

ONE NOVEMBER DAY THE HEAD OF A CERTAIN MYSTICAL SCHOOL SAID TO THOSE YOUNGER IN ATTENDANCE:

"THE MORE I UNDERSTAND AWAKENING THE LESS I KNOW ABOUT IT."

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ONE MAN HAD A NOSE -- AND ONLY THE ONE NOSE, I MIGHT ADD -- AND THE NOSE TOOK ON A PECULIAR TRAIT: IT BEGAN TO "DISLIKE ITSELF"!

NOW THE MAN HAD NO COMPLAINT WITH HIS NOSE -- ONLY THE NOSE ITSELF DID.

NOW WHAT D'YA THINK ABOUT THAT?!

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AND SPEAKING OF, "WHAT D'YA THINK" -- WHAT D'YA THINK ABOUT THIS ONE: WHAT D'YA MAKE OF THE STATEMENT, ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS MADE BY PAST HONORABLE ONES WHO SAID THAT THE DESIRE FOR ENLIGHTENMENT WAS THE UNDERTAKING TO: "OVERCOME THE IMPOSSIBLE; FOREBEAR THE UNBEARABLE, AND UNTANGLE THE UNSOLVABLE" ...WHAT D'YA PERSONALLY -- MAKE OF THAT?!

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THERE WAS ONCE A MAN WHO HAD A MAGIC TELESCOPE: IT COULD SEE EVERY WHERE, AND IT COULD SEE EVERY THING.....WELL, THAT IS WITH ONE EXCEPTION: IT COULD NOT SEE ITSELF.WAIT, COME TO THINK ON IT: IT SHOULDN'T BE CALLED A "MAGIC" TELESCOPE UNLESS IT COULD -- SEE ITSELF. ...HEY, WHAT ELSE IS "THE-ENLIGHTENMENT-REGARDING--THE-MIND" ALL ABOUT ANY WAY?!

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NOTE: YOUR OWN ENLIGHTENMENT HAS TWO PARTICULAR ASPECTS: ONE IS THAT IT DOES NOT COME THRU MENTAL EFFORT, AND TWO, IT IS NOT SOMETHING APRT FROM MENTAL EFFORT. ...AND WHAT D'YA THINK OF THIS ONE?!

AT LEAST ONCE A DAY THIS ONE CHAP WOULD SAY TO HIMSELF:
 "WHAT IS NEEDED IS A TOTALLY NEW - RADICAL APPROACH TO THIS THING!",
 AND THEN PROCEED TO LIVE THE SAME OLD KIND OF DAY.

THEN THERE WAS THIS OTHER GUY WHO SAID:
 "I DON'T MIND SO MUCH BEING A, "CREATURE-OF-HABIT',
 NO, THE WORST PART IS THAT -- I'VE BECOME SO USED TO IT."
 ... (HE LATER ASKED HIMSELF WHAT HE THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT HE'D SAID ?!)

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NOT FAR FROM HERE WAS A MAN WHO DIDN'T CARE MUCH FOR WORDS,
 BUT HE HAD HOWEVER,
 ONE "SPECIAL WORD" WHICH HE COULD SAY THAT WOULD BANISH ALL OF THE OTHER ONES
 FORWHICH HE HAD DISDAIN.

ALL WOULD SEEM WELL THEN IN THIS AREA OF HIS LIFE....EXCEPT FOR ONE DETAIL:
 IT BOTHERED HIM THAT THE SOURCE OF THE ONE SPECIAL WORD THAT DISPLACED ALL OF
 THE COMMON ONES WHICH ANNOYED HIM
 APPEARED TO BE THE SAME SOURCE FROMWHENCE CAME THE COMMON ONES.

I CAN'T TELL YOU PERCISELY WHY THIS BOTHERED HIM,
 BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT IT DID!.....AND MOST STRONGLY.

...(I WONDER WHY THAT WAS....DON'T YOU?!)

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FACT: THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THOSE WHO MERELY DREAM THAT THEY WISH THEY WERE AWAKE
 AND THOSE WHO DAMN-WELL INSIST ON IT IS THIS:

THE FIRST BUNCH ARE "SOFT AND GOOEY"
 WHILE THE SECOND ARE HARD AS RAILROAD SPIKES,
 AND AS DIRECT AS THE DRIVING WHEELS AGAINST THE TRACKS

AND ONE MAYSTIC SAID TO HIS SON: "TAKE NO USELESS CRAP FROM ANYONE.",
 AND THE LAD INSTANTLY KNEW THAT
 THE STATEMENT REFERED TO HIM TAKING THE THOUGHTS IN HIS HEAD
 TO BE HIMSELF.

