



INSIDE OF EVERY PLANET IS ANOTHER PLANET,
INSIDE OF EVERY CREATURE IS ANOTHER CREATURE,
INSIDE OF EVERY MIND IS ANOTHER MIND,
AND INSIDE OF EVERY REALITY IS ANOTHER REALITY.....BUT, TRUTH IS --
IT'D BE MORE PERCISE TO SAY THAT OUTSIDE OF EVERY THING
IS ANOTHER VERSION OF ITSELF.

...(EXCEPT THAT THIS VIEW DEMANDS OF ORDINARY THOUGHT
ABILITY WHICH IT DOES NOT POSSES;

THUS YOU'RE LEFT WITH THE STANDARD MODEL OF A TRICKLE-DOWN CREATION,
WHICH OFFERS LITTLE IN THE WAY OF REVELATION
TO THE PUDDLE AT THE BOTTOM.

AND EVEN AFTER RIDDING THE TRAIN FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS,
ONE MAN WOULD PERIODICALLY LOOK AT THE WINDOW,
WITH HIS OWN REFLECTION IN THE GLASS --- AND WONDER:
"IS IT ACTUALLY POSSIBLE THAT EVERYTHING I BELIEVE I KNOW,
I HAVE BACKWARDS?!"

..(SOME MEN SEEM ABLE TO "ENJOY" THIS NOTION MUCH BETTER THAN OTHERS.
...OR, MAYBE IT'S THE MAN OUTSIDE OF SOME MEN
WHO'RE ABLE TO DO SO.)

IF AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT YOU ARE NOT CONSCIOUS OF BEING CONSCIOUS
YOU ARE SIMPLY A COW OR SHEEP WITH THOUGHTS RUNNING THROUGH YOU.

...AND A VIEWER WRITES:

"I TAKE GREAT EXCEPTION TO THINGS YOU SAY SUCH AS THAT,
FOR I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT GOD, OR JIM HENSON
CAN STICK THEIR HAND UP SIX BILLION COWS AT THE SAME TIME! --
...(CAN THEY?!?!")

THERE WAS ONCE A SPECIES WHO LIVED IN THE MIDST OF A FOG,
AND PERIODICALLY ONE OF THEM WOULD REALIZE THIS,
AND DISCOVER HOW TO STEP OUT OF IT,
BUT IF HE TRIED TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIS FIND, FEW WERE EVER INTERESTED.

ONE MAN FINALLY CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT
THE ONLY STORIES HE TRULY ENJOYED
WERE THOSE HE DID NOT AT FIRST UNDERSTAND.

EXPLORERS' CLUBS AND MYSTICAL SCHOOLS COME INTO BEING TO ACCOMIDATE THOSE
WEARY OF THE CHASE.

THUS IT BE, (IF YOU CAN SEE),
THAT ALL TALK OF TRIUMPH IS TO COMPENSATE FOR THE LACK OF VICTORY.

AND A MAN MUSED:

"THE GRAND 'ANTI-STUPIFYING FACTOR' OF THE QUEST SURELY IS THE FACT THAT
YOU DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR,
AND YOU SURE AS HELL DON'T KNOW FOR CERTAIN WHAT DIRECTION TO INITIALLY TAKE.
I JUST LOVE IT!", ADDED HE,
(SPEAKING PERHAPS FOR MANY.....BUT, PERHAPS NOT.)

IN THE DARK OF NIGHT, A VOICE WAS HEARD:
"MAN!, IT'S WEIRD BEING HERE WITH YOU.",
THEN ANOTHER VOICE: "WHO SAID THAT?",
AND THE FIRST VOICE REPLIED:
"IT MUST HAVE BEEN YOU -- THERE'S NO BODY HERE BUT US."
AND THE SECOND VOICE THOUGHT:
"MAN, HE'S RIGHT! -- THIS IS WEIRD!"

...BY THE WAY,
ALL YOU SANE PEOPLE OUT IN TV LAND CAN SAVE YOURSELVES SOME POSTAGE
BY NOT WRITING IN TO COMPLAIN ABOUT STORIES LIKE THIS ONE.

WHEN ONE MAN REALIZED THAT IN THE PHYSICAL, SURVIVAL SENSE -
- "HIS FOOT WAS NAILED TO THE FLOOR" -
HE TOOK A LESSON THEREFROM AND BEGAN TRYING TO FASTEN DOWN HIS ATTENTION.

