

WORDS ARE CAPABLE OF BOTH SOUND AND SIGNIFICANCE,

~~AP~~ MANY PEOPLE PREFER SONG OVER SPEECH

-IN THAT THE FORMER CAN COVER UP THE LACK OF THE LATTER.

JUST AS A MAN WITH LARGE FEET AND SMALL SHOES CAN EXPECT FOOT PROBLEMS,
SO TOO CAN A MIND -- "MADE-OF-OPINIONS" EXPECT TO BE TRAMPLED ON.

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A KID CALLED OUT TO THE WORLD:

"STICKY IS AS STICKY DOES,
I CAN'T COME OFF THE PORCH AND PLAY,
MY FOOT'S STILL NAILED TO THE PAST."

AND JUST THEN THE WEB OF HIS ANCESTORS APPEARED AT THE DOOR,
AND SCOLDED HIM FOR NOT MENTIONING THEM IN HIS EXPLANATION.
AND NOW, FOR THAT FREE PAIR OF SOCKS, ANSWER THIS QUESTION:
SHOULD THE CHILD BE KIND AND RESPECTFUL OF HIS ELDER GENETICS? -- OR,
SHOULD HE TRY AND TWIST AROUND SOMEHOW, AND CUT 'EM!?

* * *

ONE MAN HAD AN INK PAD AND A STAMP THAT WOULD SHOW THE DATE,
AND AT TIMES WHEN HE WAS TOO TIRED TO CHANGE THE DATE ON THE STAMP,
HE'D JUST RE-INK THE PAD.

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...OH YEAH, BEFORE WE GO ON, HERE'S A FOLLOW-UP TO THAT LAST ITEM:
MAN'S MIND IS LIKE AN "INK PAD"! BUT NO ONE UNDERSTAND QUITE HOW (!?

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NOW ON TO SOME NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF THE ARMED FORCES:

THE SARGENT BARKED TO THE TROOPS:
"OKAY - HAVE A HEADACHE IF YOU GOT A HEAD!"

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ONE DAY A MAN SAID TO LIFE:
 "SINCE I'VE BEEN A GOOD BOY,
 HOW ABOUT ANSWERING ONE REALLY GOOD INTELLECTUAL-TYPE QUESTION FOR ME?"
 AND LIFE REPLIED:
 "ALL RIGHT, BUT YOU HAVE TO PANTOMIME IT FOR ME."

* * *

THE THEME SONG OF THE CITY CONDO DWELLER'S ASSOCIATION

"OH YOU CAN -
 LIVE UPSTAIRS,
 OR YOU CAN LIVE DOWN,
 BUT YOU CAN'T STAY IN BOTH PLACES AT ONCE!
 ...BUT COME ON GUYS! - YOU KNEW THAT!
 HUMMMMMM."

* * *

A CHILD ASKED THE POSTMAN: "I WANT TO SEND A MESSAGE TO A MYSTIC,
 HOW DO I DO SO?"
 AND THE LETTERCARRIER'S DEPOSITORY OF ADDRESSES WENT ENTIRELY BLANK.

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IN CLOSED SYSTEMS, WITH NO KNOWLEDGE THEREOF, COMMUNICATION IS NOT POSSIBLE.

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"ORIGINAL THINKING" WAS THE SECRET MODEL FOR ALL TYPES OF ADDICTION TO FOLLOW.

THE ONLY WAY: A SERIES OF SHORT ESSAYS

THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN FIND FAULT WITH THE WAY MEN RUN THE WORLD
IS TO BE STUPID ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THAT THEY DO.

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THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN FIND FAULT WITH YOUR ANCESTORS
IS TO BELIEVE THAT THEY HAD NONE.

* * *

THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN FIND FAULT WITH WHAT YOU ARE IS TO ACCEPT IT.
....(OKAY, THERE'RE TWO WAYS):
THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN FIND FAULT WITH WHAT YOU ARE IS TO BE STUPID.

* * *

AND FINALLY:
THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN EVER FIND FAULT WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE
IS TO HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF HOW THEY STARTED, WHERE THEY'RE GOING,
AND WHAT THEY'RE ALWAYS PRESENTLY UP TO.

