

DO YOU REALIZE THAT OTHER THAN GOSSIP, THERE'S ONLY TWO THINGS YOU CAN
TALK ABOUT: YOURSELF, OR WHAT YOU KNOW,
(WITH "YOU" EXTRACTED FROM WHAT'S KNOWN).

MAN IS THE ONLY CREATURE WITH NO COMPLETED MODEL TO WORK FROM.
A FACT NEVER TAKEN INTO COMMON CONSIDERATION, SAVE BY THE MORE ALERT.

AS SOON AS MEN BECAME CONSCIOUS ENOUGH TO INVENT LANGUAGE
ONE OF THE FIRST WORDS THEY CAME UP WITH WAS,"CONSCIOUSNESS"
SO AS TO QUICKLY TRY AND NAIL DOWN THIS ELUSIVE QUALITY.

TO KEEP FROM THINKING, ONE MAN WOULD SING TO HIMSELF,
THEN TO DROWN OUT THE SINGING, HE'D LET HIS MIND RAMBLE ON.

JUST AS WITH CRIPPLED, UNFOCUSED POTATOS, MEN COME IN THREE VARITIES:
THOSE WHO'VE TRIPPED,
THOSE WHO DENY THEY HAVE,
AND THOSE WITH EYES TURNED FAR AWAY WHO'RE ABOUT TO.

ONE MAN WAS VISITED BY ENERGY FROM ANOTHER WORLD --
EVERYONE IS, BUT MOST PEOPLE'S DOOR BELL DOESN'T WORK.

DEFINITIONS

THOUGHT: A RANDOM ACT OF THINKING.

THINKING: RANDOM ACTS OF THOUGHT.

ANY QUESTIONS?

"NO SIR!"

DISMISSED.

* * *

A CANNIBAL CANNOT PROD A PARADE UNLESS IT IS AN INVENTED ONE,
NOR A PLAGIARIST LEAD A PRIDE, SAVE ONE OF INTELLECTUAL LIONS.

THE WEATHER IS PERIODICAL--- THE SKY, ITS BACKGROUND, OMNIPRESENT.

* * *

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF CONSCIOUSNESS POSSIBLE:
THE FIRST IS THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS OF MAN, COMMON AND NATURAL TO ALL;
AND THE OTHER, AN INDIVIDUAL ONE, BROUGHT ABOUT AND HELD ONLY BY
PERSISTANT, PERSONAL EFFORT.

ONE GUY, AFTER EXPERIENCING AGAIN, A TRYING TIME IN HIS PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS
THOUGHT: "JEEZE! -- WOMEN ARE CRAZY!" --
THEN AFTER A MOMENT ADDED: "WELL HELL -- SO ARE MEN!",
AND AFTER ANOTHER BRIEF REFLECTION THOUGHT: "EVERYBODY'S CRAZY!",
THEN HAD A SUDDEN COLD SHIVER AND SAID: "SHIT! - THEN WHO CAN I DATE!?!";
-- AND COYLY LOOKED AT HIMSELF AND REPLIED: "WELL HEY THERE BIG BOY,
YOU'RE JUST MY TYPE."

THE WAR

REOCCURRING FLASHES OF GUNFIRE,
FIRST HERE -- THEN THERE,
WOULD LIGHT UP THE OTHERWISE DARK SKY.

* * *

FOR THE SAKE OF THE SIMPLE,
PART OF THE CITY SOPHISTICATES' JOB IS TO DENY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OBVIOUS
....WELL.....ACTUALLY FOR THE SAKE OF ALL.

MAN'S INSTITUTIONAL CAMPAIGNS

THE LESS SURE THE UNDERTAKING -- THE MORE IMPORTANT IS COSTUME.

* * *

* * *

ONE MAN POKED SO MANY HOLES IN LIFE THAT,
JUST LIKE A TATTERED CLOTH,
IT FINALLY JUST FELL APART!

....(AND ALL OF THE ORDINARY PEOPLE WHO HAPPENED TO BE ABOUT AT THE TIME
WERE NOT ALL THAT AMUSED, OR ENTHUSED BY THE EVENT.)

* * *

CONVERSATION

"TO GET PEOPLE TO DO SOMETHING THEY DON'T HAVE TO DO
YOU'VE GOT TO TELL THEM THAT THEY NEED TO DO IT."

"WELL, THAT CERTAINLY SEEMS OBVIOUS ENOUGH!"

"OH - IT DOES!?"

* * *

MENS' INDIVIDUAL CAMPAIGNS

THE LESS SURE ARE MEN OF WHAT THEY SAY, THE MORE URGENT THEY MAKE IT SOUND.

