

MY NEWS FOR AUGUST 6, 1999

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INSTEAD OF REFERING TO THAT STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS THAT HE DIDN'T  
 LIKE IN HIMSELF AS: "BEING ASLEEP",  
 ONE MAN BEGAN TO THINK OF IT AS: "....."  
 "SOME OF MY BRAIN CELLS ARE OUT OF CONTROL."

....WHICH ACTUALLY ISN'T A VERY INTELLIGENT STATEMENT  
 IN THAT NONE OF OUR CELLS ARE UNDER OUR CONTROL.....  
 ....(BUT I GUESS PUTTING IT LIKE THAT WOULD BE TOO MUCH EVEN FOR A MYSTIC.)

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EVEN THE MIGHTIEST OF KINGDOMS IS MADE UP OF INDIVIDUAL PROVINCES,  
 WHICH ARE MADE UP OF INDIVIDUAL VILLAGES, WHICH ARE MADE UP OF  
 INDIVIDUAL MEN, WHO LOOK AFTER THEIR OWN PERSONAL AFFAIRS.....  
 AND WHO MAY NOT EVEN BE AWARE THAT THEY ARE A PART OF SOME KINGDOM,  
 AND IN FACT, ARE ITS BASIC COMPONENTS.  
 ...BUT EVEN SO, THEY STILL ARE WHAT MAKES UP EVERY KINGDOM.

QUESTION: ON WHAT BASIS DOES A KING COME TO BELIEVE THAT HE DIRECTS,  
 AND CONTROLS THE KINGDOM?

THERE WAS ONCE AN ANT COLONY AND ALL OF THE ANTS THEREIN SILENTLY,  
 AND UNCONSCIOUSLY WORKED FOR THE GOOD OF THE COLONY;  
 NONE OF THEM KNEW HOW THIS OCCURED, AND NO ONE OBSERVING THEM KNEW.  
 THEY WORKED IN TOTAL, COLLECTIVE HARMONY ON EVERY PROJECT,  
 WITH NO PARTICULAR ANT OR ANTS PLANNING OR DIRECTING THEIR ACTIVITY --  
 -- AND YET THEY WORKED EFFICIENTLY TOWARD COMMONLY BENEFICIAL GOALS....  
 YET NO ANT KNEW HOW THIS OCCURED, AND NO OUTSIDE OBERSERVER KNEW EITHER....  
 ...BUT I WILL TELL YOU HOW:  
 THE ANTS ARE UNDER THE INVISIBLE DIRECTION OF: THE GREAT ANY SPIRIT --  
 -- DON'T LAUGH, GOING UNDER DIFFERENT NAMES, IT DIRECTS MENS' LIVES ALSO.

WHAT IS: "HAVING CONSCIOUSNESS?":

IT IS TO BE A COLLECTION OF BILLIONS OF INDIVIDUAL STARS,  
GOING BY THE ONE NAME, "THE MILKY WAY".

YOU HAVE CONSCIOUSNESS. IF YOU ARE A COLLECTION OF BILLIONS OF STARS,  
AND WHEN SOMEONE CALLS OUT: "HEY, MILKY WAY!",  
YOU TURN TO SEE WHO'S CALLING YOU.

TO BE CONSCIOUS IS TO BE THE TITULAR RULER OF A KINGDOM,...  
...AND BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE ACTUALLY RULING THE PLACE.

THEN WHAT IS THING, "BEING ASLEEP"?:

IT IS THE CONDITION OF A FEW PEOPLE WHO NEVER BECOME FULLY  
COMFORTABLE WITH THE NOTION THAT THEY ARE THE RULER OF THEIR KINGDOM,  
...AND THEY GO ON TO IMAGINE "DEPOSING" THIS ALLEGED KING,  
AN ACT THEY CALL: "WAKING UP".

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THERE ARE NO SUCH PLACES AS, "RAT FARMS" --

ONLY AREAS HERE AND THERE WHEREAT A NUMBER OF RATS WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS  
COME TOGETHER TO COLLECTIVELY PURSUE GOALS THEY HOLD IN COMMON.

"MY GOD!", CRIED ONE MAN,

"I'M NOT ASLEEP -- IT'S MERELY THAT SOME OF MY RATS ARE OUT OF CONTROL!"

HOW DOES CONSCIOUSNESS COME TO FEEL ITSELF TO BE IN CHARGE? --

IN PART BECAUSE IT IS THE SOURCE OF SPEECH, MAN'S DEFINING ATTRIBUTE,

AND:

WHATEVER CAN SPEAK, (AMONG THE SILENT), ALWAYS APPEARS TO BE IN CHARGE.

