

A MAN WITH A TERMINAL ILLNESS WAS ASKED: "HOW DOES IT FEEL TO KNOW THAT YOU'RE DYING?", AND HE REPLIED: "THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU'RE REALLY ASKING: WHAT YOU ACTUALLY WANT TO KNOW IS: WHAT DO I THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT I'M DYING. THERE IS A GREAT DEGREE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO, AND TO NOT REALIZE THIS IS TO -- YOURSELF -- BE DYING WITH EVERY THOUGHT THAT FLAGS YOUR ATTENTION."

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THE AIM OF ALL MYSTICAL EFFORT IS TO BECOME, "CALM-HEADED", AND THE EFFICIENT APPROACH THERETO IS TO KEEP YOUR ATTENTION ON FEELING -- NOT THOUGHT

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WHEN ONE MAN HEARD THAT A CERTAIN OCCULT TEACHER CLAIMED TO BE THE REINCARNATION OF SOME PREVIOUS, WORLD FAMOUS FIGURE, HE SAID TO HIMSELF: "HELL, HE MISSED THE POINT: EVERYBODY'S THE REINCARNATION OF EVERYBODY ELSE. ON WHAT OTHER PLANET DOES HE IMAGINE THAT HUMANS ARE GROWN?!"

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AND ONE MAN CHIDED A CERTAIN, PUBLIC MYSTIC WITH THE ACCUSATION: "YOU DON'T TAKE THE STRUGGLE TO AWAKEN -- SERIOUSLY ENOUGH.", TOWHICH THE ACCUSED RESPONDED: "AH, BUT I DO: I IN FACT TAKE IT MUCH MORE SERIOUSLY THAN YOU EVER COULD, IT'S JUST THAT I KNOW THE PARTS THAT ARE SERIOUS FROM THOSE THAT ARE NOT.", AND THE CASTIGATOR CONSIDERED THIS FOR A MOMENT, THEN SAID: "BUT IN YOUR UTTERANCES ON THE MATTER I SCARCELY HEAR ANY WORDS THAT WOULD POINT TO AREAS OF SERIOUSNESS?!", IN RESPONSE TOWHICH THE MYSTIC SHURGGED HIS SHOULDERS IN THE: "WELL I GUESS THAT ABOUT -'SAYS-IT-ALL'." MANNER.

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QUESTION: IF A MIRROR COULD, "SEE ITSELF" ---- WHAT WOULD IT SEE !?!

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ANOTHER NOTE REGARDING WHAT I MEAN BY, "FEELING",  
AND WHAT ORDINARY MEN MEAN BY, "EMOTIONS":

FEELING IS SEAMLESS, WHILE EMOTIONS ARE SPASMODIC.

...ONE IS ENDLESS, WHILE THE OTHER CONTINUALLY -- COMES-&-GOES.

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A BOY ASKED HIS FATHER: "ARE HORSE RACES -- 'FIXED'?", AND THE ELDER REPLIED:  
"WHY THAT'S LIKE ASKING IF THE STRUGGLE TO AWAKEN IS, 'FIXED'."

...AND THE LAD INSTANTLY FELT EITHER: ENLIGHTENED, OR: CHASTISED.

...(AND UPON REALIZING THE BOY'S CONFUSED REACTION, HIS FATHER ADDED:  
"DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE LAND OF THE CLEAR HEADED WHEREIN THE WORD, "SHOULD"  
APPEARS IN NONE OF THEIR DICTIONARIES."

...AND EVEN THOUGH THE LAD HAD HEARD THIS STORY FROM THE OLD MAN BEFORE,  
THIS TIME HE WAS NEWLY STRUCK BY THE FACT THAT  
IN A PLACE OF THE TRULY ENLIGHTENED, THERE WOULD BE NO DICTIONARIES ANY WAY.

...AND SUDDENLY, THIS REALIZATION BROUGHT TO HIS MIND THE SOMEWHAT HUMOROUS  
PICTURE OF PERHAPS SUCH A LAND'S SINGLE TOME;  
WHICH IN HIS MIND'S EYE HE COULD SEE, WITH THE GRAND TITLE:  
"THE COMPLETE THESAURUS OF -- NOTHING.",  
WHICH OF COURSE WOULD COVER -- EVERYTHING.)

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YOU CAN LOOK "UP", TOWARD THOUGHT,  
OR YOU CAN LOOK "DOWN", TOWARD FEELING -- BUT!,  
NO MATTER WHERE YOU LOOK -- THERE IT IS. --

-- THE COMPREHENSIVE "IS" OF  
EVERYTHING -- AND -- NOTHING....

...THE COMBINATION THAT IS THE ONLY "COMPREHENSIVE REFLECTION" OF  
THINGS-AS-THEY-ACTUALLY-ARE.

...AND, OH YEAH, HERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD FIND INTERESTING CONCERNING THE "SEARCH FOR ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS":

FEELING HAS NO QUESTIONS.