* * *

AS SOON AS MEN WERE CONSCIOUSNESS ENOUGH TO LEAVE THE ORIGINAL
SILENT GARDEN OF PARADISICAL COMFORT,
ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THEY DID WAS TO BEGIN TO DREAM OF A NEW ONE.
FROM THIS GREW BOTH THE IDEA OF A PLEASING LIFE AFTER DEATH,
AND THE NOTION OF SECRET MYSTERY SCHOOLS.

OFETN, JUST AS HE WAS ABOUT TO BE IMPRESSED BY
ONE OF THE PHYSICAL SPECTACLES OCCURING IN THE INVENTED, UNQIUE WORLD OF MAN,
THIS ONE CHAP WOULD STOP SHORT, AND SUDDENLY INSTEAD
BE IMPRESSED BY HIS OWN MENTAL CAPACITY FOR OBSERVING AND PROCESSING THE SAME.
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THOSE WHO WORSHIP AND THE FEET OF MAN,
AND THOSE INTERESTED IN HIS POTENTIAL TALENTS.

CITY LEADERSHIP AND ETHICS

FOR AN ALPHA WOLF THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS,
"THE MORALLY RIGHT THING TO DO."

* * *

CONSCIOUSNESS NOT BOUND BY THOUGHT
RENDERS ONE HOMELESS --
OBJECTIVELY, BENEFICIALLY -- HOMELESS.

THE SIMPLE TAKE THE LONGIVITY OF A BELIEF AS ITS PROOF.
-- WHAT OTHER CHOICES DO THEY HAVE!?

ONE MAN ATTENDED A MYSTERY SCHOOL WHEREIN
HIS FIRST YEAR'S TEXT BOOK WAS OF A MILLION PAGES,
HIS SECOND YEAR'S, TEN THOUSAND,
HIS THIRD, A HUNDRED,
AND FOR HIS FINAL YEAR ~~YEAR~~, ONE BLANK PAGE.

AT GRADUATION CEREMONIES,
AS EACH STUDENT WAS HANDED HIS DIPLOMA,
HE WOULD, IN RETURN, SAY TO THE DEAN: "I KNEW THAT WAS COMING."

REDUNDANCY, THY NAME IS THE MEASURED TEMPO OF NORMAL PROGRESS.

THOSE WHO DEBATE WHETHER THERE IS "LIFE AFTER DEATH"
REVEAL THEIR IGNORANCE OF INTERMINABLE GENETICS --
-- WHICH IS TO SAY THEY STILL DON'T REALIZE THAT LIFE IS ALIVE.

AS PER SOME POPULAR BELIEF: THERE ARE THOSE HERE ON EARTH FROM OTHER WORLDS -
AND, HEY! -- YOU COULD BE ONE OF THEM,
(FOR ALL YOU KNOW....WHICH ABOUT COVERS IT).

ONE MAN BEGAN TO PICTURE THE EFFORT TO BE CONTINUALLY AWARE OF
HIS OWN CONSCIOUSNESS AS THE EFFORT TO SWAT A UNIVERSE FULL OF MOSQUITOES,
ONE AT A TIME.

A LAMENT AMONG SOME OF THE FEW

"IT'S NOT SO BAD BEING BLIND AS LONG AS YOU NEVER LOOK AROUND AND NOTICE IT."

* * *

ONLY THE SIMPLE BELIEVE IN CONSTRIDUCTIONS.

PERSONAL CONSCIOUSNESS: THE ONLY THING THAT WHEN TALKED ABOUT, DISAPPEARS.

THE RODENT LABORATORY MARCH

RATS AWARE THAT THEY'RE TRAPPED WILL NOT STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM.

* * *

DO YOU REALIZE THAT THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A HEALTHY, 20 YEAR OLD SAINT!?,
OR A WISE, DEPLETED 60 YEAR OLD!?

-- YET MEN WILL CREDIT A LATE RUNNING TRAIN FOR HAVING THE INTELLIGENCE
TO MISS A WRECK THAT OCCURED AT AN INTERSECTION HAD IT BEEN ON TIME.

ALL-IN-ALL.

ALERT TRAVELERS ON THIS JOURNEY SHOULD BE EXTREMELY HESITANT TO
CLAIM CREDIT FOR ANY APPARENT ADVANCEMENT OF THEIR PART
UNLESS IT IS OCCURING AT THIS VERY MOMENT,
UNDER THE FULL STEADY GLARE OF THEIR OWN CONSCIOUSNESS.

GAMBLERS STOLE THE IDEA OF A "FLOATING CRAP GAME".

MEN RECOUNT MYTHS OF MIGHTY BATTLES WITH PHYSICAL FOES AS A METAPHOR FOR THE INNER CONFLICTS WITH UNKNOWN, INVISIBLE ONES.

PART OF LANGUAGE'S PURPOSE IS TO GIVE MAN THE IMPRESSION THAT
HIS MENTAL ACTIVITIES ARE LINEAR AND SEQUENTIAL.

