

YOU CAN LOOK AT MAN AS EXISTING AT TWO LEVELS:
ONE IS MUCH LARGER, AND IS RUN AND CONTROLLED BY LIFE ON A UNIVERSAL SCALE,
AND ABOUT WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL CAN DO LITTLE,
AND THE OTHER IS AT THE LEVEL OF THE INDIVIDUAL,
WHERE AT ALONE IS ANY POTENTIAL MEANINGFUL ACTION POSSIBLE.

THIS OF COURSE IS OBVIOUS TO THE ALERT EYE, YET HIDDEN FROM THE CROWD,
AS THE CONTINUING IMPOSSIBLE ATTEMPT BY THOSE CERTAIN FROGS TO FLY
IS WHAT MAKES THEM THE IRREPRESSIBLE REPTILES THEY BE,
AND CAUSES LIFE ON THE LARGER SCALE TO SINGULARLY FAVOR THEM SO.

WHEN ONE MAN'S MIND WOULD SAY, "SPORTS" -- HE'D READ,
AND WHEN IT'D SAY, "REST" -- HE'D RUN,
AND WHEN IT WOULD SAY, "CRAP!" -- HE SING AND DANCE FOR JOY.
...ALL-IN-ALL, HE SAID THEY WERE BEGINING TO DEVELOPE A WONDERFUL RELATIONSHIP

JUST BECAUSE NEURONS CAN TALK TO YOU AND HORMONES CAN'T,
DOESN'T MEAN THEY TELL YOU THE TRUTH.

ONE LEGEND SAYS THERE WAS ONCE A RACE OF CREATURES SIMILAR TO MAN
WHO HAD A MIND MADE UP OF THREE COMPARTMENTS.

BY ALL REASONABLE APPEARANCES,
THE FIRST RESPONSIBILITY OF A KNIGHT WHO DECIDES TO UNDERTAKE THE QUEST
MUST BE TO HOLD A CONTINUAL REMEMBRANCE OF THE GRAIL ITSELF --
...MAY BE -- BUT AFTER THAT, WHAT!?

* * *

IN THE BACKGROUND OF THE GUNFIRE ABOVE A FEW CITIES ANOTHER SOUND IS HEARD.

* * *

AS REGARDS ANY EXTRAORDINARY MENTAL POTENTIAL

AS LONG AS YOUR MIND IS TIED UP ENTIRELY WITH -- JUST THINKING,
-- NOTHING ELSE IS POSSIBLE.

* * *

WHENEVER HE LOOKED OUT HIS BACK DOOR THIS ONE MAN WOULD THINK:
 "THERE'S SOMETHING HIDING OUT THERE IN THE BUSHES."

HE LATER MOVED IN TOWN, UPSTAIRS IN AN APARTMENT BUILDING,
 AND EVERY TIME HE'D LOOK DOWN FROM A WINDOW
 HE'D THINK THE SAME THING AS BEFORE.

MORAL: IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE YOU MOVE --
 IF YOU'RE A GOOD CITIZEN
 YOU'LL ALWAYS BE -- SOME WHERE.

...(AND AGAIN I REMIND YOU OF THE TALE OF THOSE CERTAIN KNIGHTS WHO,
 EACH TIME THEY ENTERED THE MYSTICAL CHAMBER THEY HAD CONSTRUCTED FOR THEMSELVES
 WOULD REPEAT THE SACRED MANTRA THEY HAD ADOPTED FOR THAT SOLEMN OCCASION,
 [WHICH WENT]: "LET ME OUTTA HERE!")

* * *

NOW ON TO: THE FARM REPORT

THE HISTORY OF MOST INTEREST TO A TRUE WARRIOR
 OCCURRED IN THE LAST TWO SECONDS.

.....("DON'T FORGET TO PLANT NOW, Y'ALL!")

* * *

SHORTLY AFTER MEN LEARNED TO SPEAK
LIFE PASSED THEIR WAY AGAIN AND ONE MAN CRIED OUT:
"COUNT ME IN!",
BUT APPARENTLY MISUNDERSTANDING WHAT WAS SAID -- IT THREW HIM IN.

