

THE NEWS FOR MARCH 20, 1999

TO HIMSELF, ONE MAN MUSED:

"THE HUNGER FOR PERFECTION IS SUCH A NUISANCE THAT I AM HAPPY I HAD THE STRENGTH OF CHARACTER TO OVERCOME SUCH AN ILL-APPROPRIATE IMPULSE."

INDEED SIR, WHICH LEADS ME TO OFFER THIS REMINDER ONCE AGAIN THAT:
"THOUGHTS BUILD YOU YOU -- THEN: THOUGHTS EAT AWAY AT YOUR FOUNDATION."
OR, PUT IN THE FORM OF A LAW:

"IN THE SECONDARY WORLD OF THE MIND:
THAT WHICH MAKES YOU APPARENTLY STRONG
IS ALSO THAT WHICH -- WEAKENS YOU."

...(I GUESS IT'S NO WONDER THAT YOU DON'T FIND LAWS SUCH AS THESE
IN YOUR RUN-OF-THE-MILL SCIENCE BOOKS.)

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IT IS THROUGH COMMON, SELF-DECEPTION,
(FED FROM THE CACHE OF COLLECTIVE HUMAN THOUGHTS AVAILABLE TO HIM),
THAT ONE MAN, (BY COMPARISON TO SOME OTHER),
APPEARS TO BE
EITHER "INTELLIGENT", OR NOT SO.

THE WISDOM OF THE AWAKENED IS NEITHER SEEN NOR HEARD --
-- SINCE IT BE COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF -- NOTHINGNES.

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STANDING IN A MAGNIFICENT LIBRARY,
AMIDST A MULTITUDIOUS VARIETY OF BOOKS, ONE MAN SAID TO HIMSELF:
"HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO REMEMBER, (WHEN I AM ENGROSSED IN THE WORLD OF WORDS),
THAT MEN SIMPLY, 'MADE-UP'
EVERYTHING CONTAINED IN THESE TOMES."

NOTE: NEVER LET IT BE IMAGINED, EVEN FOR A MOMENT,
THAT THE HUMAN MIND IS NOT NATURALLY CONSTRUCTED TO MOST HANDILY
SEE TO ITS OWN BEST SELF INTEREST AND DEFENSE.
...(WHICH CONSISTS PRIMARILY OF ITS REFUSAL, [OR, INABILITY] TO -- SEE ITSELF,
& DIRECTLY RECOGNIZE ITS OWN NATURE FOR WHAT IT PLAINLY IS.-- OR:
COUCHED IN DIFFERENT LINGUISTIC GARB:
"IF YOU NEVER CORRECTLY IDENTIFY THAT AGAINST WHICH YOU BELIEVE YOU STRUGGLE,
IT MAKES IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO EVER PERCEIVE YOURSELF AS FAILING IN
YOUR EFFORTS. THE MIND PROTECTS ITSELF IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS...WELL, AT LEAST IN,
A VARIETY OF WAYS.

A PIECE OF ART SEEMS TIMELESS
 WHILE A PIECE OF KNOWLEDGE IS AT BEST BUT -- MOMENTARY:
 FOREVER AT THE MERCY OF ANY CONFLICTING PIECE OF KNOWLEDGE THAT SOME MAN
 MAY HAVE JUST MADE UP -- I MEAN, DISCOVERED. (PLEASE EXCUSE THE FAUX PAS).

ONE MAN SAW A SIGN IN THE WINDOW OF A BUSINESS WHICH SAID:
 "OPEN EVERY NIGHT 'TIL 9 -- EXCEPT WHEN WE'RE NOT.",
 AND HE SAID TO HIMSELF:
 "HOW MUCH LIKE MY DETERMINATION TO:
 REEL IN MY ATTENTION, AND -- WAKE UP."

AND THEN THIS OTHER MAN SUDDENLY EXPRESSED THIS OBSERVATION:
 "IT'S ALL JUST: WORDS AND DREAMS,
 MERELY: WORDS AND DREAMS:
 THE ENTIRITY OF OUR CIVILIZED, SECONDARY WORLD OF REALITY
 CONSISTS OF NOTHING MORE THAN" WORDS AND DREAMS. WHEW! --
 - WHAT A RELIEF!!", HE ADDED.

AND ALL OF THIS, (COMBINED IN HIS MIND WITH, GOD-ONLY-KNOWS, WHAT ELSE),
 CAUSED YET ANOTHER MAN TO PONDER THIS APPARENT PUZZLER:
 "HOW CAN IT BE THAT THE VARIOUS TEACHINGS AND IDEAS REGARDING THE STRUGGLE TO
 AWAKEN CONSCIOUSNESS & ACHIEVE ENLIGHTENMENT
 ARE SO IRREFUTABLY
 MEANINGFUL TO ME,
 WHILE AT THE SAME TIME I AM TOLD BY SOME OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH IDEAS
 THAT THEY HAVE SIMPLY -- MADE IT ALL UP?!