NOW, KNOWING THAT: WHAT D'YA GOTTA SAY ABOUT YOUR GOD-A-MIGHTY, SERIOUS, AND CONTINUALLY FRUSTRATING SEARCH FOR ALL THOSE GOD-A-MIGHTY IMPORTANT "ANSERS"?! YOU CAN LOOK TO THOUGHT,

OR YOU CAN LOOK TO FEELING,

BUT IF YOU GO WITH THE FORMER,

DON'T COME WHINNING TO ME ABOUT YOUR BAMBOOZLEMENT.

...GO COMPLAIN TO THOUGHT, (HA! - AS THOUGH THAT WILL DO ANY GOOD. HA!)

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THE BASIS FOR THE CLAIM THAT -- SOMEHOW -- SOMEWHERE -- DEEP DOWN INSIDE US -- MEN ACTUALLY "KNOW" WHAT THEY'RE DOING AND WHAT LIFE IS REALLY ALL ABOUT IS THAT SUCH IS THE FACT WITH FEELING....

...ONLY TROUBLE IS: NO ONE PLAINLY AND DIRECTLY, (THAT IS, SANS ANY COMMENT), NO ONE PLAINLY & DIRECTLY GIVES THEIR TOTAL ATTENTION TO FEELING.

...AND THE SITUATION IS NOT MADE ANY SIMPLIER BY THE FACT THAT IT IS THROUGH THOUGHT & TALK THAT MEN MUST BE MADE AWARE OF THIS APPROACH ONCE THEY'VE BECOME CONSCIOUS IN THE REQUIRED, ROUTINE MANNER.

ALL-IN-ALL: THE STRUGGLE TO ACHIEVE THE CALM-HEADEDNESS OF ENLIGHTENMENT IS THE EPITOME OF WAR TIME, "FIFTH COLUMN ACTIVITY" IN THAT SUCCESS IN OVERCOMING, (AS IT WERE), THE MIND, AND LIBERTAINING YOURSELF THEREFROM NECESSITATES THAT THE MIND IN PART, PLAY TRAITOR, AND HELP CONTRIBUTE TO ITS OWN DEFEAT.

...AND YOU MIGHT NOTE: SUCH AN OUTCOME IS A WIN/WIN AFFAIR INASMUCH AS YOU "GAIN" WHAT YOU SOUGHT WHILE THE MIND "LOSES" NOTHING IN THE PROCESS.

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ONCE A PERSON KNOWS FROM THEIR OWN EXPERIENCE WHAT IT IS TO BE IN THAT SPECIAL STATE, (BE IT CALLED AWAKENING, ENLIGHTENMENT OR WHAT NOT), THEY THEN WILL SEEK OUT, DEVELOPE, AND USE WHATEVER IMMEDIATELY EXPEDIENT METHOD POSSIBLE TO HINDER THEIR CONTINUED "LOOKING BACK TO" AND "LISTENING TO" THOUGHT.

SUCH PEOPLE WILL DO AND TRY ANYTHING, AND WILL ALSO QUICKLY REALIZE HOW EPHEMERAL SEEMS THE POTENCY OF ANY METHOD,....AND SOON AFTER THAT:FALLS UPON THEM THE REALIZATION OF WHY ALL "SOME-TIMES-USEFUL-METHODS-TO-PROMOTE-AWAKENING" ARE A "SOME TIME THING":

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THAT'S RIGHT: IT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE ALL ILLUSIONS TO BEGIN WITH.  
FACT: YOU CAN ASK AND EXPECT A LOT OF THINGS FROM ILLUSIONS -- BUT,  
PERMANACY IS NOT ONE OF THEM  
...(IF YOU WANT ANYTHING EVEN REMOTELY RESEMBLING THAT,  
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO LOOK TO FEELING.)

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AND NOW FOR SOME: "LEISURE TIME NEWS":  
YOU CAN "RELAX"  
WITH FEELING,  
BUT  
NEVER  
WITH  
THOUGHT.

AND UPON HEARING THIS SAID, A LAD ASKED HIS DAD:  
"IS THAT LITERALLY TRUE?",  
"NO.", REPLIED HIS FATHER,  
"ONLY -- COMPARATIVELY TRUE -- WHICH IS THE ONLY KIND OF REAL TRUE  
THERE IS."

...(HA!, AND I'LL BET YOU WOULD'AVE NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT!  
...[GET IT: "THOUGHT OF" -- "THOUGHT OF"....HUH, GET IT?, GET IT?!])

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ONE DAY A MAN ASKED A MYSTIC WHO SOME TIMES SPOKE OPENLY ON HIS INTERESTS:  
"WHY DO YOU DESCRIBE THE STATE OF SUCCESS IN YOUR ENDEAVOR AS THAT OF BEING:  
'CLEAR HEADED' WHEN IT SEEMS TO ME YOU COULD JUST AS APTLY CALL IT BEING:  
'EMPTY HEADED'?!", AND THE MYSTIC HAD TO AGREE THAT SUCH A TERM WOULD BE EQUALLY  
APPROPRIATE, BUT ASKED THE MAN IF IT WOULD NOT BE EVEN MORE DISGAREEABLE TO  
ORDINARY EARS THAN THE ONE HE PRESENTLY EMPLOYED.....