SIMPLY DON'T BE THE DOG WITH THE CURLY TAIL WHICH, UNBEKNOWEST TO HIM,
 WHEN IT'S WAGGING, IS WHAT IS ANNOYINGLY BRUSHING HIS BACK
 AND CAUSING HIM TO CONTINUALLY TAKE TIME OUT OF HIS BUSY & FASCINATING LIFE
 TO FRUITLESSLY -- GLANCE BACK OVER HIS SHOULDER.

"BE NOT DISTRACTED BY ANYONE ESPECIALLY BY YOUR OWN TAIL



ONE MAN HAD A NOSE, A MAGIC TELESCOPE, A SPECIAL WORD,
AND A TAIL...AHH...I GUESS WE'VE COVERED THIS ADEQUATELY...

LET'S MOVE ON TO SOME: "STORAGE NEWS":

ONE MAN HAD NOTHING TO -- "STORE",

(IS THAT A RADICAL IDEA OR WHAT?!))

"OKAY KIDS, CLASS IS OVER....TIME TO PUT AWAY YOUR TAILS."

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AND NOW FROM OUR FILES OF: "HOW THINGS ARE",

(THIS IS THE SAME FEATURE THAT WAS ORIGINALLY ENTITLED:

"HOW THINGS SUPRISINGLY ARE", WHICH OUR EDITORIAL BOARD DECIDED WAS
UNNECESSARILY VERBOSE IN THAT THE KINDS OF THINGS THAT ARE BEING NOTED
CAN NOT, (UPON REFLECTION), BE ALL THAT "SUPRISING"

TO ANY REASONABLY ALERT MAN), WELL, AT ANY RATE:

HERE ONCE AGAIN IS A FEATURE FROM OUR FILES OF: "HOW THINGS ARE":

FORGET ABOUT SAINTS & DO-GOOD-ERS:

THE SAFEST, LEAST DANGEROUS MAN IS THE MAN WHO IS -- HEARTLESS.

THOSE WHO TAKE NO MEANINGLESS CRAP FROM THEMSELVES

PROFFER NONE TO OTHERS.

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EVERYONE WALKS ON THEIR OWN FEET:

TO BE ENLIGHTENED IS TO BE COMPLETELY AWARE THAT IT IS YOUR OWN FEET
UPON WHICH YOU TRED.

AND THIS MADE ONE MYSTIC MUSE TO HIMSELF:

"PUT THAT WAY, IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE MUCH, DO IT?!.....

...'CEPT FOR THE FACT THAT IT NICELY COVERES EVERY SINGLE THING
I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR AND WONDERING ABOUT."

...(YOU THINK HE REALLY UNDERSTANDS WHAT HE JUST SAID?!)

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THE MIND IS INDEED, A NATURALLY "ROAMING" CREATURE,
BUT THOSE AWAKE & FREE CAN NAIL SOUP TO A DOOR FRAME.

...(WELL WHAT LESS DID YOU IMAGINE IS ULTIMATELY REQUIRED?!...)

AND A BOY ASKED HIS FATHER: "TELL ME - TELL ME ONCE AND FOR ALL:

IS 'AWAKENING' POSSIBLE, OR IS IT NOT?", AND THE ELDER EXCLAIMED: "WELL FINALLY
YOU'VE -- GOT IT!"

ONE MAN HAD SOME INVESTMENTS, WHICH SEEMED PROFITABLE, AND WHICH HE CONTINUED TO NURTURE UNTIL HE HAD MANY INVESTMENTS ALL OF WHICH ALSO APPEARED TO -- "GAIN" IN VALUE, BUT SUPRISINGLY HE DISCOVERED THAT THE EXPANDED "INVESTMENTS" WITH THEIR ADDITIONAL "GAINS" DID NOT BRING HIM THE SATISFACTION HE SOUGHT.

AFTER TIME SPENT IN A CERTAIN MANNER HE CAME TO REALIZE THAT WHAT HE NEEDED WAS NOT "GAINS", BUT -- LOSSES, AND HE FORTHWITH WENT ABOUT TRYING TO DISPOSE OF ALL HIS INVESTMENTS AS EXPEDITIOUSLY, AS WAS FOR HIM, POSSIBLE.

AND A BOY SAID TO HIMSELF: "THIS WAS SURELY ALL ABOUT THOSE THINGS THAT NORMALLY FILL ONE'S MIND." AND WAS PLEASED TO ASSSURE HIMSELF THAT IT WAS.

TO "BE MORE CONSCIOUS"
IS NOT TO BE MORE CONSCIOUS OF WHAT YOU POSSESS,
BUT IS RATHER TO BE AWARE THAT,
OTHER THAN FOR THE BODY & YOUR NATURAL TEMPERAMENT
YOU POSSESS NOTHING.