A NEW MONK ASKED AN OLD MASTER:

"WHAT IS TRULY THE MOST DIFFICULT ASPECT OF THE STRUGGLE FOR
A STATE OF CONTROLLED, PERSONAL CONSCIOUSNESS?",

AND THE ELDER REPLIED: "IT'S TOTAL UNNECESSARINESS.",

AND WHILE YOU MAY BELIEVE THAT YOU'VE HEARD THIS A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF TIMES
BEFORE -- TRUST ME -- YOU HAVEN'T.

LIFE IS NOT A STRUGGLE -- DEATH IS! --
....AND OBVIOUSLY, IT'S NOT.

NEURAL ENTOMOLOGY

CONSCIOUSNESS, A BUTTERFLY -- THOUGHT, A PIN.

* * *

MANY WHO UNDERTAKE A SEARCH FOR THE TRANSCENDENTAL PATH
ARE IN FACT, SEEKING ADJUSTMENT TO THEIR MENTAL AUTO PILOT.

THE SIMPLE HAVE NO MORALS -- ONLY FEARS.

THOSE SEEKING THE ENLIGHTENING EXPERIENCE FALL INTO TWO CATAGORIES:
THOSE WHO EXPECT TO FIND IT WITH OUT,
AND THOSE WHO BELIEVE THEY WILL FIND IT WITHIN --
-- BOTH ARE PARTIALLY MISTAKEN.

THE APPARENT SEARCH FOR CURE

IF YOU'RE SICK
AND SPEAK FAVORABLY OF YOUR TREATMENT -- YOU DON'T WANT TO GET WELL.

* * *

ONE MAN HAD A GOVERNOR ON HIS CAR,
AND IT WORKED SO EFFICIENTLY THAT HE FINALLY BEGAN TO THINK OF THE GOVERNOR
AS THE CAR.

FROM OUR CITY DICTIONARY

POLITICS: STICK BALL FOR GROWN UP BOYS.

* * *

COMPARED TO ROUTINE NOTIONS REGARDING, "FREEDOM OF WILL" - LIFE IS SCRIPTED -
- AND WHILE THIS IS STILL NOT EXACTLY CORRECT,
IT'S AS MUCH SO AS THE OTHER IDEA.

TRYING TO CONCENTRATE ON WHAT OTHERS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT CONSCIOUSNESS
CAN KEEP YOU FROM IT.

THE SOLITUDE OF THE MYTHICAL WARRIOR

IT'S LONELY HAVING NO ONE TO FIGHT BUT YOURSELF.

NOT! -- WELL.....
NOT NECESSARILY NOT.

* * *

IN THE SKY ABOVE HIS HEAD, ONE MAN FOUND MANY HOLES --
AND THE MORE HE TRIED TO REPAIR THEM
THE GREATER BECAME ITS OBVIOUS FUTILITY.

IN THE SKY ABOVE ONE'S HEAD APPEARS MANY HOLES --
BUT THESE ARE LOCAL RENTS AND OF NO PERSONAL SIGNIFICANCE --
WHAT'S BEHIND-AND-BEYOND THEM IS: -- THE OMNIPRESENT, UNIVERSAL HOLE.

THE AWAKENED HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED AS:

"THOSE WITH NO REASON TO LIVE -- AND NO REASON TO DIE."

OKAY.....NOT REALLY.....I JUST MADE IT UP.

* * *

GETTING THERE

WHEN IT COMES TO TRAVEL,

THE CONSCIOUSNESS EXPLORERS DCN'T SIMPLY WANT TO GO FROM POINT A TO POINT B.

* * *

IF YOU ACTUALLY LISTEN REAL CLOSELY TO WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAY
MOST OF IT DOESN'T ACTUALLY MAKE ANY SENSE -- WHICH COULD BE WHY
MOST PEOPLE DON'T ACTUALLY LISTEN TO WHAT MOST OTHER PEOPLE SAY.

WHAT SORT OF A THING IS A THING THAT
WHEN EXAMINED CEASES TO BE AND BECOMES BUT A SHADOW!?

WHAT BETTER DESCRIPTION OF ORDINARY CONSCIOUSNESS THAN
THE INABILITY TO SEE AND MAKE USE OF THE OBVIOUS!?

ONE MAN CONCLUDED THAT HE WAS MASTER OF REALITY --
AND WAS ABLE TO PULL IT OFF ONLY BY NOT LETTING ANYONE ELSE KNOW.

* * *

ONE MAN WAS AN UNEMPLOYED HIM.

* * *

THE KING IS THE KING,
THE PEOPLE, THE PEOPLE,
ONLY THE HOMELESS ARE AT HOME WHERE EVER.

* * *

ONLY

ONLY THE ENLIGHTENED CAN DANCE ON THE SUN --
ONLY THEY WISH TO.

* * *