DO NOTE: THERE IS A DIFFERENCE IN THIS SORT OF ACTIVITY BETWEEN MERE STARING,
AND A SECURING OF CONSCIOUSNESS THAT IS ANYTHING BUT MERE.

ONE WAY TO THINK OF IT IS THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN LIFE SAYING:
"LOOK OVER HERE." - AND YOU DO! --
AND YOUR OWN ABILITY TO TELL YOURSELF - WHERE TO LOOK.

AND ARE WE NOT BACK AGAIN TO THE MATTER OF:
COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS, VS THE INDIVIDUAL VERSION?!

A TRAVEL CAUTION, (AS IF YOU NEEDED ANOTHER):

IT'S DIFFICULT TO GET THE MIND INTERESTED IN A PLANE TICKET
WHEN IT BELIEVES IT CAN ALREADY FLY.

AS TOLD BY THE MYTHS OF ONE GROUP:---
WHEN YOU DIE AND GO BEFORE THE LORD OF CREATION,
AS YOUR REWARD, YOU GET TO ASK HIM TWO QUESTIONS --
TWO QUESTIONS THAT IS, IF YOU'VE BEEN A BAD BOY! --
...IT'S THREE OR MORE IF YOU'VE BEEN GOOD.

IN ONE LAND,
WHENEVER A NEW CHILD WAS BROUGHT BEFORE THE KING, FOR HIM TO BLESS,
HE WOULD INSTEAD -- THROW IT OUT A WINDOW;
AND UNTIL THEY REALIZED THE METAPHORICAL NATURE OF THIS ACT,
THE PEOPLE WERE SOMEWHAT DISMAYED BY IT.

"KNOCK, KNOCK.", SAID SOME THOUGHTS,
"WHO'S THERE?", ASKED THE MIND,
"UH OH!", THOUGHT THE THOUGHTS, "THE JIG'S UP."

THERE WAS ONCE A SHIP UPON WHOSE DECK WAS AN IMPORTANT CARGO --
THE CARGO WASN'T IN TRUTH, AS VALUABLE AS THE SHIP,
BUT ALL WHO STOOD ON DECK WOULD ALWAYS SEE IT OTHERWISE.

'TIS NONE BUT THE ORDINARY WHO'LL THINK: "I AM CAPTAIN OF MY FATE." -
THE ILLUSTRIOUS FEW SEEK ONLY TO ELIMINATE THE ILLUSIONARY SEPARATIONS BETWEEN
THEMSELVES AND FATE.

A MAN WROTE TO LIFE AND ASKED:
"HOW CAN YOU SPEAK OF THINGS THAT CANNOT BE SPOKEN OF?",
AND LIFE IMAGINARILY REPLIED: "DON'T TRY."

THE SPEAKER ADDRESSED THE CROWD:

"THE WAY TO DIMINISH THE POSSIBILITY OF EVER SEEING
IS TO CONTINUALLY LOOK IN THE WRONG PLACES.",

AND SOMEONE IN THE AUDIENCE REPLIED:

"WELL, EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT.",

TOWHICH THE SPEAKER RESPONDED:

"YES, BUT ONE CAN'T EVER BE REMINDED OF IT TOO OFTEN.",

AND AS BEST THEY COULD, THE CROWD ROARED, (OR AT LEAST, MUMBLED) THEIR APPROVAL.

THERE WAS ONCE AN AUTOMOBILE THAT WENT COMPLETELY MAD --
BELIEVING THAT ITS HEADLIGHTS WERE ITS SOURCE OF PROPULSION.

...AND A CAR FANCIER WRITES:

"I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE ABOVE WAS MEANT LITERALLY,
OR INTENDED METAPHORICALLY, AIMED AT MAN,
BUT IN EITHER CASE - I MUST SAY -- I DO NOT CARE FOR IT AT ALL! --
- NO SIR, NOT ONE LITTLE MILLI-BIT!"

THE SIMPLE,
(TO REMAIN SANE),
MUST DEFEND
SIMPLE THINGS.

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NO MATTER HOW YOU PUT IT -- MOST PEOPLE NEVER GET IT.

THE AWARENESS OF A HERD CAN NEVER BE THAT EXACTLY OF AN INDIVIDUAL COW.

- BUT! --

AS LONG AS YOU'RE PART OF A HERD, (NOT-TO-WORRY, BE-THANKFUL, DON'T-SWEAT-IT),
YOU'LL NEVER KNOW THIS.

...HEY, I JUST TOLD YOU:

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, MOST PEOPLE NEVER GET IT. CHILL.