* * *

ONLY AWARENESS FREED FROM THE CONFINES OF MERE THOUGHT
CAN FEEL AT HOME ANY WHERE --
...WHICH IS THE MYSTIC'S PROPER RESIDENCE.

* * *

AS THE IRREVERSIBLE SEEKER-OF-THE-GRAIL DRAWS CLOSER,
HE INCREASINGLY KEEPS THAT WHICH HE DISCOVERS ALONG THE WAY, QUIET UNTO HIMSELF
IN PREPARATION, (NO DOUBT), FOR THE FINAL SILENCE THAT WILL SURROUND THE
ULTIMATE DISCOVERY.

* * *

TODAY'S: CLICH UPDATE

NOT ONLY IS HISTORY ALWAYS WRITTEN BY THE VICTORS,
BUT ALSO IS ALL "TRUTH" PROCLAIMED, PUT FORTH BY THOSE WHO KNOW IT NOT.
....(THE LOSERS, IN OTHER WORDS.)

* * *

ONE MAN KEPT A DICTIONARY, JUST TO IGNORE IT;
HE DEVELOPED A VOCABULARY, SO'S TO NOT USE IT;
HE CONSIDERED ALL IDEAS, SO'S TO DISCARD THEM,
AND WAS FINALLY ABLE TO CONSOLIDATE ALL OF THIS SIMPLY INTO
HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS OWN SO-CALLED, MIND.

* * *

IN ONE REALM IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR SEEKERS-OF-ENLIGHTENMENT
TO SEE THOSE WHO HAD IT AS BEING, ANTI-ENLIGHTENMENT.

* * *

AS REGARDS ANY EXTRAORDINARY MENTAL POTENTIAL

AS LONG AS YOUR THINKING IS CONCERNED WITH WHAT EVERYONE ELSE'S IS,
-- NOTHING ELSE IS POSSIBLE;

ON THIS ONE WORLD THEY'D DRESS UP ANIMALS TO LOOK LIKE MEN
 JUST TO MAKE SPORT OF THE BEASTS,
 WHILE ON A NEIGHBORING ONE, THEY'D DO THE SAME THING,
 BUT TO HAVE A LAUGH ON MAN.

- - -

THOSE UPSTAIRS CAN SNEER AT THOSE DOWN BELOW,
 AND THOSE DOWN BELOW CAN DISMISS THOSE UP ABOVE,
 BUT WHAT NIETHER CAN DO IS DIRECT SUCH SENTIMENTS TOWARD THEMSELF
 IN A USEFUL, UNDERSTOOD MANNER.

MORAL: IT TAKES THE KEENEST OF EYES TO FIND HUMOR IN ARCHETECTURE --
 ...WHICH OF COURSE, IS ALL WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.

* * *

THEO-HISTORICAL UPDATE

FROM ONE VIEW -- THE RELIGIOUS WOULD HAVE GAINED MORE,
 HAD THEY, INSTEAD OF BUILDING AWE INSPIRING CATHEDRALS
 SPENT THE ENERGY IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THEMSELVES.

... "BUT -- ALAS!" - (STIRKE, "ALAS")--

"BUT -- ALAS!, SUCH IS HOW THINGS MUST GO AMIDST A CROWD.
 "ALAS." (ALAS, MY ASS!).

THE ACTIVITY NATURAL TO MAN'S MIND IS LIKE A MADE-UP GAME --
MADE-UP, BUT REAL ENOUGH,
ILLUSIONARY, BUT SOLID AS HELL,
MEANINGLESS, YET NECESSARY FOR MAN TO BE MAN.
-- WHAT OTHER CREATURE CAN MAKE SUCH A CLAIM!?

EVERY NEW TERRITORY HAS TWO POSSIBLE WAYS OF ENTRY,
AND NO ALERT EXPLORER EVER FORGETS THIS.

CITY NEWS THAT NO ONE SEEMS TO USE

ONLY THOSE HOPING TO ESCAPE ITS GRASP SPEAK OF - MORALITY!