* * *

AS WE WALKED THE STREETS OF THE TOWN, THE MAN SANG ALOUD:

"TAKE THE GLUE FROM MY MIND, AND THE STARCH FROM MY SHORTS.",

AND A WOMAN IN A SECOND STORY WINDOW CALLED DOWN TO HIM:

"WHICH DO YOU WANT FIRST?",

AND THIS SO STARTLED THE CHAP THAT HE VOWED TO N'ER COME THIS WAY AGAIN.

A STORY FROM THE MIDDLE AGES!?.....OR PERHAPS FROM ONE MAN'S MIDDLE YEARS!?....

NOT HAVING AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY -- THE SIMPLE BELEIVE THAT THEY DO.

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AFTER BEING WONDERFULLY WOUNDED IN A SKIRMISH,
A KNIGHT REQUESTED THAT THE ATTENDING BATTLEFIELD PHYSICIAN
USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REMOVE HIS IMAGINARY EYE.

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NOW TO MAKE UP FOR LAST TIME: A REAL INSPIRATION STORY

INSTEAD OF HOLDING TO ANY RELIGIOUS BELIEF, THIS ONE MAN HAD A SKIN RASH, AND THE HOUSING AUTHORITY NOTIFIED HIM THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO PASS THE NORMAL AUTO INSPECTION, SAME AS EVERYONE ELSE, OR ELSE HIS ABILITY TO PURSUE A CAREER WOULD BE STRIPPED AND RE-LACQUERED WITH THE NEXT HIGH TIDE.

* * *

STANDING JUST OUTSIDE THE GATES, A CITIZEN RAISED HIS VOICE IN URGENT INQUIRY "IF BEING SORT OF DAZED AND IN A LIMITED STATE OF AWARENESS IS MAN'S NORMAL MENTAL CONDITION, THEN WILL NOT ACTUAL, PHYSICAL DEATH BE A STEP UPWARD FOR MOST!?", BUT AFTER SAYING THIS, HE PAUSED THOUGHTFULLY FOR A MOMENT, BIT HIS LIP, CUT HIS EYES TO THE CORNER, AND SUDDENLY ADDED: "NEVER MIND ANSWERING.", AND BEGAN TO RUN LIKE HELL.

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ALTHOUGH TRADITION IS UPHELD BY ORDINARY MINDS AS BEING A HIGH-MINDED,
MEANINGFUL, & NOURISHING PART OF HUMAN EXISTANCE,
THEY FAIL TO NOTE THAT A PRACTICE ONLY BECOMES A TRADITION
WHEN ALL INVOLVED HAVE FORGOTTEN ITS ORIGINAL INTENTION,
AND NOW JUST BLINDLY FOLLOW IT.

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ANYONE WHO SIMPLY BELIEVES THAT LIFE IS A JOKESTER
HAS OVERLOOKED THE "HUMOR-CLOAKED-AS-IRONY-ETC"
THAT IS A NATURAL BY-PRODUCT OF 3-D ENGINES BEING PROPELLED BY 2-D FUELS.

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A FABLE

A MAN ONCE FOUND HIMSELF ON A WORLD OF MANY ANIMALS,
AND HIM, THE ONLY THINKING CREATURE,
AND, (HAVING NOTHING BETTER TO DO -- [AND BY THE WAY,
THIS IS THE ONE PART OF THE STORY THAT IS NOT FICTION], WELL ANY WAY):
AND HAVING NOTHING BETTER TO DO HE DECIDED HE'D TRY TO TEACH SOME OF THEM
TO THINK AND SPEAK.

THE END.(WELL, WHAT D'YA EXPECT!?.....YOU KNOW HOW IT GOES FROM THERE
AS WELL AS I DO.)

* * *

YOU COULD SAY

THAT IN A WAY

FATE BESTOWS COMPENSATORY FAVOR ON THE SIMPLE IN THAT GENERALLY,
THEY'RE NOT PARTICULARLY AWARE OF THEIR CONDITION.

A MAN ASKED A GUY WITH A FUNNY GRIN ON HIS FACE:

"WILL KNOWING THE SECRET-OF-LIFE SAVE YOU FROM DEATH?",

"No.",

"WELL, WILL IT SAVE YOU FROM LIFE?",

"No."