TRYING TO RECONCILE THE TWO, AND UNDERSTAND WHAT IT ALL MEANS
 IS CERTAINLY A "BRAIN-BURNER", AND IS SO STRANGE & UNEXPECTED AS TO ASSURE ME THAT
 IT TRULY MUST CONTAIN WITHIN ITSELF A MOST SIGNIFICANT MESSAGE.

AFTER ALL: IF IT WAS LOGICAL, EXPECTED, AND, 'MADE SENSE'
 IT WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH ESCAPING FROM ROUTINE THINKING,
 AND OPENING UP ONE'S FULL AND VACANT POTENTIAL FOR EXTREME CONSCIOUSNESS."

FACT: HE WHO RELIES ON WORDS & IDEAS IS A STRUCTURE WITH NO FOUNDATION:
 A SHIP WITH NO WATER BENEATH IT: A TALKING HEAD, SEPERATED FROM THE BODY,
 A TOTALLY CONTRIVED, SECONDARY REALITY OF THOUGHT,
 TOTALLY APART FROM THE PRIMARY REALITY OF PHYSICAL BEING.

WHY DON'T WE SING: "IT'S -- ALL MADE UP, IT'S ALL MADE UP,
 IT'S ALL MADE UP -- SO WHAT ELSE IS NEW IN THIS, "MAKE BELIEVE WORLD?!"

HOW'S ABOUT YOU CONSIDER TAKING ON A SIMPLIER, MORE REALISTIC VIEW OF THE MATTER
 HOW'S ABOUT YOU CHEW ON THIS:
 YOU'LL NEVER GET TO ISTANBUL
 WHILE YOU'LL THINKING IS ON PARIS.

...TOO TRICKY FOR YOU?!...YOU WANT IT EVEN BLUNTER?!...OKAY:
 YOU'LL NEVER WAKE UP
WHILE YOU'RE ASLEEP.

...HUH?!, YOU STILL DON'T LIKE IT...ALL RIGHT, ONE MORE TIME:
 YOU'LL NEVER SEE WHAT'S GOING ON
 WHILE YOUR MIND IS ON,
 WHAT YOU'RE -- THINKING ABOUT.

AND THERE WAS ONCE A SINCERE, AND THOUGHTFUL MIRROR WHICH SAID:
 "PLEASE DON'T KEEP CONFUSING ME.",
 A STATEMENT, MOST STRANGE,
 COMING FROM SOMETHING THAT HAS NOTHING OF ITS OWN,
 AND WHOSE PURPOSEFUL EXISTANCE IS SUPPORTED SOLEY BY ITS ABILITY TO
 REFLECT BACK
 THINGS OUTSIDE ITSELF.

...DOES THIS SOUND FAMILIAR REGARDING A CERTAIN FEATURE OF MAN?!...
 ...NO, JOHNNY, I AM NOT REFERING TO MAN'S DUODENUM.

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WAY BACK, WHEN HE BEGAN,
 ONE MAN WOULD OFTEN SAY TO HIMSELF:
 "I CANNOT BELIEVE MY DEGREE OF -- STUPIDITY!",
 THEN AS THINGS WENT ALONG, HE CHANGED HIS COMMENT THUS:
 "I CANNOT BELIEVE THE DEGREE TOWHICH MY MIND STAYS OUT OF MY CONTROL",
 AND STILL LATER, HE MADE ALTERATIONS SO THAT THE SENTIMENT READ:
 "I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT I AM STILL YACKIN' TO MYSELF ABOUT THIS."
 ...NOW THERE IS A MAN WHOSE POTENTIAL INTELLIGENCE IS NOT IN A STATE OF,
 "SUSPENDED ANIMATION".

