

A THING GROWING, IS ALWAYS IN TURMOIL,
AND THOSE EFFECTED BY THE TURMOIL ARE ALWAYS CRITICAL OF IT.

THE CHALLENGE TO THE MYSTIC:

HOW TO ACHIEVE THE FUTURE WITHOUT FIRST CHOKING ON DISGUST FOR THE PRESENT.

...(AND JUST IN CASE YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED, THE TRICK TO DOING THIS IS SIMPLE -
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LIMIT YOUR CRITICISM AND DISGUST
TO YOUR OWN LACK OF FULLY REALIZED POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH.)

LIFE HAS PUT ALL CREATURES ON A MOVING TRAIN,
AND GIVEN MAN WINDOWS TO LOOK OUT --

IT ALSO ALLOWS ANY WHO'RE INTERESTED
TO BECOME AWARE OF THEMSELVES LOOKING OUT.

A MAN ASKED A MYSTIC:

"IF A HIGHER STATE OF MENTAL AWARENESS IS CALLED, 'AWAKENING',
AND OUR NORMAL ONE, 'SLEEP', HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE TWO?",
AND THE MYSTIC REPLIED:

"IN THE STATE OF SLEEP, A MAN'S AWARENESS CONSISTS OF NO MORE THAN THE
AUTOMATIC FLOW OF SEQUENTIAL IDEAS,
RELATED TO ONE ANOTHER TO VARYING DEGREE, OR TO NONE,
WHILE HIS MENTAL PERCEPTION IN THE HIGHER STATE OF AWAKENING
IS NOT BOUND IN ANY WAY BY DEMINISONS OR ASSOCIATIONS."

A MAN ASKED A MYSTIC:

"IF A HIGHER STATE OF MENTAL AWARENESS IS CALLED, 'ENLIGHTENMENT',
AND OUR NORMAL ONE, 'LIVING-IN-THE-DARK', HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE TWO?",
AND THE MYSTIC REPLIED:

"IN THE STATE OF, 'LIVING-IN-THE-DARK', A MAN PERCEIVES LIFE TO BE MADE UP OF
DULL, FUZZY IMAGES, NOT LIABLE TO PERCISE DEFINITION OR UNDERSTANDING,
WHILE IN THE HIGHER STATE OF, 'ENLIGHTENMENT'
HE SEES A WORLD THAT IS BRIGHT, CLEAR AND DISTINCT --
-- A WORLD THAT -- GLOWS!

ONE MAN EXPLAINED HIS PRESENT STATE OF DISCOMBOBULATION BY SAYING THAT IT WAS EITHER THE RESULT OF AN EXTREMELY RARE, AND DANGEROUS ASTROLOGICAL ALIGNMENT OF JUPITAR AND MARS, COMBINED WITH CERTAIN KARMIC CONSEQUENCES OF HIS PREVIOUS LIVES, -- OR ELSE HE WAS GETTING THE FLU.

WHY ARE MEN SO INTRIQUEUED AND ENTERTAINED BY IRONY? --

-- AT ITS HEART IS THE INCONGRUITY BETWEEN WHAT THEY EXPECT THEIR THINKING TO BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH, AND WHAT IT ACTUALLY DOES,

AS THOUGH SOMEHOW THEIR LAUGHING AT IRONIC SITUATIONS IN THE EXTERNAL WORLD PROTECTS THEM FROM THE SAME THING WITHIN THEIR OWN INTELLECTUAL PROCESSES.

ONE MAN ENTITLED HIS QUESTION:

"THE MYSTICAL, THE TRANSCENDENTAL, THE ENLIGHTENMENT:
WHAT THE HELL IS ALL THIS STUFF ANY WAY?!"

IF THE MIND IS TO REMIND MAN THAT HE IS ALIVE,
THEN WHAT IS THERE TO REMIND THE MIND THAT IT IS?!

WHAT SHOULD BE REAL SHAME? --
FOR A FISH NOT TO SWIM, A BIRD NOT TO FLY,
AND MEN NOT TO THINK AS FULLY AS IS POSSIBLE FOR THEM?!

TOO COMMON IS IT STILL FOR ORDINARY MEN TO LEAN ON THE REGRET THEY EXPRESS OVER
THEIR FAILURE TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE,
AS THOUGH GUILT IS COMPLETE COMPENSATION FOR LACK OF EFFORT.

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE HEREIN, BETWEEN THE ORDINARY AND THE MORE-CONSCIOUS IS THAT
THOSE MORE ALERT TO LIFE ONLY CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH ATTEMPTING TO
BRING TO FRUITION, ABILITIES ACTUALLY LATENT IN MAN.

