

MEN ARE MADE TO
 TRY AND EFFECT THEIR
 UNCONTROLLED BEHAVIOR BY
 ENDLESSLY DEBATING ITS CAUSES.

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WHERE THERE'S WATER
 THE ALERT WILL DRINK,
 NEVER ASKING ITS SOURCE.

SEEKING SHELTER FROM THE RAIN
 THE AWAKENED CEASE DIRECTLY
 THEIR GRASPING AT THE CLOUDS,
 WITH NO WASTED STAGES OF:
 HAND-REPRIMANDS, OR,
 THE MYTHICISING OF METEOROLOGY.

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A MAN ASKED: "IF IT'S SO SIMPLE, WHY CAN'T EVERYONE DO IT!?",
 AND MAN REPLIED: "IF EVERYONE CAN'T DO IT, THEN WHY MAKE IT SO SIMPLE!?"

AND FOR ROUTINE MINDS, ENDLESS DEBATE, ANSWERS ALL.

-- BUT WILL NOT KEEP THE FEW, DRY IN A STORM.

A MAN ASKED A MYSTIC:
"WHAT DOES BEING GLIB AND VERBALLY CLEVER HAVE TO DO WITH AWAKENING?",
AND SINCE IT WAS HIMSELF, HE REPLIED:
"WELL ACTUALLY, VERY LITTLE -- BUT NEITHER DOES ANYTHING ELSE.",
(AND WAS SATISFIED WITH THE RESPONSE.)

A CERTAIN MAN,
IN SEARCH OF A CERTAIN ACHIEVEMENT,
DECIDED THAT HIS EFFORTS WOULD BE AIDED IF
EVERY DAY HE WOULD SAY ONE LESS WORD.
AFTER PURSUING THIS COURSE FOR A WHILE
HE CONCLUDED THAT FOR MAXIMUM RESULTS
HE SHOULD APPLY THE SAME TECHNIQUE TO HIS THINKING.

A CERTAIN RE-CYCLED "WISE MAN" ONCE TOLD A SEEKER:
"THE JOURNEY FROM HERE TO CHINA IS MADE, ONE-STEP-AT-A-TIME.",
BUT, QUICKLY CALCULATING THE ACTUAL DISTANCE INVOLVED,
THE MAN IMMEDIATELY REALIZED THAT AT THE RATE OF, "ONE STEP AT A TIME",
HE-SHOULD-LIVE-SO-LONG!

SO YOU SEE --
THE DEEP PERSONAL SATISFACTION, AND QUESTIONABLE JOY OF
FINALLY REALIZING JUST WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT
IS IN BEING BLUNTLY CONFRONTED WITH HOW FAR AWAY IT IS,
AND HOW MUCH IT IS, RUDELY-IN-YOUR-FACE.

"ALL IN ALL", THOUGHT ONE MAN, "IT'S STILL EASIER TO BE RELIGIOUS OR SCIENTIFIC
CAUSE YOU CAN ALWAYS LOOK SOME WHERE ELSE."

AN ANCIENT LEGEND THAT I MADE UP SAYS THAT
THERE WAS ONCE A GREAT MYSTICAL SCHOOL
WHICH HAD, ABOVE ITS MAIN GATE, A SIGN THAT
GREETED THOSE WHO DREW NEAR:
"ALL YE
WHO ENTER HERE --
ABANDON ANY HOPE THAT
ANY ONE ACTUALLY KNOWS WHAT THEY ARE DOING."
...(KEPT OUT THE RIFF-RAFF, DON'T YOU SEE.)

ONE MAN PRIVATELY CHANGED HIS NAME TO, ALLEGORY --
SO THAT AFTER TEN AT NIGHT,
WHEN HE WAS A CHILD,
HE'D KNOW WHERE HE WAS.

THE VIEW FROM PASSENGER'S DECK

EVERYONE KNOWS,
THE MEASURES PROPOSED,
TO STOP THE SHIPS' LEAKS WILL FAIL,
BUT ON THE WIND RIDES THE HINT
THAT TO DO ANY LESS WOULD BE FATAL.

WHILE EVERYTHING ELSE WAS
OTHERWISE QUIET,

A MAN CRIED OUT:

"STOP ALL THAT NOISE!",

AND REPLIED:

"IT'S ONLY ME.",

THEN SAID:

"WELL, OKAY THEN."

WHILE EVERYTHING ELSE WAS OTHERWISE QUIET.

AND NOW: OUR INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT FOR THE DAY,
FOR THOSE LIVING IN CONDEMNED TRAILER PARKS & EXPENSIVE CONDOS:

THOSE WHO CAN'T THINK GOOD, THINK EVERYBODY ELSE THINKS LIKE THEY DO.

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AND NOW: THE ODDS MAKERS SPEAK

THE SPREAD BETWEEN THE EXTREMES OF ROUTINE HUMAN THINKING IS SO SMALL THAT IT
WOULD NOT EVEN ACCOMIDATE SOMETHING THE SIZE OF AN ALPHA WOLF'S ARTISTIC TALENTS
....(FOR "ALPHA WOLF", THE NON-ZOOLOGICALLY INCLINED MAY SUBSTITUTE
THE NAME OF ANY PALAVERING PUBLIC FIGURE.
....[OG YEAH - AND DON'T FORGET YOU, AS A POSSIBILITY[.)

