5 Tikkun as a Quarterly
Eager for our take on the 2012 elections and other timely news? Visit tikkun.org.

6 Iran, Israel, and Obama
Global disarmament—not the legitimization of preemptive strikes—is the best way to avert nuclear war. Meanwhile, the specter of mutually assured destruction means any nukes ever created by Iran would be unusable and thus not a crisis for Israel or the United States.

10 Levinas, Hitlerism, and New Atheist Revisionism
JEFFREY D. BOLDT
A Levinas-inspired retort to scholars who blame religion for all the wars and evil facing humanity.

13 Rethinking the Doctrines of the Trinity and the Holy Spirit
BRIAN MCLAREN
Trinitarian theology has been twisted for centuries to centralize the power of heresy-hunters, but—properly understood—it can still be a healing teaching.

15 Privacy and Personhood in a World Without Mystery
RAFAEL CHADOS
What is lost when we start to see ourselves as the sum of our demographic information, Facebook updates, and transactional histories?

17 The Difference Between Holy and Nice: The Religious Counterculture
ANA LEVY-LYONS
Politeness—what could possibly be more antithetical to the heart of religion?

27 All We Have in Common: Youth Dialogue Offers a New Vision for Israel/Palestine
PENNY HOLLAND
The openhearted listening encouraged by Israeli-Palestinian dialogue programs may be our best hope for overcoming vicious cycles of trauma and violence.

31 Statism and Anti-Statism: Reflections on Israel’s Legitimacy Crisis
NATHANIEL BERMAN
Campaigns against the “delegitimization of Israel” obscure a long history of intra-Jewish—and even intra-Zionist—contestations over the question of the state.
Drug Prohibition Is the Problem: Reflections from a Former Judge

JAMES P. GRAY

Years on the bench convinced this former judge that drug decriminalization is the answer—even for harder drugs.

SPECIAL SECTION: PLAYFUL DISTRACTIONS

Burning Man, Desire, and the Culture of Empire

FENTON JOHNSON

A soulful journey through the eight-day festival that claims to be both a social movement and “part of a solution to our modern malaise.”

Online Ministry in a Massively Multi-Player World of Warcraft

WILDSTREAK/SWEETWATER

Posed as an elf, a Christian minister becomes an online role-player not to win but to offer compassion.

CULTURE

BOOKS

37 Retelling Hasidism for the Twenty-First Century

A Hidden Light: Stories and Teachings of Early Habad and Bratzlav Hasidism

by Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and Netanel Miles-Yepez | Review by Shaul Magid

40 A Memoir of Gender Transition

Through the Door of Life by Joy Ladin | Review by Jhos Singer

42 Literary Bridges to the Middle Eastern “Other”

Tablet & Pen edited by Reza Aslan

Out of It by Selma Dabbagh | Review by Ashley Bates

45 When American Jews Were Divided and Weak

Jews Without Power: American Jewry During The Holocaust by Ariel Hurwitz

Millions of Jews to Rescue: A Bergson Group Leader’s Account of the Campaign to Save Jews from the Holocaust by Samuel Merlin | Review by Ralph Seliger

49 Much More Than a Historical Novel

Far Away from Where? by Yehiel Grenimann | Review by Jeffrey M. Green

MUSIC

50 A Jewish Composer for Our Time

Living Breathing Earth and Streams in the Desert

Albums by Meira Warshauer | Review by Anna Rubin

POETRY

72 Bamian: A Photograph from Tricycle, 2000

by Alan Williamson