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INITIALLY ALL DESCRIPTIONS REGARDING WHATEVER IT IS THAT PEOPLE LIKE US
 ARE ATTEMPTING TO DO
 IN OUR EFFORTS RELATED TO
 WHATEVER THIS IS,
 WERE MADE TO SOUND MYSTERIOUS AND SUPERNATURAL,
 (OR IS IT SIMPLY THAT THIS IS HOW EVERYONE INITIALLY HEARS THEM TO SOUND?! --
 WELL, NO MATTER: ON WITH THE STORY),
 INITIALLY EVERYTHING SAID ABOUT THE STRUGGLE TO AWAKEN
 SOUNDS MYSTICAL, EXOTIC AND SUPERNATURAL,
 (AND THOSE WHO HEED ITS CALL, READILY ACCEPT THEM AS SUCH) -- BUT!:
 THE PLAIN REALITY OF WHAT "AWAKENING, ENLIGHTENMENT & THE GREAT LIBERATION" ARE
 IS SO SIMPLE, NEAR-BY AND DIRECT THAT I SUSPECT NO ONE WOULD INITIALLY HAVE
 ANY INTEREST THEREIN
 WERE IT DESCRIBED -- TRUTHFULLY.

THERE WAS ONCE A DOG WHO NAMED HIS TAIL, "ISTANBUL",
 AND CHASED IT RELENTLESSLY.

THERE WAS ONCE A DOG WHO LIVED IN PARIS WHO NAMED HIS TAIL, "ISTANBUL",
 AND CHASED IT RELENTLESSLY.

THERE WAS ONCE A DOG WHO SAID HE LIVED IN PARIS, WHO NAMED HIS TAIL, "ISTANBUL"
 AND CHASED IT RELENTLESSLY.

THERE WAS ONCE A DOG WHO SAID HE LIVED IN PARIS, WHO NAMED HIS TAIL, "ISTANBUL"
 AND WHO BELIEVED HE WAS -- CHASING HIS TAIL.

THERE WAS ONCE A DOG WHO FINALLY AWOKE AND REALIZED THAT HE & HIS TAIL WERE ONE,
 AND THAT HE HAD BEEN IN PURSUIT OF ABSOLUTELY -- NOTHING.

...("ARF.", SAID HE -- IN GREAT RELIEF!)

FACT: WHEN A MIRROR IS MOMENTARILY FILLED WITH THE REFLECTION OF SOMETHING
 OUTSIDE ITSELF,

IT CANNOT BE MADE TO SEE THAT IT IS BY NATURE -- EMPTY.

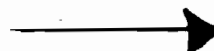
...(I GUESS IT'S A GOOD THING THAT MIRRORS DON'T HAVE TAILS! -- WHEW!!

....[OF COURSE, THEN AGAIN: HOW MUCH MORE CONVOLUTED COULD THINGS BE?!])

MORAL: DO NOT, "RELENTLESSLY DO"

ANYTHING

THAT IS A WASTE OF YOUR TIME.

...AND SOMEONE ASKED: "BUT HOW CAN YOU BE CERTAIN THAT A PARTICULAR THING IS A,
 'WASTE OF TIME'?", THAT'S AN EASY ONE MADAM: IF YOU CAN TALK ABOUT - THEN:
 IT'S A WASTE OF TIME. HOW EVER: 

THE DEAR LADY DID NOT SEEM TO IMMEDIATELY AGREE THAT.
 THIS WAS AN "EASY ONE".....BUT NO MATTER: THE HELL WITH HER!...AFTER ALL:
 SHE COULD BE -- YOU!.....JUST IN DISGUISE.
 (HEY, YOU GOTTA BE CONSTANTLY --- "ON GUARD" AND ALERT TO SUCH ATTEMPTED,
 MENTAL SUBTERFUGES.

...AND THEN YET ANOTHER VOICE WAS RAISED AND ASKED:
 "BUT AREN'T ALL MENTAL ACTIVITIES -- 'SUBTERFUGES'?!",
 JUST THE ORDINARY ONES, SIR -- JUST THE ORDINARY ONES.

* * *

ONE MAN RECENTLY MADE WHAT I FOUND TO BE AN, "INTERESTING OBSERVATION",
 NOTED HE:
 "WHEN MY ATTENTION IS OUT OF MY HANDS,
 IT IS OFTEN AS THOUGH MY IMMEDIATE PHYSICAL ENVIORNMENT -- TURNS ON ME."
 ...CERTAINLY ONE WAY TO VERBALLY EXPLAIN WHY,
 WHEN YOUR ATTENTION IS DISTRACTED FROM THE MOMENT,
 YOU ARE MORE LIKELY TO SUSTAIN PHYSICAL INJURIES.
 TO A MAN, MENTALLY ASLEEP,
 AN INANIMATE, UN-MOVING TABLE CAN BECOME A DANGEROUS ADVESARY.
 ...BUT, HEY! -- SO CAN EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE REALM OF THE, "NON-AWAKE".

...AND ME SAYING THIS APPARENTLY MOTIVATED ANOTHER MAN TO SAY THIS:
 "I HAVE ENJOYED THE TIMES WHEN YOU CLAIMED THAT
 ALL ASPECTS OF OUR 'SLEEPING REALITY'
 ARE BUT SKETCHY METAPHORS FOR THE AWAKENED ONE.