THERE IS AN ANCIENT WRITING THAT SAYS FAR BEFORE MAN'S KNOWN HISTORY
THIS PLANET WAS CONNECTED TO A SECOND ONE,
AND THAT THE TWO NOURISHED ONE ANOTHER. --
AND WHILE YOU PROBABLY THINK THAT YOU'VE NEVER HEARD THIS BEFORE,
RE-CONSIDER THE STORY OF GOD DRIVING MAN FROM HIS ORIGINAL HOME,
OR IF YOU'RE REALLY GOOD --
THE WHOLE SHMEER OF MAN'S MIND COMING UP WITH THE CONCEPT OF GOD.

AND FINALLY --

STEPPING OFF THE TRAIN, AND NOT KNOWING WHERE HE WAS HEADED,
HE PROUDLY ANNOUNCED: "LET THE GAMES BEGIN!"

IN THE HIGH-NOON DARKNESS OF A MOST UNUSUAL DAY, A VOICE WAS HEARD TO SAY:
"IT'S QUITE SURPRISING TO FIND YOU HERE!",
TOWHICH THE INSTANT YOU, (EQUALLY AS UNEXPECTED), HAD NO REPLY,
AND THUS THE GAMES WERE ABLE TO BEGIN..... ANEW.

ON A CERTAIN WORLD THE CREATURES WERE BORN WITH A MILD POISON IN THEIR BLOOD,
WHOSE STRENGTH DIMINISHED AS THEY AGED,
A PROCESS WHICH,
(ALTHOUGH MOST WERE NEVER AWARE OF THE POISON'S PRESENCE IN THE FIRST PLACE),
THEY FOUND QUITE AGREEABLE -- THAT IS!,
EXCEPT FOR A CURIOUS FEW -- WHO,
EVEN THOUGH THEY COULD NOT SAY THAT THEY FOUND IT DIS-AGREEABLE,
NONETHELESS WEREN'T SATISFIED WITH IT OCCURRING AUTOMATICALLY --
BEYOND THE RANGE OF THEIR OWN CONSCIOUS PARTICIPATION THEREIN.

PUT ANOTHER WAY:

IF IT TURNS OUT THAT AFTER YOU DIE, EVERYONE BECOMES MORE CONSCIOUS,
THE MYSTICAL FEW WILL STILL BE MISCONTENT,
FOREVER WONDERING WHAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN LIKE
HAD THEY PERSONALLY PUSHED IT A BIT FURTHER.

....AND A LOCAL SHERRIF MUSED: "AH DOGGIES! --
DON'T THAT SOUND JUST LIKE THEM GALL-DANG MYSTICS! --
- NOT EVEN SATISFIED BEIN' DEAD!"

LIFE, WANTING TO SPEED UP THE RATE OF GROWTH ON ONE WORLD WITH THINKING CREATURES
SENT DOWN LOCAL CONDITIONS WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS:

"MAKE THINGS MORE COMPLICATED FOR 'EM."

...CONVERSELY:

THERE IS A QUITE ANCIENT, MOST OBSCURE LEGEND, (WITH NO BASIS WHATSOEVER),
THAT SAYS THERE WAS ONCE A SMALL BAND OF MEN ON THIS PLANET
WHO PUT TOGETHER A VEHICLE WHICH THEY MANAGED TO LAUNCH FROM HERE UP TO LIFE.
..(ITS FATE AND PURPOSE, I'D RATHER NOT GO INTO JUST NOW.)

QUEERY: WHAT IN TRUTH, (COULD IT OCCUR),
WOULD BE THE GREATEST DANGER TO CIVILIZATION?
- THE MIND OF MAN EVER COMPREHENDING WHAT IT IS ABOUT.

AS THE PRINCE SENT OFF A KNIGHT ON THE GREAT MYSTICAL QUEST,
HE GAVE HIM TWO BULLETS, WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS THAT
SHOULD HE USE BUT THE TWO -- NOT TO RETURN.
- AND YES, IT SEEMS TO MAKE LITTLE SENSE AT FIRST BLUSH,
AND 'TIS ONLY AFTER MUCH TIME ON THE TRAIL THAT IT MAY BEGIN TO DO SO.

AND NOW SOME HEALTH NEWS

JUST BY BEING SICK, ONE GUY COULD MAKE HIMSELF SICK.
...("WHAT ELSE NEED A MAN TO KNOW?!",
MOANED A WARRIOR LYING IN A DITCH BESIDE THE ROAD,
WITHOUT A SCRATCH ON HIM.)