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A MAN WHO'D ONCE HEARD IT SAID THAT
THE REASON IT WAS USELESS FOR A MYSTIC TO DEBATE AN ORDINARY MIND
IS BECAUSE, (EVEN GIVEN ALL THE TIME IN THE UNIVERSE),
THE LATTER WILL NEVER EVEN COME UP WITH A SUITABLE TOPIC,
WAS SUUDENLY STRUCK THAT THE SAME WAS TRUE REGARDING THE ATTEMPT TO
ANALYZE WHAT ORDINARILY TOOK PLACE IN HIS OWN MIND.

THERE BE FIVE CONDITIONS UNDERWHICH IT IS DIFFICULT TO GET PEOPLE
INTERESTED IN GOING TO PANAMA:

ONE IS: THEY BELIEVE THEY'RE ALREADY THERE.

AND TWO: THEY DON'T KNOW ANY BENEFIT IN GOING.

THREE: THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET THERE EVEN IF THEY WANTED TO GO,

FOUR: THEY DON'T BELIEVE PANAMA ACTUALLY EXISTS,

AND FIVE: THEY'RE AFRAID EVEN IF IT DOES EXIST,

AND THAT THEY WANTED TO GO,

AND DID ACTUALLY GET THERE,

THAT THEY WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING APPROPRIATE TO WEAR,

AND EVERYONE WOULD LAUGH AT THEM.

YOU SEE --

EVEN WHEN IT TAKES NUMBERS,

IN THE HIGH SINGLE DIGITS,

PEOPLE WILL ALWAYS FIND A WAY OUT OF

ANY PRACTICAL INTEREST IN THAT

GREAT TWIN-OCEAN STATE.

WHAT DRIVES THE MIND TO RELIGION,
 OR FAITH IN POLITICAL & SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS
 IS THE CLUNG-TO HOPE THAT
 AMIDST ALL THE CHAOS
 SOME WHERE LIES AN ORDERLY NUMBERS SYSTEM.

A BEAST IN THE WILD ASKED ITS FATHER:

"IS US HAVING NO HUNGER FOR
 MENTALLY-PERCEIVED CAUSATION, OR,
 SEQUENTIALLY-BASED EXPECTATIONS,
 THE REASON WE'VE NEVER DEVELOPED
 OUR OWN CIVILIZATION!?",

"YES, IN PART,

BUT ALSO CONSIDER THE PRICE WE HAVEN'T HAD TO PAY IN NOT DOING SO."

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MAN INVENTED MYTHS & FABLES SO THAT HE COULD HAVE GODS & ANIMALS DISCUSS
 THE PECULIAR NATURE OF MAN, INASMUCH AS HE CAN'T YET DO SO DIRECTLY.

AS AESOP'S GIRL FRIEND CLIMBED INTO BED SHE SAID: "I WISH YOU WOULDN'T LEAVE
 THOSE GRAPE PEELS HERE WHERE I HAVE TO SLEEP." - AND SUCH ARE THE MINOR IRRITANTS
 THAT CAN DISTURB THE ORDINARY'S REST, OR JOLT THE ALERT INTO AWAKENING.

ONE MAN HAD UNCONTROLLABLE HAND GESTURES --
HE SAID THEY MATCHED HIS MENTAL ONES.

MOST PEOPLE WIGGLE WHEN THEY TALK --
MOST PEOPLE WIGGLE WHEN THEY THINK.

JOKE UPDATE

WHAT'S THE MAIN TOOL NEEDED TO TRAIN A WOULD-BE MYSTIC?

-- A TWO BY FOUR.

.....TOO HARSH, YOU SAY!? --

OKAY, TRY THIS VERSION:

WHAT'S THE MAIN TOOL NEEDED TO TRAIN THOSE WHO WISH TO CLEANSE, CONTROL,
AND INCREASE THEIR CONSCIOUSNESS?(SAME ANSWER OF COURSE),

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AS TOLD IN A VERY OLD FABLE I MADE UP

A FOX ONCE TOLD HIS SON:

"IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE A FOX - IT'S BETTER NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT."

WHEN HIS INNER-WEATHER WOULD TURN RANK,
ONE MAN OPERATED BY A PRINCIPLED HE'D DISTILLED
BY UPDATING A DICTUM TOLD BY HIS GRANDMOTHER:
"FEED A COLD - STARVE A FEVER,
FEED A MIND - STARVE A MIND --
THEN TAKE IT BEHIND THE BARN AND:
RING ITS NECK,
DANCE WITH IT,
AND IN GENERAL -- LAY THE BIG TIME 'IGNORES' ON IT."

"BODY ENGLISH" IS FOR THOSE WHO STILL CAN'T SPEAK THE HIGHER LANGUAGE OF MAN.

ONLY CHILDREN
BELIEVE THAT THEY'RE SICK :--
NEED I REMIND YOU OF
MOST PEOPLE'S
PRE-PUBIC AGE!?