...("WELL - YEAH!", SAYS ONE MAN,

"BUT AIN'T THAT TRUE OF EVERYTHING OVER THERE!?!")

* * *

IS NO "16"

CRITICISM NEVER HELPS AND FOR QUITE SCIENTIFIC REASONS.
IN THE CULTIVATION OF CROPS, PISSING ON PLANTS IS NOT OF ASSISTANCE....
... NO MATTER THAT THE MIND WANTS TO CLAIM OTHERWISE: CRITICISM IS NOT A NUTRIENT

ONE MAN THOUGHT:

"WITH OUT DRUGS - I AM NOTHING!" -

- BUT -- WHO THOUGHT THAT? --

A MAN,

OR HIS MIND?!?

IN ONE UNIVERSE WAS THE EVOLUTIONARY STATUS OF EACH WORLD DETERMINED BY ITS FREQUENCY OF USE OF METAPHOR AND ALLEGORY.

....(IN CHEAPER, BACKWARD ONES, THIS WAS DONE SIMPLY ON THE BASIS OF SPEECH ITSELF.

....[THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE NOT A CHEAPER, BACKWARD ONE, WHAT!?!])

TO YOUR CHAGRIN -- THE DOCTOR IS IN

THE TRUE, THE FUNDAMENTAL, THE COMPLETE & ALL-INCLUSIVE DEFFERENCE BETWEEN:
AN ALERT MAN AND EVERYONE ELSE
IS THAT: AN ALERT MAN IS ALERT.

... "SEND IN THE NEXT IDIOT -- I MEAN, PATIENT."

* * *

SOME NAUTICAL NEWS THAT COULD SPOIL YOUR BLUES

A FOOLISH SHIP CAN BE
KEPT WELL AFLOAT BY THE
ACT OF TAKING IT
SERIOUSLY.

...."AHOY THERE. Y'ALL! - BETTER GO CHANGE OUTTA THOSE NASTY OLE THINGS

* * *

AS REGARDS ANY EXTRAORDINARY MENTAL POTENTIAL

AS LONG AS YOUR THINKING CONSISTS ENTIRELY OF -- THINKING!,
-- NOTHING ELSE IS POSSIBLE.

* * *

MORALITY: A NEW VIEW

THOSE WHO DON'T, "LIVE TO REGRET IT!" HAVEN'T PROPERLY LIVED.

* * *

THERE WAS ONCE A LAND OF GROWTH AND EXPANSION
WHEREIN,
AS IS NATURAL TO SUCH CONDITIONS,
STRUGGLE AND CONFLICT WAS CONSTANT --

BUT IN THIS PARTICULAR INSTANCE THE INHABITANTS MADE USE OF
TWO TYPES OF AMMUNITION;
THE FIRST CONSISTED OF BULLETS THAT WERE ACTUALLY DEADLY,
WHILE THE SECOND KIND ONLY AT FIRST APPEARED TO BE SO,
AND WERE LATER FOUND TO BE OTHERWISE.

SUCH MUST BE THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR ANY KINGDOM TO PROGRESS.

ONE MAN MADE NOTES OF WHAT HE THOUGHT EACH DAY,
THEN THREW THEM AWAY, THE NEXT.

SO PONDERED ONE MAN:

"WHAT GOOD IS THE PAST IF IT'S NOT ACTUALLY GONE!?"

JUST AS THE MINDS OF CHILDREN REVOLVE AROUND SIMPLE THINGS,
SUCH AS: GAMES, SPORTS AND DREAMS OF THE FUTURE,
SIMILARLY DO THE MINDS OF SIMPLE ADULTS.

* * *

AT THE HEART OF LIFE'S HIGHEST SAFETY STANDARDS IS: REDUNDANCY.

* * *

AS A FORM OF ENLIGHTENED PROTECTION,
ALL EXPERIENCED ADVENTURERS ALLOW LARGER LEECHES TO CONSUME
ANY SMALLER ONES TOWHICH THEY MAY HAVE BECOME ATTACHED.