...AND AFTER PONDERING THE QUESTION BUT BRIEFLY, IT WAS THE MAN'S TURN TO AGREE.

FACT: ONLY THOSE WITH A HEAD FILLED WITH -- "NOTHING"  
WILL SEE AS NON-SENSIBLE,  
THE STRUGGLE TO ACHIEVE, "EMPTY HEADEDNESS".

FACT-FACT: ONLY THOSE WHO'VE REACHED THE LEVEL OF -- "NOT KNOWING" -- KNOW !!  
...(NEAT, AGAIN -- HUH?!)

YET ANOTHER WAY TO PONDER THE NATURAL SUPERIORITY OF FEELING OVER THOUGHT IS THUS:  
FEELING, (COMPARABLY SPEAKING), IS FED MORE DIRECTLY BY HORMONES THAN IS THOUGHT.  
THUS DOES IT OFFER A MORE DIRECT PERCEPTION OF REALITY THAN THE  
"SECOND-HANDEDLY-FED" NEURONS OF THOUGHT.

...(P.S.: IF THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN WHAT I MEAN BY "FEELING",  
AND WHAT YOU THINK OF AS, "THOUGHT" IS STILL UNCLEAR, DO THIS:  
ABSOLUTELY REFUSE TO "THINK ABOUT IT", AND IT WILL NOT REMAIN UNCLEAR.....  
...IT CAN'T!.....FEELING CAN'T BE "UNCLEAR",  
AND IF YOU TURN YOUR ATTENTION AWAY FROM THOUGHT -- FEELING IS ALL THAT'S LEFT.

...SAY, WANNA PLAY SOME, "DRESS-UP" PAPER DOLLS?....OKAY, IT GOES LIKE THIS:  
IF MAN IS "THOUGHT",  
THEN LIFE IS "FEELING" --

IN FACT, SINCE WE'RE OUT HERE IN THE GARAGE ALONE  
WITH NOT A NOISY ADULT IN SIGHT,  
WANNA GO AHEAD AND STAGE A FULL PLAY PRODUCTION OF: "DOCTOR & NURSE?...ALL RIGHTY:  
MAKE A LIST OF EVERY SINGLE NON-PHYSICAL THING YOU DON'T LIKE ABOUT YOURSELF,  
AND LIFE, AND GIVEN TWO COLUMNS MARKED: "THOUGHT" AND "FEELING",  
EVERYTHING YOU LISTED WILL FALL IN THE FIRST COLUMN.

THINK ABOUT IT!! -- NOTHING, ABSOLUTELY - NOTHING THAT YOU DISLIKE ABOUT LIFE,  
AND YOURSELF IS BASED IN FEELING:  
NO ONE FEELS ANY RESENTMENT AGAINST THEMSELF, OR CRITICISM ABOUT LIFE,  
ALL SUCH MATTERS RESIDE ENTIRELY IN THE COLUMN MARKED: "THOUGHT".

...(DOES ANYONE SEE THE SIMPLE SOLUTION TO ALL MORTAL COMPLAINTS?!.....  
.....IS ANYONE EVEN INTERESTED IN THE CESSATION OF DISSATISFACTION?!)

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EVEN HAD YOU NO ACCESS TO MYSTICAL BOOKS, OR TEACHERS OF ENLIGHTENMENT  
YOU STILL HAVE WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES, A QUIET, NEVER-CONFUSED PLACE,  
DEEP, DEEP WITHIN YOU, (COMPARED TO THE SURFACE REALITY OF THOUGHT),  
A PLACE THAT IS MOTIONLESS -- AND NOT EFFECTED BY OUTSIDE ACTIVITY:  
A PLACE THAT IS SPEECHLESS -- AND LISTENS NOT TO THE SPEECH OF ANYONE:  
A PLACE INWHICH YOU NEVER FAIL TO FEEL WELCOME, SAFE, AND AT PEACE,  
IT IS A PLACE THAT, "ALL-IN-ALL", COULD NOT BE MORE DIFFERENT THAN THAT AREA  
IN YOUR BRAIN THAT SO RAMBUNCTIOUSLY CLAIMS TO SEE, ANALYZE AND UNDERSTAND FOR YOU.

DON'T LISTEN TO THOUGHT -- KEEP YOUR INNER ATTENTION TURNED ONLY TO THAT  
"OTHER PLACE". THERE IS THE TRUE LAND OF ENLIGHTENMENT: NOT TIBET, NO INDIA,  
NOT JAPAN, NOT EVEN LOS ANGELES -- BUT THAT -- "OTHER PLACE".