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PICTURE IT LIKE THIS:

LIFE ALWAYS APPEARS ARCANE & COMPLEX FROM THE COLLECTIVE VIEW, FOR CONSIDER:
YOU'RE LOOKING AT THINGS THROUGH SIX BILLION SETS OF EYES SIMULTANEOUSLY,

...IS IT ANY WONDER THAT MEN HAVE SO MUCH TO SAY ABOUT WHAT THEY THINK THEY SEE?!

LOCAL CONDITIONS SEEMED SOMEWHAT SURPRISED THAT ON ONE PLANET,
TO MAKE FERRETS MORE FERRET LIKE
THEY MUST FIRST BE EXTENSIVELY BERATED FOR THEIR FERRETNESS.

AND WITH THE SUN STRAIGHT UP,
AS THE UNORTHODOX GUNFIGHTER STROLLED DOWN THE DUSKY STREET
TO MEET HIS INEVITABLE EVENT,
HE SOFTLY SANG:
"PLEASE DON'T FORGIVE ME, OH MY DARLING..."

ANOTHER WAY TO PERCEIVE THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE CITY-SPIRITUAL,
AND THE MYSTICS-IN-THE-WILD?! --

ONE SEEKS PARDON, AND THE OTHER, TO STABLIZE THE HURRICANE'S CENTRE.

AND A VIEWER WRITES:

"IT WOULD SEEM TO ME AND MY WIFE THAT THE LEAST YOU COULD DO IS TO
HAVE ENOUGH INTELLECTUAL RESPECT FOR METAPHORS NOT TO,
(AT THE LAST MOMENT), MANGLE THEM AS YOU JUST DID.

MOST TRULY YOURS", ETC.

THE MIND STANDS ON CONSCIOUSNESS -- AND CONSCIOUSNESS DOES NOT COMPLAIN --
.....(AT LEAST WITH MOST FOLKS.)

MAN'S ORIGINAL TIME PIECE WAS HORMONES --
BUT IT PROVED TOO PERCISE FOR CITY NEEDS,
HENCE, HIS DEVELOPEMENT OF OTHERS.

IN THE ROUTINE SCHEME:
ANYTHING MEN CAN THINK OF, THEY CAN IMAGINE IS POSSIBLE TO HAVE,
(WHICH, FROM ONE VIEW, KINDA TAKES THE STARCH-OUTTA-THE-SAILS,
AND THE WIND-OUTTA-YOUR-SHIRT),
THE SOLE EXCEPTION TO THIS BEING, AN INDIVIDUAL STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS.

THERE WAS ONCE AN UNUSUAL SOLE ON A FOOT
WHICH WAS PESTERED BY THE CONTINUAL IDEA THAT
IT MIGHT BE ABLE TO NOT STAND WHERE IT WAS RIGHT NOW! --
...AND NOW.....THEN NOW.....AND NOW AGAIN.

IF THERE IS ONE SEVERE MIS-LABELING OF MYSTICS IT IS IN CALLING THEM, "DREAMERS"
-- 'TIS SCARCELY POSSIBLE TO BE FURTHER FROM THE REALITY OF
WHO THEY ARE,
AND
WHAT THEY DO.

MENTALLY, THE IDEA OF THE FUTURE SURVIVES
BY MEN SPEAKING OF IT AS ALWAYS A NEAR FAIT ACCOMPLI.

AS LONG AS YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS OF THINGS IS LIMITED TO THAT OF THE COLLECTIVE
NOTHING EVER EXPLAINS ITSELF OR MAKES CONCLUSIVE SENSE.

...."THE HERD SEEMS RESTLESS TONIGHT, RINGO."
"THAT'S NOT CATTLE, CHYENNE, THAT'S....",
"OH! - GOT CHA, RINGO -- IT'S JUST MY MIND."

AWAY FROM THE BRIGHT LIGHTS OF THE INNER CITY, MANY THINGS HIDDEN, BECOME CLEAR
(AWAY FROM THE CITY WITHIN MAN -- NOT THE INNER AREA OF AN ACTUAL CITY.)

AND THE VANGUARD, NEURAL-FRONTIER CHOIR BEGAN TO SING:

"HOME,
HOME ON THE
NO-PARTICULAR-PLACE..."

