The Mysterious Moon

*By Liz Gibbons*

There is something about a full moon that is intense, awesome, and inspiring. Perhaps it is because it is a heavenly body that is close enough to earth that we can see it fully. As a child my parents sometimes read me stories about the man in the moon. As a teenager songs about the moon raised feelings of love for my current boyfriend. Then in 1969 we watched in awe as American astronauts landed on the moon.

A prominent memory from childhood was when I was a teenager. I sometimes walked home at dusk, and in the autumn as I turned onto our street I would see the full harvest moon hanging near the horizon as it rose in the night sky. I felt a sense of comfort as if it was lighting my last half block home. On camping trips as a child and as an adult the moon would often help light our way back to our campsite after attending the park ranger’s evening talk. After we had moved to Atlanta we often drove back to Colorado to spend Christmas with our sons when they both still lived here. One December we ran into heavy snow as we drove across the Texas panhandle. It was late afternoon, and we wondered if we should stay in Amarillo. Upon inquiry at the Visitor’s Center we were advised to keep moving. Further north at Dumas, Texas, we drove out of the snowy weather. The skies cleared and a nearly full moon rose and lighted our way as we cut across the corner of New Mexico to Trinidad where we finally stopped for the night.

But today there is a lot of mystery and abnormalities expressed about the moon that mainstream science can’t explain. Some claim that it is not a natural creation, that it is a construct and a broadcasting operation. If so, where did it come from and who built it? Stories passed down from ancient civilizations tell of a time before there was a moon in the heavens.

The moon’s size is said to be too large to be an earth satellite, as it is one-fourth the earth’s size. Not only is it considered bigger than it should be, it is also considered lighter than it should be. The moon seems to be hollow as objects impacting with the moon set off a bonging reverberating sound that continues for a half hour or more. The moon is precisely positioned. If nearer or farther away life on earth would be different than we know it. Why can we never see the back side of the moon? There is great conjecture of what is going on there. Are there colonies of beings that live there? Some researchers contend that there would be “little storms” on earth instead of “big storms” if the moon was not there. The moon affects the movement of tides and since our body is mostly water it also influences us humans. The female monthly cycle is influenced by the moon as are all our emotions. The word “month” comes from “*moon*” and the word “lunatic” derives from the lunar effect on moods.

Mysteries, abnormalities, strange stories: whatever the truth is about the moon I welcome its presence on dark nights.