THUS, THE FULLY ENLIGHTENED DO NOT HAVE TO PLAY BEGGER,
AND PRETEND TO BE "DESTITUE".

...AND UNDER HIS BREATH,
AND UNDER HIS CLOTHES,
ONE MYSTIC MUTTERED: "THANK GOD FOR MY BASIC, IRREVOCABLE 'NAKEDNESS'
FOR WITHOUT ITS EVER-PRESENCE
THE POSSIBILITY OF ME REACHING THE FARTHERMOST POINT OF MY GOAL
WOULD NOT EXIST."

THE APPARENT EFFORT TO AWAKEN
WITH YOUR ARMS FOREVER FULL
IS A PITIFUL JOKE,
SAME AS WITH HE WHO PROCLAIMS: "YES, I AM NOW AWAKE, AND FREE OF ALL ILLUSIONS."
AS LONG AS THE MIND STILL GRASPS -- YOU STILL MISS.

...AND A BOY SAID TO HIS DAD: "SO PERHAPS I SHOULD JUST -- 'GIVE-IT-UP'-- RIGHT?!"
"IF YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, YES.", HE REPLIED.
"IF YOU TOTALLY REALIZE BY NOW THAT THERE IS NOTHING THAT A MAN CAN 'GIVE UP'
SAVE HIS IRRELEVANT DREAMS & DELUSIONS."

...AND A CERTAIN MYSTIC CALLED HIS BROOKER WITH THE DIRECTIONS:
"SELL EVERYTHING -- AND THE SOONER THE BETTER."

TONIGHT'S "FAIRLY TALE":

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A PLACE INWHICH EVERYTHING THAT IDENTIFIED ITSELF AS BEING "THIS OR THAT" IN PARTICULAR WAS THEN PERFORCE FOR SURE NOT TO BE WHAT IT HAD CLAIMED ITSELF TO BE:

NOW YOU MIGHT BELIEVE THAT THIS WOULD BE THE CAUSE OF GREAT CONFUSION....

...BUT YOU WOULD BE IN ERROR,

EVERYTHING WENT ALONG JUST AS WELL & EFFICIENTLY AS IT DOES RIGHT HERE.. RIGHT NOW

...IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THAT GRAND WORLD OF WORD & THOUGHT.

IN THE REALM OF "CLEAR-HEADED MYSTHOLOGY"(DO NOTE),

THERE ARE NO SUCH CRITTERS AS "VERBOSE HEROES",

(THIS INDEED-EE TO INCLUDE INNER PALAVER.)

THE MOST ENLIGHTENED THING TO BE SAID IS: "I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY.",

THE MOST AWAKENED THING TO BE THOUGHT BEING: HAVING NO THOUGHT

AND A LAD ASKED HIS DAD: "TELL ME CONCLUSIVELY, OLD MAN:

IS IT ACTUALLY POSSIBLE TO HAVE NO THOUGHT, OR IS IT NOT?!"

AND HIS PA PA CRIED OUT:"AT LAST, YOU'VE FINALLY GOT IT!.....WELL,

OTHER THAN FOR THE FACT OF YOU JUST THEN ASKING ABOUT IT.....BUT, HAY!,

WHAT THE HELL, AFTER ALL: YOU ARE JUST 'HUMAN'!"

WHICH THE ALERT LAD HELD NOT FOR A MOMENT AS EXCULPATORY.

THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THOSE HALF AWAKE, ...

THOSE THREE-QUARTERS AWAKE, ...

AND THOSE WHO COMPREHEND WHAT THE WHOLE AFFAIR IS REALLY ALL ABOUT, IS THIS:

THOSE HALF-AWAKE BELIEVE THEMSELF STURDY, BUT ARE IN FACT, SEQUACIOUS:

THOSE THREE-QUARTERS AWAKE BELIEVE THEMSELF SUPPLE BUT ARE BRITTLE,

WHILE THOSE WHO "KNOW-WHAT-IT'S-ALL-ABOUT" BELIEVE NOTHING ABOUT THEMSELF,

AND SIMPLY BEND AND SWAY WITH THE NORMAL COMINGS-&-GOINGS OF LIFE.

LACKING ANY PERSONAL COMMENTS ON THE MATTER.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE STRONG TO BE STURDY,

AND STRONG TO PROPERLY YIELD,

AND THE STRENGTH REFERED TO HERE IS OF UNDERSTANDING, NOT OF MUSCLE,

AND THE BOY AGAIN APPROACHED HIS FATHER: "THEN TELL ME FINALLY;

IS THERE ANYTHING TO 'UNDERSTAND', OR IS THERE NOT?",

"YOU'VE GOT IT!", HE SHOUTED WITH CONCLUSIVE JOY.

...AND WITH THAT PIECE OF ANTI-NEWS, WE END TONIGHT'S NEWS.