"THEN WHAT WILL IT SAVE YOU FROM?"

"A USELESSLY DISTURBED ONE."

SIMILAR TO THE FACT THAT,
ALTHOUGH YOU CAN'T LENGTHEN YOUR LIFE,
YOU CAN SHORTEN IT,
IS THAT WHILE YOU CAN'T REALLY "IMPROVE YOURSELF"
YOU CAN ABANDON THE OLD DARLING.

A MAN IN A METAPHORICAL DAZE PONDERED:

"IF THE LEFT BRAIN IS SIMPLE, AND THE RIGHT, COMPLEX,

THEN WHAT IS THE BRIDGE CONNECTING THE TWO?",

BUT HIS MUSING MISSES THE MARK,

FOR IT IS THE CONNECTION ITSELF THAT IS THE POTENTIALLY COMPLEX.

* * *

THE TRUE "LIBERATION OF THE MIND", (AS DREAMT OF IN SOME MYSTICAL QUARTERS),
WOULD BE THE FREEDOM NOT TO THINK OF ANYTHING - IN PARTICULAR.

NUCLEAR PHYSICS & CERTAIN HUMAN BEHAVIOR

CULTS ARE FORMED WHEN THE IRONY SURROUNDING A RELIGION REACHES CRITICAL MASS.

* * *

ONE MAN DECIDED THAT A WAY TO PROTECT HIMSELF AGAINST
GETTING ALL UPSET AT THE STUPIDITY OF OTHERS WAS SIMPLY NOT TO LISTEN TO THEM.
BUT HE SOON CAME TO A SUPRISING DISCOVERY OF HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS NOT TO! --
...THAT IS, HOW MUCH HE WANTED TO, (!?!)

(LAST TIME I SAW HIM HE WAS LAYING DOWN WITH A COLD TOWEL ACROSS HIS HEAD)

ONE WORLD'S SECRET MOTTO:

"WE'RE ALL BORN SIMPLE, AND WILL HOPEFULLY STAY THAT WAY."

(AND NOW, MY EDITORIAL COMMENT THEREON):

SUCH EXPRESSIONS OF HOPE AND BELIEF ARE "GENERATIONALLY LIMITED",
THAT IS: WHILE THEY CAN SEEM TO HAVE SOME BASIS IN PRESENT NEEDS,
THEY ARE BUT DREAMS TO HELP DISTRACT THE ORDINARY FROM THE "FOREVER-DAWN",
ALWAYS BREAKING,
JUST AT THE EDGE OF THEIR PERCEIVED HORIZONS.

NEWS FROM THE FAIRGROUNDS

THERE TWO POSSIBILITIES, (IF YOU KNOW HOW TO DO IT):
YOU CAN "SWELL UP AND BURST", OR SWELL UP AND BLOW AWAY.

* * *

LIFE AWARDED LOCAL REALITY THE CONCESSION TO: GUESS YOUR WEIGHT,
AND AT THE RATE MOST PEOPLE DUMB THEMSELVES INTO THE NEURAL GRAVE,
YOU WON'T HAVE LONG TO WAIT.

* * *

'TIS NIGH IMPOSSIBLE TO GET SHEEP INTERESTED IN THE MUSIC OF EAGLES.

THE SCENE OF WOULD-BE LEADERS APPEALING TO MEN ON THE BASIS OF
THEIR RACE, NATIONALITY, RELIGION, OR CULTURE
IS AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF THE SIMPLE BEING LEAD BY THE EVEN MORE SIMPLE.

OPTICAL ALERT!

CRITICISM OF THE SIMPLE IS CREEPING MYOPIA FOR THE POTENTIALLY INSIGHTFUL.

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ALERT ALERT!

THE MIND IS A PLANETARIUM, AND WHAT YOU NOTICE -- THE PROJECTOR.

* * *

THE LIFE OF THE TRUE KNIGHT IS NOT IN THE SLAYING OF DRAGONS,
NOR THE RIGHTING OF WRONGS,
BUT IN THE CONQUEST OF HIS OWN STOMACH, HEART AND HEAD! --
AND IN THE BEGINNING, NOT EVEN THAT,
BUT RATHER, REACHING A NOSE-TO-NOSE FAMILIARITY WITH THEM.