....SOME WHERE DOWN THE ROAD,
THOSE WHO SURVIVE LOOSE INTEREST IN ALL THINGS PARASITIC.

* * *

THE RIDE OF THE LONG-DISTANCE-KNIGHT IS: ONE-TO-A-SADDLE -- NO MORE.

* * *

MEDICAL UPDATE

THE MIND IS ON DRUGS.

* * *

...AND NOW -- WOULD YOU LIKE SOME: SPORTS NEWS? --
....WELL, SURE-E-E YOU WOULD!

* * *

IN RE MATURITY

IN THIS ONE LAND - THE BEINGS DO NOT GROW UP -- BUT RATHER, SIDE-WAYS.

....(I ADVISE YOU TO NEVER VISIT THERE,
FOR TWO-EYED CREATURES HAVE ONE HELLAVA TIME EVER FINDING THEIR WAY OUT.)

IN A FORM OF ASSUMED SELF-DEFENSE, ONE MAN'S MIND SAID TO HIM:
"LOOK -- WITH OUT THOUGHT -- WHAT WOULD I BE!?"

...(I MUST TELL YOU HOWEVER THAT THIS WAS A PURELY RHETORICAL QUESTION
IN THAT AN ORDINARY MIND IS NOT EQUIPED TO REALLY WANT TO KNOW
THE ANSWER TO THIS.)

* * *

ONE MAN BEGAN TO CAREFULLY MONITOR THE AMOUNT OF GARBAGE & WASTE
LEAVING HIS RESIDENCE
TO SEE IF IT MATCHED THE AMOUNT COMING IN.

...FINALLY, SOME "VOICE" FROM THE ATTIC SHOUTED DOWN TO HIM THAT HE WAS,
"WASTING HIS TIME!".

* * *

ONE MAN HAD A WEIRD RELATIVE WHO LIVED OUT IN THE BOONIES,
WHO WROTE HIM AND CLAIMED THAT, "OUT HIS WAY" WERE
LIONS WHO LIVED IN TREES AND KEPT THE BIRDS MOSTLY ON THE GROUND.

THUS CONCLUDES THIS EVENING'S FORAY INTO:
NEURAL ANTHROPOLOGY OFF THE WALL.

* * *

SOME PSYCHIATRISTS PETITIONED THE KING TO OFFFICALLY DETERMINE AND DECLARE
THE SPECIFIC DISTINCTION BETWEEN MYSTICS AND THE INSANE,
BUT HIS GRACE,
(UNDER HIS BREATH),
ADVISED THE GROUP:
"YOU DON'T REALLY WANT ME TO DO THIS."

CONCLUSION: MENTAL HEALTH BEGINS AT HOME --
...BUT ONLY IF YOU DON'T STAY THERE TOO MUCH.

* * *

AT PARTIES, ONE MAN WOULD PULL OUT HIS MIND AND IN FRONT OF EVERYONE
SAY TO IT LOUDLY: "COME ON -- DO SOME TRICKS FOR US!",
'TIL ONE TIME IT UP AND REPLIED:
"OKAY, BUT FIRST YOU DROP YOUR PANTS AND BEND OVER,
LIKE YOU DO FOR ME IN PRIVATE."

* * *

THERE WAS ONCE TWO SISTER PLANETS,
ONE WAS A WORLD OF GESTURES -- THE OTHER, OF THOUGHTFUL REFLECTION --
....YOU KNOW THEY WERE DOOMED TO ULTIMATE CONFLICT.

* * *

ZOOLOGY UPDATE -- (FROM THE WILD SIDE)

IT IS THE JOB OF HUNGRY BEASTS TO BE ENTHUSIASTIC,
...IT'S THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MEN TO: CALL FOR A MENU!
..."OH, GARCON! -- YOO WHOO -- OVER HERE!"

