

THE NEWS FOR FEBRUARY 22, 1999

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE SILLIEST SOUND HEARD IN THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE?

ANSWER: THE MIND, UNAWARES -- TALKING ABOUT ITSELF.

QUESTION: WHEN DOES THE MIND DO THIS?

ANSWER: ANY TIME IT IS NOT ADDRESSING A SPECIFIC, TANGIBLE PROBLEM,  
OR STRUGGLING TO DIRECTLY PERCEIVE ITSELF.

A MONK ASKED THE HEAD OF THEIR ORDER:

"IS THE 'STRUGGLE-TO-AWAKEN' THE SAME THING AS AWAKENING?",

AND THE ELDER REPLIED:

"THERE IS SO LITTLE DISSIMILARITY THAT THE QUESTION CANNOT BE PROPERLY ANSWERED,  
EXEPT IN THE SILIENT UNDERSTANDING OF THOSE AWAKE."

WHICH CAUSED A MAN TO SUDDENLY AKS HIMSELF:

"DO MY EFFORTS INTENSIFY MY DISSSATISFACTION?"

IS EVERYONE AFLOAT IN A RESTLESS, IMAGINARY SEA,  
BUT ONLY THE FEW DISTURBED SUFFICIENTLY THEREBY  
TO MAKE THEMSELVES EVEN MORE DISTURBED?'

AND A BOY ASKED HIS FATHER:

"IS THERE A LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF QUESTIONS THE MIND CAN COME UP WITH?",

"CERTAINLY NOT.", THE OLD MAN REPLIED,

"THEN", INQUIRED THE LAD,

"DO THE QUESTIONS GET BETTER AS THE MIND GOES ALONG?",

"ONLY", REPLIED THE FATHER,

"IF THEY BEGIN TO IMPASSIONATELY 'TURN-ON-THEMSELVES',  
AND THREATEN TO DESTROY THE MIND'S TASTE FOR BLINDLY LIVING,  
EXCLUSIVELY IN A WORLD SOLELY OF ITS OWN MAKING.

IN OTHER WORDS MY BOY: QUESTIONS OF THE MIND WILL LEAD YOU NO WHERE  
UNTIL YOU BEGIN THE QUESTION THE REALITY AND ESSENCE OF THE MIND,  
AND ITS CAPACITY TO IMPRESS ITSELF WITH ENDLESS, UNANSWERABLE QUESTIONS.",  
AND THE BOY SUDDENLY GOT THE SECRET, OBVIOUS POINT THAT HIS FATHER HAD JUST  
MADE REGARDING THE MIND'S BASIC, AUTOMATIC ACTIVITY.

NO HERE'S A QUESTION FOR YOU:

IS A MAN "ASLEEP" IF HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACT THAT HE IS?

AND THE WHIPPED CREAM & CHERRY ATOP THE QUESTION IS:

WHERE DO SUCH FACTS AS, "MAN IS ASLEEP" COME FROM?

REGARDLESS OF THEIR INSISTANCE OTHERWISE: MEN DO NOT "LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE",  
FOR IF THEY DID, THERE WOULD BE NO NOTIONS OF "BEING ASLEEP" PRESENT IN LIEE.

IF YOU WILL RELENTLESSLY OPEN YOUR EYES UP JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE  
THE INTERFERENCE OF THOUGHT & COMMENT WILL DIMINISH.

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THE HEAD OF ONE MYSTICAL ORDER COULD NOT "ACT MYSTICAL" EACH MORNING  
UNTIL HE'D: DONE HIS EXERCIZES, HAD HIS COFFEE,  
AND SPENT THIRTY MINUTES OR SO, ALONE.

THIS WAS NOT ACTUALLY SO, BUT WAS A RUMOR HE SERREPTITOUSLY SPREAD AMOND THE MONKS  
JUST TO UPSET THEM.

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YOU CAN "SEE WITH YOUR EYES", OR YOU CAN, "SEE WITH YOUR MIND:  
YOU CAN ALSO "SEE" WITH YOUR OTHER "I's", OR STILL SEE WITH YOUR MIND.

THE CHOICE IS STRICTLY YOURS...ONCE YOU REALIZE THE SEVERE LACK OF CHOICE  
WHO BUT THOSE WHO UNDERSTAND THE REALITY OF "FREEDOM"  
CAN SIT AROUND AND NONCHALANTLY DISCUSS THEIR CAPTIVITY?!

HINT FOR THE HIDEBOUND:

IF YOU HAVE TO ASK WHETHER MAN IS FREE OR NOT -- YOU'RE NOT.

...ARE YOU BEGINING TO UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS A WHOLE CATAGORY OF QUESTIONS  
CONCERNING WHETHER THIS OR THAT PARTICULAR THING APPLIES TO MAN,  
WHICH -- IF YOU ASK THEM -- DO?!

\* \* \*

TO TRY AND "DEAL WITH" HIS PACK OF UNRULY DOGS,  
ONE MAN WOULD LEAVE THE GATE TO HIS YARD OPEN --  
-- AND IF THAT DIDN'T WORK -- HE'D JUST OPEN IT WIDER.  
THE GENERALLY UNDETECTED NATURE OF THE DOGS IS SUCH THAT  
IN SO DOING -- HE CALMED AND ENLIGHTENED THEM.

QUESTION REVISITED:

IS A MAN ACTUALLY "CONFINED" IN THE NON-PHYSICAL REALM IF HE RECOGNIZES NO  
MENTAL CONCEPTS OF CONFINEMENT?!

YOU CAN LITERALLY, "LOCK UP A LIVER", BUT WHAT TO DO WITH CONSCIOUSNESS?!.....

YOU SEE, THE CONTINUING, CURIOUS ASPECT OF ALL THIS IS THAT:  
YOU CANNOT "AWAKEN" WITH THE MIND,  
NOR CAN YOU WITHOUT IT.

THIS FACT WAS FUNNY & RIDICULOUS FIVE THOUGHSDAND YEARS AGO,  
AND REMAINS SO TO THIS DAY,  
AND SO TOO DOES THE SOLUTION: ATTENTION THAT IS UNBOUNDED.

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REGARDING THE MATTER OF: "HAVING ENERGY":

THE MORE CLEARLY BECOMES YOUR GOAL OF, "UNDERSTANDING THE NATURE OF THE MIND"  
THE MORE DOES ITS UNCONTROLLED BEHAVIOR MAKE YOU WEARY.

WHO EVER INITIALLY IMAGINED THAT AN APPARENT PASSIVE ACT LIKE, "LISTENING"  
COULD CAUSE SUCH FATIGUE?!

EACH TIME YOU "ENTERTAIN" A COMMENT ABOUT LIFE,  
YOU MOMENTARILY EXTINGUISH ATTENTION'S POTENTIAL FOR OBJECTIVITY,  
AND ITS ABILITY TO LEAD THE MIND AWAYS FROM ITS OWN INCLINATION FOR,  
SELF-ABSORBTION.

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