Goddess and God in the World: Conversations in Embodied Theology
by Carol P. Christ and Judith Plaskow, Fortress 2016.

Plan to read this book slowly and carefully. This book is filled with theological insights and you’ll want to savor it.

It might be described as dual autobiography, plus — but what amazing “plus” there is! — Carol and Judith are both trained feminist theologians. They met when they were graduate students at Yale. That’s when they learned what it’s like to be unheard and erased. Frequently the only woman in a class of men, each of these two highly intelligent women proposed new ideas that were promptly rejected by the “distinguished” (read: patriarchal) faculty members. But this was the Sixties and they enthusiastically joined the social upheaval. They joined the Civil Rights movement. Judith went to the 1963 March on Washington and heard Dr. King’s famous speech. They marched in the anti-war protests. They came to feminism through what we today call support groups. And they participated in a notable sit-in in the Yale Divinity School library. All the bathrooms were male-only. One day a group of women went into one of the boys’ bathrooms, locked the door, and put flowers in the urinals. That got the university’s attention. Yes, these women have done interesting things.

In graduate school and later, Christ and Plaskow read the works of the standard-brand theologians (Buber, Tillich, et al.), plus the Book of Job and the novels of Elie Wiesel and Doris Lessing. They were in conversation with feminist theologians like Rosemary Radford Ruether, Elizabeth Schussler Fiorenza, Mary Daly, and Starhawk. They wrote papers they presented at conferences in many lands, they wrote and contributed to important books, and they made some challenging life decisions. Carol moved to Greece, while Judith came out as a lesbian.

Part 2 of the book is Theological Conversations, four chapters in which they respond to each other’s chapters in Part 1. These are thoughtful women. It’s good to hear them voicing both agreement and disagreement.

Pay close attention to the footnotes as you read. Many of us have read most of the books cited, but if you’ve missed some and you consider yourself a serious Goddess feminist, add those books to your reading list. Goddess and God in the World is a book every one of us needs to buy and read, after which we can engage in similar conversations with our own friends. Review by Barbara Ardinger.

WeMoon: Gaia Rhythms for Womyn, Stardust 36th Edition
Mother Tongue Ink, 2017

“We are a fierce and loving People. We honor Femaleness. Our religion is the Wheel. Our language is Ritual, Our Tribe: Goddess, Dianic, Amazon.” (p 29)

The 2017 issue of WeMoon comes shimmering in Stardust, the theme for this year’s collection of inspiring art and writings that make up this long-running publication.