TRULY, I DO ENJOY HEARING YOU SAY THIS.....ALTHOUGH I HAVE NO GRASP ON
 WHAT IT MUST,(MORE DEEPLY) -- IMPLY."

SIR, YOU DECEIVE YOURSELF WITH YOUR, "THINKING-ABOUT-THIS-MATTER":
 I SAY TO YOU THAT YOU UNDERSTAND FULL WELL, WHAT I AM POINTING TO IN WORDS:
 I SAY THAT EVERYONE KNOWS -- EVERYONE, "FEELS"
 THAT THERE IS SOME KIND OF "OTHER REALITY" BEHIND, OR, IN-ADDITION-TO
 THE REALITY THEY NORMALLY PERCEIVE, COURTESY OF THE THOUGHTS THAT
 AUTOMATICALLY PASS THROUGH THEM, WHICH CONTINUALLY PROFESS TO BE
 ACCURATELY DESCRIBING TO THEM, THE TRUE NATURE OF -- WHAT'S OING ON IN, AND
 ABOUT THEM.

SIR, I SAY: SHAPE UP, AND SHAKE YOURSELF LOSE FROM YOUR UNFOUNDED RELIANCE-ON
 AND UN-STUDIED, ACCEPTANCE-OF

THESE IMPERSONAL ELECTRICAL CHARGES RUNNING RANDOMLY THRU YOUR BRAIN
 AND GROUNDLESSLY CLAIMING TO BE OBJECTIVE REPORTERS OF -THINGS-AS-THEY-ARE
 ...THOUGHTS CAN ONLY REPORT TRUTHFULLY ON ONE THING -- THEMSELVES...WHICH IS
 IN FACT, WHAT THEY ARE ALWAYS DOING, BUT WITH NO AWARENESS THEREOF. WHEW!

ONE MAN GOT EVERYTHING HE KNEW FROM BOOKS:
 ANOTHER MAN GOT EVERYTHING HE KNEW FROM WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAID,
 AND STILL A THIRD MAN GOT EVERYTHING HE KNEW FROM THE THOUGHTS IN HIS OWN HEAD,
 BUT NO MATTER -- THEY'RE ALL IN THE SAME FIX --
 AND NO MATTER -- THEY'RE ALL IDIOTS.

NO ONE "KNOWS" ANYTHING,
 (EXCLUDING THOSE FEW WHO UNDERSTAND THAT: NO ONE "KNOWS" ANYTHING.)
[AND AGAIN: ... DOES NOT "NEATNESS" SLIP AROUND AND NIBBLE ON OUR
 MENTAL ASSES, ONCE MORE?!....."YEAH-H-H, I'D AGREE: 'IS THAT NEAT OR WHAT?!'"]
 FACT, (PERHAPS ANNOYING, BUT NONETHELESS) -- FACT: HOW TO BE AN IDIOT:
 THINK ABOUT THINGS!YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT, I KNOW IT SOUNDS RIDICULOUS, BUT;
THINK ABOUT IT!
 ...[COME ON, DON'T TELL ME YOU FELL FOR THAT AGAIN?!?!])

FACT: HE WHO THINKS WILL
 FALL FOR MOST ANYTHING.

ALL RIGHT, LET'S ALL SING SOME MORE:
 "TOYS ARE US,
 TOYS ARE US,
 THOUGHTS ARE TOYS,
 TOYS ARE US.OH MY GOD, DOES THAT MEAN WHAT IT APPEARS TO MEAN?!"
 WELL HOLD ON THERE, DEAR SONGBIRDS:
 DO YOU NOT RECOGNIZE BY NOW THAT IN THE GLORIOUS REALM OF "THINKING" THAT,
 ALL THOUGHTS "MEAN" WHATEVER THEY, (AT THE MOMENT), "APPEAR-TO" MEAN?!
 ...HEY, IN THE SECONDARY WORLD OF THOUGHT,
 IF THE, "APPEARNCES-OF-THINGS"
 WERE NOT THE, "REALITY-OF-THE-THINGS"
 THE THINGS WOULD HAVE NO REALITY.
 ...(MORE, "NEATNESS", THAT'S FOR SURE.)