- - -

WHAT WARRIOR WORTHY OF THE NAME GOES OUT SEEKING FOES
WHEN THINGS INSIDE HIS OWN CASTLE THREATEN TO DO HIM IN!? -- THAT IS:
NON-PHYSICALLY, FIGURATIVELY-SPEAKING, THROUGH NEGLECT AND IGNORANCE!?

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YOU MAY KNOW THAT THE GREAT MYTHICAL WARFARE IS PROPERLY UNDERWAY WITHIN YOU
WHEN THE WIDTH - YAY!, EVEN THE REALITY OF --
THE MOAT SEPARATING,"YOU-IN-THERE",FROM THE "WORLD-OUT-THERE"
BEGINS SHRINKING TO THE POINT OF IMPERTINANCE, IF NOT NON-EXISTANCE.

* * *

ONE MAN'S EYES GOT SO BAD THAT HE BEGAN TO HAVE HEADACHES --
BEING AN UNEXPECTED SORT, HE ADDS THAT HE SURELY WISHES HE COULD
SOMEHOW GET THE PROCESS TURNED THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

THE MIND IS TO A LIBERATED STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS
 AS THE TRACKS ARE ON THE TRIP FROM PARIS TO ISTANBUL;
 NO ONE WANTS TO STAY ON THEM FOREVER -- BUT! -- WHAT'ARE GONNA DO!? --
 WHAT'ARE GONNA SAY!?,
 WITHIN THE CONFINES OF --
 THE WRITTEN PAGE!?

- - -

SECOND VERSE

THOUGHT IS TO WORDS AS LOOSED AWARENESS IS TO SILENCE....NEO-SILENCE, THAT IS

* * *

HOW JUSTICE REALLY WORKS....(OR COULD)

JUST BEFORE HE DIED, THIS ONE MAN PASSED OUT;
 HE HAD A BROTHER WHO EXECUTED THIS PROCEEDURE, THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

* * *

MEN INVENTED NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS TO TRY AND AVOID HAVING TO THINK BETTER.

* * *

THERE ARE TWO SOURCES OF METAGNOSTIC KNOWLEDGE:
THOSE THAT DON'T EXIST -- AND TELL YOU SOMETHING,
AND THOSE THAT DO, AND DON'T.

* * *

ONE MAN SAYS THAT HE STARTED OUT AS A MYSTIC,
AND ENDED UP BEING AN OVERCOAT FOR THE POOR.

* * *

THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF SIMPLE: THE "SIMPLE" SIMPLE, AND THE TRANSCENDENTAL.

* * *

A MAN WHO'D LIVED IN THE SAME HOUSE FOR A LONG TIME
WENT TO AN UNUSUAL MOVING COMPANY AND ASKED THE OWNER
HOW YOU MIGHT TELL WHEN YOUR THINKING HAS REACHED ITS PROFITABLE LIMITS,
AND THE MOVER REPLIED: "DO YOU STILL ENGAGE IN THINKING?",
"YES", REPLIED THE MAN,
"WELL", SAID THE MOVER, "THERE'S YOUR ANSWER."

* * *

A VIEWER SUBMITS:

"I HAVE LISTENED TO YOU FOR SOME TIME NOW
AND HAVE CONCLUDED THAT YOU MAY HAVE ONE THING TOTALLY BACKWARDS, AND THAT IS
THAT IT MAY ONLY BE THOSE MORE-COMPLEX-OF-MIND
WHO TAKE LIFE SERIOUSLY.",
AND AS YOU KNOW BY NOW,
SOME VIEWERS ARE LESS NON-CORRECT THAN OTHERS.

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AND NOW A HEALTH TIP FROM THE WORLD OF NON-TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

THOUGHTS WON'T KILL YOU, BUT THINKING THEM WILL.

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A KID ON A PLAYGROUND TOLD A BUDDY:

"MY OLD MAN FINALLY TOLD ME WHAT A MYSTIC IS:

IT'S SOMEONE WHO CAN MAKE THEMSELF DIZZY WITHOUT HAVING TO SPIN AROUND."