ONE MAN ASKED HIS MIND TO SHUT UP --
HE ASKED IT NICELY,
THEN NOT SO NICELY.
ONE MAN ASKED HIS MIND TO SHUT UP.

WHEN SKEET SEASON IS OVER,
THE SIMPLE BEGIN TAKING SHOTS AT ONE ANOTHER,
AND WHEN CLIMATICALLY DRIVEN INDOORS -- AT THEMSELVES.

AND A VIEWER ASKS:

"ARE YOU GOING TO SPEND THE TIME NECESSARY AGAIN
TO TELL US THIS HAS MORE TO DO WITH MAN'S MENTAL OPERATIONS THAN IT DOES
THE TRACKING OF CLAY PIGEONS!?"

.....(THOUGH I'M AT A LOSS AS TO WHAT HE PERCEIVES TO BE THE DISTINCTION !?!)

ONE MAN GOT TIRED OF THE MERRY-GO-ROUND-OF-HIS-MIND,
AND, (AS FAR AS HE COULD TELL), REPLACED THE HORSES WITH FIGURES OF PEGASUS.
HE THEN IMAGINED HIMSELF A MYSTIC.

THE KING TOLD HIS OLDEST SON:
"ROUND UP ALL THOSE LAY-ABOUT, USELESS THOUGHTS,
AND LINE 'EM UP AND SHOOT THEM!",
BUT THE PRINCE KNEW THAT WAS ALL WASTED EFFORT WELL...
NOT SO MUCH "WASTED" AS, "UNNECESSARY-IF-YOU-KNOW-WHAT-YOU'RE-DOING".

AND A WANDERING SEEKER ASKED HIMSELF:
"WHY ARE ALL MYSTICAL SHOOLS BUILT ON THE SIDES OF MOUNTAINS!? --
THE SLIPPERY, SLOPERY, UNSTABLE SIDES !?!"

OTHER THAN THE MONEY CHANGERS OF THE WORLD,
 TWO GROUPS DIRECT TRAFFIC:
 THOSE WHO WAVE YOU ON THROUGH THE INTERSECTION,
 AND THOSE WHO SIGNAL FOR YOU TO STOP.

THE MIRAGE OF ROUTINE CITY LIFE THOUGH,
 IS SUCH THAT MOST PEOPLE NEVER SEE THE FIRST GROUP,
 AND EVEN IF THEY DO -- AND FOLLOW THEIR DIRECTIONS --
 THEY END UP FEELING AS GUILTY AND DISSATISFIED AS HAD THEY NOT.

THIS IS WHY REAL MYSTICAL TREKERS
 MUST ALWAYS END UP ON THE SLOPING SIDE OF THEIR OWN HEAD
 WHEREAT THEY'RE ENLIGHTENED REGARDING THE, A FOUNDATION FOR
 PROPER ARCHETECTURAL FOUNDATION FOR
 ADDITIONAL, ADULT EDUCATION.

ALONE IN THE SHOWER, A MAN THOUGHT:

"WHAT COULD BE MORE USELESS THAN THE GENERAL BABBLING OF MAN!?",

AND AS HE WASHED BEHIND HIS EARS, ANSWERED:

"ANY SPECIFIC TALK REGARDING HIGHER STATES OF AWARENESS."

AND AS HE PUT DOWN THE SOAP, FURTHER REFLECTED:

"AND YET -- NO HARM DONE IN EITHER INSTANCE WHEN YOU SEE WHAT'S INVOLVED.",

AND HE TURNED OFF THE WATER AND STEPPED FROM THE STALL.

THERE WAS ONCE A BAND OF EXPLORERS
WHO BELIEVED THEY'D DISCOVERED THE HEAD WATERS TO
ALL THE PLANET'S RIVERS AND OCEANS.....

THEY DECIDED TO TRY AND DAMN IT UP,
THEY DECIDED THAT SUCH WOULD BE A GOOD THING....

WHEN THEY FOUND THIS TO BE IMPOSSIBLE THEY DECIDED THAT THE NEXT BEST THING
WOULD BE THEN TO ANALYZE THEIR DISCOVERY -- "YES, THAT'S IT", (THEY SAID),
"WE WILL SIMPLY THINK ABOUT IT! --
THAT'S JUST AS GOOD -- IT'S ALMOST THE SAME THING.".....
AND YES, SOON -- IT DID COME TO BE.

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AS COLUMBUS STARTED TO CLIMB INTO BED HIS GIRL FRIEND SAID:
"WIPE OFF THE BOTTOMS OF YOUR FEET FIRST.",
AND WITH A DEGREE OF ASTOUNISHMENT HE GLANCED DOWN AND REPLIED:
"WHY I DIDN'T REALIZE I HAD BOTTOMS TO MY FEET."

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ON HIS PRE-PLANNED TOMBSTONE ONE MAN HAD INSCRIBED THE EPITAPH:
"THE MIND GIVETH, AND THE MIND TAKETH AWAY! -- (BUT IT MAINLY, TAKETH)!"

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ALL AIR PLANES ARE BORN ON AUTO PILOT,
AND MOST DIE NEVER KNOWING ANY OTHER CONDITION.