

THE NEWS FOR MARCH 1, 1999

ONE MAN HAD A LITTLE BOAT THAT SAILED ON HIS POND,
 AND ON SOME MORNINGS, WHEN HE'D AWAKE,
 THE WIND WOULD ALREADY BE UP AND THE LITTLE SHIP, BOBBING ABOUT,
 AND ON OTHER MORNINGS HE'D HAVE TO GIVE THE LITTLE BOAT A PUSH TO GET IT GOING.

YOU CAN EITHER USE THE MIND PURPOSEFULLY,
 OR ELSE LET IT DRIFT ALONG IN DREAMS.

A MAN WHO WANTS AND ENJOYS A STILL POND SHOULD MAKE NO MOVES PERTINENT THERETO.

ON THE SURFACE IT WOULD APPEAR THAT YOU HAVE THREE CHOICES:
 EITHER, BE ASLEEP,
 BE THINKING ABOUT BEING AWAKE,
 OR, BEING AWAKE,
 AND IT WOULD ALSO SEEM THAT AT LEAST TWO OF THE POSSIBILITIES
 REQUIRE WHAT IS NORMALLY CONSIDERED TO BE SOME SORT OF "ACTIVE EFFORT",
 BUT I SAY: RE-CONSIDER THE MATTER.

A MAN WHO WANTS AND ENJOYS A STILL POND SHOULD MAKE NO MOVES PERTINENT THERETO.
DOES ANYONE KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT?!

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THROUGH A CLEAR WINDOW, YOU CAN SEE FOREVER:
 THROUGH A BUSY ONE, ONLY FLEETING SHADOWS CAN BE SEEN.

THOUGHTS ARE ONLY FOR THE MOMENT WHILE CLEAR-HEADED CONSCIOUSNESS KNOWS NO TIME
 AND WHILE THOUGHTS ARE LIMITED TO THE LOCAL,
 A STILL POND REFLECTS THE UNIVERSAL.

A ROOSTER WHO HAS GRASPED THE NATURE OF HIS OWN MIND
 NO LONGER CROWS WITH ANY PASSION OR GRAVITY.

THERE IS NOTHING THAT CAN BE SAID ABOUT AWAKENING THAT IS NOT -- TOO MUCH,
 AND THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN THINK ABOUT THIS STATEMENT THAT WILL NOT CAUSE
 DROWSINESS.

TALKING TO YOURSELF ABOUT BEING MORE CONSCIOUS IS LIKE TRYING TO LOOK OUT
 A CLEAR & OPEN WINDOW WHILE PLACING YOUR HANDS OVER YOUR EYES.

QUESTION: HOW MANY OF THE HUNDRED HOUNDS ON YOUR TRAIL MUST BE DEMOILISHED
 BEFORE THE ONE DAMSEL YOU SEEK IS PLAINLY SEEN?!

DREAMING THAT THERE ARE SUPERNATURAL FORCES OUTSIDE OF YOU
WHO HAVE THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY OF WHETHER A MAN AWAKENS OR NOT
SAVES ORDINARY MINDS FROM COMPLETE MELTDOWN WHEN THREATENED WITH THE REALITY
OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL FAILURE IN THIS REGARD.

THE NATURE OF THOUGHTS IS SUCH THAT AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT THEY CAN EITHER TAKE
FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT THEY PROCLAIM,
OR ELSE DENY ANY ACCOUNTABILITY,
AND IT'S -- ALL THE SAME --
MAKES NOT A WIT OF DIFFERENCE TO THE MIND:

THE POND CARES NOT WHETHER THE WIND BLOWS FROM THE EAST, OR FROM THE WEST,
JUST AS LONG AS WAVES ARE PRODUCED.

TO EVER FULLY UNDERSTAND THE ESSENCE OF AWAKENING AND THE MIND
ONE MUST ALMOST BECOME AN "INTERNAL HERMIT" -- A MENTAL RECLUSE --
CUT OFF FROM THE ROUTINE, EXTERNAL INFLUENCES THAT NORMALLY EFFECT MENS' MINDS.
YOU CAN STILL BE A HAPPY FAMILY MAN, A REGULAR MEMBER OF SOCIETY
WHILE SECRETLY LIVING AN INNER LIFE THAT IS -- STRICTLY FOR YOURSELF.
AN OPEN WINDOW HARMS NO ONE.

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TO PUSH HIS UNDERSTANDING FORWARD,
ONE MAN TURNED AN ENVELOPE INSIDE OUT SO THAT IT THEN, "CONTAINED ITSELF".