* * *

...OKAY THEN -- YOU WANNA PLAY LIKE THAT! - SOME: POLTICAL UPDATING

IN A FIT OF FAUX REVOLUTIONARY FERVOR,
ONE MAN CRIED OUT AND POINTED: "I REGRET THAT I HAVE BUT THE ONE LIFE,
(OF MY UNCLE OVER THERE),
TO GIVE TO THE CAUSE!"

...HE LATER CONFIDED THAT HE WAS GLAD THIS SCENE WAS SET IN A
PHYSICAL, EXTERNAL CONTEXT,
RATHER THAN IN TERMS OF AN INNER, MENTAL ONE --
...WHICH WOULD HAVE REQUIRED MUCH, MUCH GREATER SACRAFICE ON HIS PART.

...WHAT!? - YOU STILL HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH!?...ALL RIGHT THEN:
PROVERBIAL WISDOM UPDATE

THE ADAGE THAT SAYS: "YOU CAN'T LOSE SOMETHING THAT YOU NEVER HAD.",
NEEDS NO UPDATING.

...(NOW YOU OUGHTA QUIT WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD! --
...WHICH SHOULDA BEEN BEFORE YOU STARTED!)

* * *

MEN WILL ACCEPT THE IDEA OF THEIR PHYSICAL REPERTOIRE BE LIMITED,
BUT NOT THEIR MENTAL --

...AT LEAST NOT THOSE OF A LIMITED MENTAL ONE.

ONE MAN BEGAN TO FIND HIS NORMAL FOOD CACHE
DETERIORATING AT AN EVER-INCREASING RATE.

....(HE WAS GREATLY PLEASED AT THIS FAVORABLE TURN OF EVENTS.)

THE ONLY FORM OF GAMBLING AVAILABLE ON THIS ONE WORLD
WAS A GAME KNOWN AS, "TWO OF A KIND" --
... (WHICH ACTUALLY CONTAINED NO ELEMENTS OF CHANCE.)

AS REGARDS ANY EXTRAORDINARY MENTAL POTENTIAL

AS LONG AS YOUR MENTAL AWARENESS CONSISTS OF NOTHING BUT THINKING,
-- NOTHING ELSE IS POSSIBLE.

* * *

A BRIEF SURVEY OF THE WORKINGS OF THE CITY MIND

ONE LEXICOLOGIST SAID THAT IN THE COMPILING OF A DICTIONARY,
THE COLLECTING OF THE WORDS IS THE TASK
AS MUCH AS IS THE PUTTING THEM ALL IN ORDER.

NOT ONLY IS A MYSTIC ALWAYS ANACHRONISTIC IN THE WIDE, LITERAL,
TEMPORAL SENSE OF THE WORD,
BUT ALSO IN A MORE PERSONAL, IMMEDIATE SEQUENTIAL SENSE.

IN THE MYTHICAL COURT OF KING ARTHUR
A TRUE AND FAITHFUL KNIGHT IS ALWAYS --"OUT OF ORDER!"

....("HEAR YE!, HEAR YE!Y'ALL.")

* * *

SCIENCE NEWS

IN THE LAB,
FROGS CAN BE MADE TO FLY,
FISH TO FETCH WATER,
COLD TO PRODUCE WARTHAM,
AND THE DECOMPOSED TO REVIVE ITSELF.
"WHAT LAB IS THIS?", YOU ASK,
'TIS THE LAB ALL MEN CARRY WITH THEM.

* * *

IS ONLY IN THE LAND OF DWARFS THAT IMAGINATION IS PROPERLY CONDEMNED.

...."OH, YOO WHOO!, OVER HERE, MR. SWIFT - WERE YOU LOOKING FOR ME!?"

* * *

MATHEMATICS IS AN INTRINSIC, AS OPPOSED TO, LEARNED SKILL,
IN THAT AS SOON AS THEY CAN THINK, ALL MEN IMMEDIATELY COUNT TO TWO.