WHAT COULD BE MORE WORTHY OF SHAME THAN A CAGED BIRD WHO POMPOUSLY PACES THE
LENGTH OF HIS CELL, PERIODICALLY EXTENDING HIS WINGS IN AN IMPOTENT DISPLAY,
AND VAINGLORIOUSLY RECOUNTS HIS MIRACULOUS ESCAPE FROM HIS
PRIOR CAPTIVITY IN THE EGG TO HIS PRESENT POSITION OF FREEDOM.

IN THE FULL REALIZATION OF THE LIFE OF MAN, THERE IS NEVER A -
LAST ACT, OR - FINAL STAGE,
AND CERTAINLY NO ONE WHO WILL SETTLE FOR THEIR PRESENT CONDITION
DESERVES THE NAME -- "MAN".

SIGNS OF THE INTELLECT NOT BEING USED TO ITS FULLEST POTENTIAL:

REDUNDANCY,

SELF-PITY,

CRITICISM WITHOUT SOLUTIONS,

DECLARATIONS OF SELF-IMPORTANCE AND ADMISSIONS OF FAILURE,

EXCUSES,

ALL EXPRESSIONS OF DESPAIR,

AND ANY REPETITION OF COMMONLY VOICED CONCERNS AND IDEAS.

NO FREEDOM IS EVER POSSIBLE WITHOUT DISTINGUISHING THE POSSIBLE
FROM THE IMPOSSIBLE,
WITHOUT CONTROLLING THAT WHICH YOU CAN,
AND NOT TROUBLING WITH THAT WHICH YOU CANNOT.

WHEN BEINGS FROM OTHER WORLDS BEGAN VISITING EARTH
THEY AT FIRST SIMPLY TOLD THE LOCALS THAT THEY WERE BEINGS FROM ANOTHER WORLD --
WHICH WAS NOT WELL ACCEPTED,
SO THEY STARTED SAYING THAT THEY WERE GODS,
WHICH MEN ACCEPTED TOO WELL, AND THINGS GOT OUT OF CONTROL,
AND FINALLY THEY QUIT REFERING TO THEIR ORIGINS AT ALL,
AND BEGAN TO BEHAVE AS THOUGH THEY WERE INSANE, SO AS TO BE LEFT ALONE.
...AND ANYTIME ANYONE SUSPECTED IT TO BE AN ACT,
THE ALIENS WOULD WINK AT THEM CONSPIRATORIALLY,
AND SAY THAT THEY WERE ENGAGED IN THE STRUGGLE TO BECOME MORE CONSCIOUS.

IF THE BEST PART OF BEING SICK IS IN GETTING WELL
WHY DO NOT MEN SEE A SIMILAR POTENTIAL TO THEIR PRESENT FEVERISHED THINKING?!

ONE MAN PRIVATELY ADOPTED THE ATTITUDE OF:
"IF THE FUTURE HOLDS NO POTENTIAL FOR IMPROVEMENT,
THEN THE PRESENT CAN JUST, 'TAKE A HIKE!'"

IT'S NOT EASY FOR MEN TO HEAR DESCRIPTIONS OF THEIR CAPTIVITY
WITHOUT THEM ALSO BELIEVING THAT THEY'RE RECEIVING GURANTEED METHODS OF ESCAPE.

TO FABLISTICALLY SAY THAT IT WOULD BENEFIT MAN WERE HE TO BE MORE LIKE A LION, AN EAGLE, A WARRIOR, OR A GOD, IS ACTUALLY ILL-DIRECTION, FOR THE IMMEDIATE JOB AT HAND IS SIMPLY FOR HIM TO BECOME MORE FULLY MAN LIKE.

The only way that the simple know to make their presence known
is through physical action --
the only way known by the more civilized is to brag about what they
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only the more conscious know not to make their presence known.

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ONE MAN SAYS HE'S NOW BEGUN TO WONDER IF MEN ARE NATURALLY AND INESCAPABLY
CONFINED IN THE THINKING,
OR JUST LACKING PERTINENT ENCOURAGEMENT

THE SOLUTION TO ANSWERING DUMB QUESTIONS IS TO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTION .

AND A MAN THOUGHT:

"IF THERE IS A CIRCLE OF THE MORE-CONSCIOUS, WHO OVERSEE THE FATE OF MAN,
THEN WHY ARE THEY NOT IN CONTACT WITH ME -- AND ME WITH THEM?!"

MEN SAY THAT FOR SOME CONFLICTS THERE ARE NO REAL ANSWERS - BUT THEY ARE WRONG,
THERE ARE! --

BUT THEY NEVER COME TO LIGHT FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT
THEY WOULD NOT SATISFY ANY OF THE PARTIES OF EITHER SIDE.

LIFE ONCE GAVE A GROUP OF MEN SOME SMALL RED STONES FOR THEM TO HOLD IN THEIR HANDS AT ALL TIMES, EVERYWHERE THEY WENT.

