There is no one to blame, we are all in it together. My desire to work in relationship with the land is what saves me. It is such hard work at times and yes, I do want a break, yet nature is my hope. Not as something to conquer and “get planted”, but as a companion through life that keeps re-inventing itself to live to its fullest. Let me learn from you.