

Bartow's statement to Beckmann's Rabbit

In North America on the Eastern side Rabbit is a virile Trickster and in the South of Mexico Rabbit is found in hieroglyphs and readings of Mayan court life as a scribe; surely a learned Person.

The rabbit like all tricksters teaches both with good deeds and misdeeds.

At our sweathouse my Elder friend, Walter, once told a story of a rabbit that asked the creator for courage. By succeeding at the tasks given to him, Rabbit found that the thing he sought was all his along.

How like people those animals in the old stories.

Beckmann's Rabbit is a bit tricky in that he began in my small study in Oregon and ended his journey in Beckmann's old hometown of Frankfurt at the Museum of Man.

It has been raining now forever, yet a sparrow sings outside my window as though it were spring reminding me to give thanks for the day and to go into the studio and fight the darkness with Beckmann's bright colours.

Rick Bartow, January 1999