ONE DAY A BRAIN AND LUNGS WERE CHATTING AND THE BRAIN SAID:
"YOU'VE REALLY GOT IT EASY --
ALL THE TIME JUST: IN, OUT -- IN, OUT --
-- NOTHING MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT,"
AND THE LUNGS THOUGHT:
"I'M NOT GOING TO REPLY AND DIGINIFY SUCH STUPIDITY COMING FROM THE LIKES OF HIM,
-- ESPECIALLY FROM THE SINGULAR, OBVIOUS -- LIKES-OF-HIM."
.....(YOU RECKON IF THE BRAIN COULD'AVE READ HIS THOUGHTS THAT IT'D A'GOT IT?)

ONE CHAP BEGAN TO WONDER IF IT IS INDEED JUST A COSMIC ACCIDENT
THAT MEN FIND THEMSELVES ON A SPHERICAL STRUCTURE (?!?)

THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS OF MAN IS SCATTERED, DIFFUSED AND UNFOCUSED,
NOT AT ALL WHAT IS USEFUL FOR THE DISCOVERY OF THE SECRET.

THERE WAS ONCE A LAND INWHICH THE CREATURES IN CONTROL
HAD TO PRETEND TO BE MORE IN CONTROL THAN THEY WERE
TO STAY IN CONTROL.

THE MIND OF MAN IN NEVER SATISFIED -- BUT THE FEW TAKE IT A STEP FURTHER,
AND ARE NEVER SATISFIED WITH IT NOT BEING SATISFIED.

ONE GRANDFATHER'S NOTE TO HIS ADULT GRANDSON:
"IF YOU CAN'T TELL HOW OLD YOU ARE YOU'RE AT THE RIGHT AGE.",
WHICH THE YOUNGER UNDERSTOOD WAS NOT IN REFERENCE TO PHYSICAL CHRONOLOGY.

ONE MYTH TELLS OF A FAMOUS CONSCIOUS PERSON
WHO THE LOCAL PEOPLE DECIDED TO EXECUTE --
-- TOWHICH THE CONSCIOUS ONE DIDN'T REALLY OBJECT,
AS LONG AS IN THEM DOING SO THEY DIDN'T BEGIN TO TREAT HIM SERIOUSLY.

"NEVER MIND THE SPIKES.", SAID CAIAPHAS TO THE CENTURION,
"WE'LL HANG HIM UP WITH OUR FEIGNED APPROVAL.",
WHICH IN THE MIND,
WHILE ASLEEP ON SKULL MOUNT,
WILL ALWAYS SUCCEED.

-- YET THEN:
HE WHO SO DREAMED,
SUDDENLY AWOKE.

THERE WAS ONCE A HOSPITAL INWHICH THE LAB RAN TWO SHIFTS --
ONE EXAMINED THE OUTSIDE SURFACE OF THINGS,
AND THE OTHER, THE INSIDES,
BUT WHAT WAS CURIOUS WAS THAT NONE OF THOSE INVOLVED SEEMED AWARE OF
THE TWO SEPARATE SHIFTS.

...AND A VIEWER WRITES:

"YOU VERY OFTEN PAINT SCENES OF SOME HUMAN ACTIVITY
AND FINSH IT OFF BY SAYING THAT EVEN THOSE INVOLVED WEREN'T CONSCIOUS OF
WHAT WAS GOING ON, NOR UNDERSTOOD THEIR PARTICIPATION THEREIN;
BUT I DON'T THINK YOU'RE SERIOUS IN THIS! --
-- SO WHY DO YOU KEEP STICKING THESE INSINCERE ENDINGS ON TO THE STORIES?!" --
WELL MY GOD SIR! --
I DO HAVE SOME CONCERN FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S VISUAL HEALTH!

Now A GRAMMAR UPDATE

IN THE MYSTIC'S DICTIONARY, THE WORD, "I" IS ONLY FOUND AS AN EXAMPLE
UNDER THE DIFINITION OF: "METAPHORS & OTHER FIGURES OF SPEECH."

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AND FINALLY --

FOR ALL THE LITTLE BUCKEROOS IN OUR AUDIENCE WHO ENJOY THE ALLEGORY OF
COLLECTIVE MAN AND HIS CONSCIOUSNESS AS A HERD OF CATTLE,
PICTURE IT PUSHED FURTHER,

WITH THOSE ATTEMPTING TO INDIVIDUALIZE THEIR CONSCIOUSNESS AS COW POKES --
-- LASSOING THEMSELVES.

* YIPPIE-KY- YO, YA'LL *

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