IT WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REMINDING THEM OF A CERTAIN, "SOMETHING", BUT MOST OF THEM, MOST OF THE TIME, FORGOT THEY HAD IT, AND THUS ITS PURPOSE WAS NOT ACCOMPLISHED. --

- FOR WHEN YOU FORGET THAT YOU "HAVE IT" -- YOU NO LONGER DO.

EVERY GENERATION OR SO,
SOMEONE REDISCOVERS THE RED STONES. --
....WITH ABOUT THE SAME DEGREE OF SUCCESS.

A MAN SAID TO A MYSTIC:

"WHAT YOU SAY, I OFTIMES FIND DISCOURAGING,
AND IT SEEMS THIS SHOULD NOT BE THE CASE --

AM I TO ASSUME THAT THIS IS DUE EITHER TO MY FAULTY HEARING,
OR THE LIMITATIONS OF SPEECH?"

AND BEFORE THE MYSTIC COULD OFFER A REPLY, THE MAN WAVED IT AWAY AND SAID:
"NEVER MIND -- I KNOW QUITE WELL THE ANSWER TO THAT."

AS CONCERNS A FULLER USE OF THE INTELLECT,
ONE MAN'S OFFICIAL QUERRY BECAME:

"WHY ALL THE WIDE-SPREAD SILENCE ON THE SUBJECT?!"

A WARRIOR OF WITS
NEVER IN PUBLIC
DRAWS HIS SWORD.

WHEN ONE MAN FINALLY UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY
WHAT WAS REQUIRED TO WALK THE ROAD TOWARD ENLIGHTENMENT, HE THOUGHT:
"MY GOD, HOW SIMPLE! -- MY GOD, HOW EXCRUCIATINGLY DIFFICULT AND COMPLEX!",
AND IN SO REALIZING, HE FELT BOTH PLEASED, YET SOMEHOW.....WELL.....
SOMEHOW SLIGHTLY EMBARRASED AND IRRITATED.

IN ONE LEGEND,
THE FIXED, AXIS OF THE UNIVERSE IS ALSO THE GATEWAY TO LIBERATION & AWAKENING.

IF THE DISTINGUISHING MARK OF THE MORE-CONSCIOUS IS THAT THEY KNOW
WHAT IS POSSIBLE FROM WHAT IT NOT, THEN PONDER THIS:
WHAT IS MORE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO DO THAN THAT WHICH IS REQUIRED TO BECOME
MORE CONSCIOUS?!

... (WHY A SENSE OF HUMOR CAN BE OF SUCH BENEFIT TO THOSE IN THE STRUGGLE...
.. [AND LACKING THAT - A HIGH TOLERANCE FOR FRUSTRATION].)

IF THE HISTORY OF MAN,
INCLUDING ALL RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL ACCOUNTS,
IS NOT UNDERSTOOD ON A METAPHORICAL LEVEL,
WITH SPECIFIC PRACTICAL MESSAGES FOR THE INDIVIDUAL,
THEN IT IS NO MORE THAN A CRUDE BATTLEFIELD REPORT OF MAN'S STRUGGLE TO
PHYSICALLY SURVIVE.

WHAT DO ORDINARY MEN THINK TO BE THE PURPOSE OF THE INTELLECT GIVEN TO HIM?! --
MERELY TO MAKE NOTE OF HIS PHYSICAL COMINGS AND GOINGS?! --
HIS BIRTH -- HIS DEATH,
HIS FEASTS -- HIS FAMINES,
HIS VICTORIES IN WARS -- HIS DEFEATS, THEREIN?!

IF THE MIND BE MAN'S CROWNING GLORY -- WHAT HAS HE DONE WITH IT?! --
HE IS, (FOR THE MOST PART), CONTENT WITH IT OPERATING AT ITS MINIMUM CAPACITY.
ACCEPTING THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO HIS MIND AS FITTING AND CONCLUSIVE --
-- FOREVER TAKING THE ALLEGORICAL AS LITERAL,
AND THE LITERAL AS LOCAL, RATHER THAN THE UNIVERSAL THAT IT BE.

WHEN A MAN'S CONSCIOUSNESS RISES TO THE LEVEL OF BEING ABLE TO SEE THE LITERAL
FOR WHAT IT IS,
HE NO LONGER NEEDS SYMBOLS AND METAPHORS THROUGHWHICH TO STUDY LIFE --
HE GOES DIRECTLY TO THE SOURCE AND LOOKS AT LIFE AS IT LITERALLY IS.
THUS, NUMERICALLY IT GOES FROM: ONE, TO TWO, TO THREE-AND-INFINITY,
THEN BACK TO ONE.