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SINCE YOU CAN IDENTIFY AN ORDINARY SLEEPING MAN BY THE FACT THAT MOST OF WHAT
HE SAYS IS ABOUT HIMSELF,
WHY NOT USE THIS IN YOUR NOTICE OF WHAT NORMALLY MAKES UP YOUR MIND'S SPEECH?!
...OKAY, I'LL ANSWER THAT QUESTION FOR YOU:
IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT YOURSELF -- YOU'RE ASLEEP,
LOGICALLY SPEAKING: THIS IS NON-SENSE,
BUT THEN AGAIN: TO BE AWAKE IS TO HAVE NO SENSE,
SO -- WHAT ARE YA GONNA DO?! -- WHAT ARE YA GONNA SAY ABOUT BEING AWAKE?! --
WHY -- NOTHING, OF COURSE,
ONLY THE SLEEPING HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT THEMSELVES AND THEIR CONDITION.
WHEN YOU ARE ENLIGHTENED, YOU HAVE NO "CONDITION"
...WHAT IS THE "CONDITION" OF -- EMPTY SPACE.

WHENEVER THOUGHTS WOULD APPROACH AND THREATEN TO TAKE OVER HIS ATTENTION,
 ONE MAN WOULD SAY TO THEM, "COME BACK LATER, I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW", AND THE "BUSY"
 HE REFERED TO WAS HIS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO REMAIN MENTALLY UN-BUSY, AND
 BURDENED BY THOUGHT.

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FURTHER ON UP THE ROAD:
 IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU - "DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING"
 AS LONG AS YOU MAKE NO ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT YOU DON'T.
 ...MORE NON-SENSE,
 BUT OF THE SORT USEFUL TO AN ALERT MIND.

A SHIP AT THE MERCY OF THE WINDS CAN ONLY BE SATISFIED BY
 COMPREHENDING THE SITUATION.

PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING IS NEVER ANY FURTHER AWAY THAN THE
 NOISE AND CONFUSION RIGHT BEFORE YOU -- THAT IS TO SAY: INSTANTLY WITHIN YOU.
 THERE IS NO, "FURTHER ON UP THE ROAD"
 ONCE YOU REALIZE THAT THERE IS NO, "OTHER SIDE OF THE POND",
 ONLY THE POSSIBILITY OF -- CEASATION OF THE WIND.

THE OPPOSITE OF ANYTHING IN THE MIND IS NOT IT'S "OPPOSITE",
 BUT IT'S -- DISAPPEARANCE.

THUS, A MAN WHO FINALLY REALIZES WHAT THIS IS ACTUALLY ALL ABOUT
 DOES NOT SEEK TO, "KNOW" OR TO "FIND" HIMSELF,
 BUT RATHER PURSUES A PATH TO MENTALLY IGNORE AND FORGET "HIMSELF".
 ..(I SAY: WHAT UTTER NON-SENSE.....WOULDN'T YOU SAY?!)

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ONE MAN ADOPTED THE APPROACH THAT HE WOULD, AT ALL TIMES --
 -- "KEEP HIS DISTANCE FROM HIMSELF",
 ...THE WAY, (I WOULD SAY), TO -- HAPPINESS AND PEACE OF MIND.

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A "KNOWLEDGABLE" MAN HAS MUCH TO THINK ABOUT:
 AN ENLIGHTENED MAN MAY OR MAY NOT WEAR SOCKS.

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YOU CAN LIVE UP HIGH,
 WHERE THE WIND ALWAYS BLOWS,
 OR LIVE DOWN BELOW,
 WITH YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND.

..(DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'M POINTING TO?!).

IT'S DOWN ON THE GROUND,
 WHERE AWAKENING'S TO BE FOUND.

MENTAL FLIGHTS OF FANCY
 CAN CERTAINLY, FANCY FLY,
 BUT DOWN ON THE GROUND,
 IS WHERE YOU LIVE AND DIE.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEPERATE THE REALITY OF AWAKENING FROM NOTIONS OF THE
 SUPERNATURAL AND MYSTERIOUS,
 BUT I ASSURE YOU THAT IT COULD NOT BE MORE UNADORNED AND DOWN TO EARTH.

JUST AS THE MIND CRAVES THE ACTIVITY OF THOUGHT TO AFFORD IT THE SENSATION
 OF MOVEMENT AND MEANINGFUL ACTIVITY,
 FURTHER SO, IN THE BEGINNING, ARE THE MINDS OF THE FEW GIVEN TO THE INCLINATION
 OF PICTURING THIS ENDEAVOR OF OURS AS BEING EXOTIC AND OTHER-WORLDLY,
 AND I HAVE SEEN NO ONE IMMUNE TO THIS PROCLIVITY,
 NOR HAVE I SEEN ANY WHO FINALLY UNDERSTOOD WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT
 WHO DID NOT TRANSEND THIS FONDNESS.

WHY DO YOU IMAGINE THAT IT IS SO HARD TO AWAKEN? --

-- IT IS THE DIFFICULTY IN "GIVING-UP-OF-YOUR-DREAMING" - WHAT ELSE?!

IT'S DOWN ON THE GROUND
 WHERE ENLIGHTENMENT'S TO BE FOUND.

AND ONE MAN MUSED:

"YOU KNOW, IF IT HADN'T BEEN SO SIMPLE -- I'D A' REALIZED IT YEARS AGO."

IT'S DOWN ON THE GROUND
 WHERE THE SECRET'S TO BE FOUND.