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SINCE ORDINARY MINDS PERSIST IN CLAMORING ON ABOUT SOME "IMPENDING DOOM"
 LOOMING OVER MAN, LET ME OFFER YOU WHAT WOULD IN REALITY BE, THE ONLY POSSIBLY,
 VERBALLY DESCRIBABLE, "OVER-ALL, BLANKET:" "SALVATION FOR MAN", (IT WOULD READ
 LIKE THIS): "EVERYONE JUST: LOOSEN UP, RELAX AND STAY QUIET, AND YOU'LL
 SOON REALIZE THAT: EVERYTHING IS -- ALL-L-L RIGHT!...THERE'S, "NO PROBLEM",
 ONLY THE ILLUSION OF SUCH BROUGHT ON BY YOUR CONSTANT YACKING & THRASHING ABOUT."

TELL ME: IF SUCH A MESSAGE WAS SIMULTANEOUSLY BROADCAST TO ALL THE WORLD WOULD ANYONE "GET IT"?!...WOULD THERE BE ORDINARY, REASONABLE & SANE PEOPLE WHO WOULD INSTANTLY UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS BEING POINTED TO, AND SUDDENLY REALIZE THAT ALL OF WHAT THEY "THINK", (BE THE MESSAGE OF THEIR THINKING EITHER ENCOURAGING OR DISASTROUS), THAT ALL OF WHAT THEY THINK, BELIEVE AND MENTALLY ACCEPT AS "TRUE & CORRECT" IS NOTHING MORE THAN AN EVER SHIFTING, IMPERSONAL WORLD OF -- DREAMS!...DREAMS! -- ONCE YOU SEE THIS CLEARLY, WHAT BETTER DESCRIPTION IS THERE OF THE REALITY OF: "WHAT-MEN-THINK" THAN THE ONE WORD -- "DREAMS"?!

IN THE, "WORLD OF DREAMS" -- DREAMS ARE REAL, BUT IN THE "REAL WORLD", ONLY NON-DREAMERS ARE REAL.

THIS LAST COMMENT APPARENTLY MOVED ONE MAN TO SAY: "YOU KNOW, WHENEVER I'M TOTALLY 'LOST-IN-MY-THINKING', WHEN MY ATTENTION IS COMPLETELY "OUT-OF-MY-CONTROL", YOU KNOW, AT SUCH TIMES I DON'T CARE WHETHER 'I' AM 'REAL', OR NOT.", HE THEN SHUT UP AND SEEMED TO BE MENTALLY PURSUING A CERTAIN LINE,... ..THEN FINALLY HE SPOKE AGAIN: "YOU KNOW, THE REAL TRUTH IS THAT WHEN MY CONSCIOUSNESS-IS-NOT-MY-OWN, THE QUESTION OF, "WHAT-IS-REAL", & "WHAT-IS-NOT" NEVER EVEN CROSSES MY MIND."

SO -- AFTER HIS INSTANT OBSERVATION, I'LL NOTE FOR YOU ONCE AGAIN, (IN A SLIGHTLY ALTERED VERSION) THIS:

WHEN YOUR ATTENTION IS IN THE, "WORLD-OF-DREAMS", NOT ONLY ARE THE DREAMS THEN -- IMAGINARILY, "REAL", BUT ANY & ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING WHAT IS REAL AND WHAT IS NOT ARE, IMAGINARY AND MEANINGLESS.

OKAY, ANSWER ME THIS: WHAT IF A MIRROR WHICH, "CHASED-ITS-OWN-TAIL" FINALLY -- CAUGHT IT! -- TELL ME: WHAT WOULD IT HAVE CAPTURED?!

FACT: THE ONLY THING THAT DREAMS CAN ACQUIRE AND ADD TO THEMSELVES IS -- -- MORE DREAMS.

CONCLUDING FACT-CUM-ANNOYING-REMINDER: YOU CAN, AT EVERY GIVEN MOMENT, EITHER BE: THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING HAVING TO DO WITH BEING AWAKE OR ASLEEP -- OR: YOU CAN, BY NOT THINKING ANYTHING ABOUT SUCH MATTERS, INSTANTLY FREE YOUR ATTENTION & CONSCIOUSNESS FROM THE DISTRACTED CONDITION CAUSED BY SUCH THINKING WHICH PRODUCES THE VERY STATE WE CALL, "SLEEP",

AND FROMWHICH YOU SO VALIANTLY, BUT OFT TIMES, FRUITLESSLY STRUGGLE TO ESCAPE.

...IS ANYONE FEELING LIKE A: LITTLE BITTY MIRROR IN A BIG OLD HOUSE OF MIRRORS?

...WELL -- GOOD!...REALLY, I MEAN IT: GOOD FOR YOU, YOU'RE GETTING CLOSE TO THE, "EXIT DOOR" REJOICE, LITTLE "REFLECTORS" -- REJOICE!