* * *

IN AN ALTERNATE UNIVERSE WAS A CERTAIN GAME PLAYED
WHICH PROCEEDED FROM ITS BEGINING ON TO ITS CONCLUSION
WHILE SIMULATENOUSLY WAS PLAYED IN THE OPPOSITE SEQUENCE,
AND EVEN THOUGH T' WAS AN ENRICHED IMPROVEMENT OVER ITS ORIGINAL,
MONO-DIRECTIONAL VERSION,
IT NEVER ACHIEVED COMMON POPULARITY DUE TO THE AVERAGE SPECTATOR'S INABILITY TO
LOCATE - OR USE, TRI-NOCULORS.

* * *

IN A LAND OF TWO HANDED SEEKERS
A TWO DIMENSIONAL GRAIL CAN NEVER BE FOUND --
-- INDEED, IT CANNOT EVEN BE SAID TO THEREIN EXIST.

- - -

DO YOU BEGIN TO GRADUALLY REALIZE THAT ANYTHING THE EYE CAN PRESENTLY SEE
HAS NO USEFUL PERTINANCE TO THAT WHICH A MYSTIC NEEDS TO SEE!?

MORE CITY NEWS NOT PART OF CITY VIEWS

IT IS THOSE WITH WEAKEST TIES TO MAN'S PAST
WHO MOST VOCALLY TRY AND DEFEND THEIRS.

...AND A CERTAIN MAN PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED THIS EVENING
FURTHER NOTES HIS DELIGHT IN NOW BEING ABLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE
SMELL OF HISTORY ROTTING,
AND THE FRESH AROMA OF HIS GROWING FREEDOM THEREFROM.

* * *

ON A FAR AWAY PLANET, THE LEADING NEWSPAPER CARRIED A DAILY FEATURE
INWHICH WAS PRINTED,
COMPLAINTS FROM READERS REGARDING STORIES RECENTLY COVERED
WHICH SEEMED TO DIRECTLY CONTRIDICTONES PREVIOUSULY COVERED.

AH - BUT SUCH MUST BE THE SITUATION FOR ANY PLANET TO EVOLVE.

* * *

AS REGARDS ANY EXTRAORDINARY MENTAL POTENTIAL

AS LONG AS YOUR MIND SAYS:

"WELL WHAT ELSE CAN CONSCIOUSNESS CONSIST OF BUT - THINKING!?" -

- AND YOU BELIEVE IT! ---

NOTHING ELSE IS POSSIBLE.

* * *

SOME DIMENSIONAL ARCHEOLOGISTS
DISCOVERED ON THIS ONE PLANET
ABANDONED BUILDINGS LEFT BY SOME LONG GONE CIVILIZATION
WHICH APPEARED TO HAVE ORIGINALLY - SOME HOW - CONTAINED SMALLER BUILDINGS.

- - -

A CONCERNED MOTHER ONCE TOLD HER CHILD:
"NEVER PUT ANYTHING STICKY IN YOUR EAR THAT MIGHT MAKE ITS WAY FURTHER IN."

* * *

MAN'S PRESENT BRAIN HAS TWO SIDES FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT
HE'S NOT YET FULLY GROWN.

ADAGE EXTENSION

YOU CAN'T LEARN FROM A PAST THAT
RUNS BUT ONE WAY.

* * *

TRYING TO, "THINK FOR YOURSELF"
IS A WASTED EFFORT IF YOU
IMPROPERLY PERCIVE WHAT IS SELF.

ON A VISIT TO ANOTHER CITY A MAN HEARD IT ANNOUNCED THAT
THEIR DOCTORS HAD DEVELOPED PILLS THAT COULD: "HELP YOU REMEMBER.",
AND PILLS THAT COULD: "HELP YOU FORGET.",
AND HE WAS CURIOUS AS TO WHY THEY'D WASTED HALF THEIR TIME.

PERSPECTIVE & GRAVITY

A KNIGHT ON HORSEBACK CAN SEE MORE THAN ONE ON FOOT,
AND ONE ON WING, MORE THAN ONE ON ANY MOUNT.

* * *

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AND A PARTING WORD FROM: POISON CONTROL

IF AWARENESS WAS CYANIDE:

WHO AMONG MEN

COULD DO THEMSELF IN!?

* * *