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ALTHOUGH SIMPLY CHANGING BEHAVIOR WILL NOT AWAKEN YOU TO WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON,  
WATCHING IT INTENTLY AND RELENTLESSLY CAN HELP, (ONCE YOU'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK),

THERE WAS ONCE AN INDIVIDUAL ANT WHO BECAME CURIOUS ABOUT HOW THE COLONY FUNCTIONED AS IT DID, AND WHO UNDERTOOK THE UN-ANT-LIKE ACTIVITY OF, "TRYING TO FIGURE OUT ANT BEHAVIOR" --

-- AND AFTER HE'D DERIVED ALL THE USEFUL INFORMATION POSSIBLE FROM THIS ACTIVITY, HE STUMBLED UPON THE STEP OF SIMPLY "WATCHING" ANY BEHAVIOR -- ...AND IN PARTICULAR -- HIS OWN.

JUST -- WATCHING.

FIRST YOU HAVE TO, "STUDY" AND TRY TO "FIGURE OUT" WHAT'S GOING ON; THEN AFTER YOU COME TO UNDERSTAND THE NATURE AND LIMITS OF KNOWLEDGE, YOU ABANDON IT TO MEMORY, AND THEN JUST "WATCH" ALL OF THE BEHAVIOR THAT YOU'VE BEEN PREVIOUSLY "STUDYING", AND TRYING TO FIGURE OUT.

ULTIMATELY, NONE OF THIS MEANS ANYTHING...BUT IT IS SAFER FOR SUCH ATYPICAL, INDIVIDUAL ANTS THAN WANDERING OFF ONTO SOME SIDEWALK -- ...PLUS IT IS MUCH-NEEDED COLLATERAL FUN FOR THOSE FEW ANTS HERE AND THERE WHO SEEM BORN WITH SOME UN-ANT-LIKE FEELINGS OF INDIVIDUALITY. (KNOWN IN SOME COLONIES AS: MYSTIC ANTS).

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A SON ASKED HIS FATHER, (WHO WAS A MYSTICALLY INCLINED HOMO SAPIEN): "WHY ARE OTHER PEOPLE DISSATISFIED WITH WHAT TAKES PLACE AROUND THEM, AND I'M SO DISSATISFIED WITH WHAT TAKES PLACE INSIDE OF ME?", AND HIS PROGENITOR REPLIED:

"NO ONE HAS ANY CONTROL OVER WHAT GENETIC FAMILY LINE THEY'RE BORN INTO."

...AND ONE MAN PRIVATELY SAID:

"I AM NOT, 'ASLEEP' -- IT'S SIMPLY THAT THE RATS ARE IN CHARGE."

## A POEM

(DEDICATED TO: PRIESTS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, MYSTICS & SOCIAL WORKERS)

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IF CELLS COULD TALK,  
 IF CELLS COULD TALK,  
 ALL "HUMAN-EXPLAINERS" WOULD --  
 -- HAVE TO WALK.

...AND A MAN ASKS ME TO CLARIFY THE VERSE:

IF CELLS COULD TALK,  
 IF CELLS COULD TALK,  
 I COULDN'T BE READING THIS, AND  
 YOU COULDN'T BE LISTENING TO IT.

HERE IS YOUR MYSTICAL "ANSWER" TO EVERYTHING:  
 YOUR ANSWER TO ALL QUESTIONS AND ALL AREAS OF DOUBT AND CONFUSION:  
 THE ANSWER IS: CHEMISTRY.

BUDDHA STARTED OUT SEEKING ENLIGHTENMENT,  
 THEN ENDED UP WORKING IN A BIO LAB.

A BOY ASKED HIS FATHER: "WHY DO SO FEW PEOPLE WHO BEGAN THIS JOURNEY  
 EVER COMPLETE IT?", AND THE ELDER REPLIED: "ONE REASON IS THAT SUCH PEOPLE  
 HAVE AN INBORN PREFERENCE FOR INFORMATION PUT IN ALLEGORICAL FORM  
 RATHER THAN THAT PUT PLAINLY AND SIMPLY.

SUCH PEOPLE FOR INSTANCE, WOULD RATHER HEAR TALK ABOUT 'CONSCIOUSNESS'  
 THAN ABOUT RATS.

THE ACTIVITY THAT SUCH PEOPLE CALL: 'THE STRUGGLE FOR ENLIGHTENMENT'  
 IS THE SUPREME PLACE WHEREIN:  
 THE INEVITABLE CAN SEEMINGLY BE POSTPONED INDIFINITELY."

ALLEGORICAL HINT: EVEN A BLIND AND DENSE RAT WILL EVENTUALLY  
 COME UPON SOME FLOATSAM IF HE'LL BUT KEEP SWIMMING.

LESS ALLEGORICAL HINT: IF YOU DON'T KEEP SWIMMING  
 WHAT HAPPENS IS THAT YOU'LL CONTINUE TO TAKE THE RATS TO BE A RAT FARM,  
AND SUFFER FROM THE SENSATION THAT YOU RUN THE FARM.