

On the Shores of Paradise

By Brad Kalita

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Through and Beyond
... prelude to the Shores of Paradise

*Dreams, a hundred thousand miles away, where
the stars dance and play, but close to the Heart. Home, not a
space or time, but where the soul grew beyond the mind
to reach and touch ... the Stars.*



ii
A New Perspective

It would seem above all mankind needs a unifying perspective to bridge the abyss and manifest sustainability and harmony. A "new" perspective yet ageless as wisdom itself, one that distills the essence, greater purpose and potential from the morass and stifle of acculturation.

... a perspective self-affirming by nature, comprehensive yet comprehensible while directly accessible to all: The religiously oriented, agnostic or otherwise ... by its very nature, simplicity and directness resistant to disparagement, exploitation, categorization, rigidity, and other maladies. Neither religious nor non-religious, its inherent integrity rising above the worldly fog: The bonds and bounds of science, conventionalism and historical belief. A perspective of universal nature transcending differences while embracing diversity and the truth in all.

I feel humbled and unworthy to speak of such things, yet cannot deny the inexplicable or evident need. Therefore, look not to the conveyor but within the heart openly and deeply with purity of motive for guidance and understanding.

~ Brad Kalita

Upon passing middle age I asked earnestly that if there indeed be a "God" that in

exchange for a humble life ... or just enough, that I be taught wisdom (truth). What occurred thereafter is contained within the following writings.

ॐ

iii

*... and the truth shall be written in your hearts
... and set you free*

The way or “flow” ... undefinable, and to the mind incomprehensible,
yet through the heart ... so acceptable ...

Like the wind ... only felt, experienced, known ...

Purification of Motive ... or Goodness for its Own Sake,
So Simple, Self-Affirming, Self-Purifying,
yet so little understood, as to its all encompassing universal nature.

Though darkness be everywhere ... I light my heart lamp,
I hear music from afar ... yet so near.

ॐ

iv

*On the Shores of Paradise
Be*

Guide:

As one drowning in the shallows on the shoals of paradise, you think yourself emptied, with little love or will to give, yet you've always been loved and lover of that within and without, which knows you as itself. Even now it calls you by its name, beckoning ... reminding you, awakening your finer senses and nature while ever guiding you home.

ॐ

*To Take Comfort and
Hold Fast
While Being Tempered, for ...*

Only the thinnest of veils and shift of perspective separates you from your heart's

desire ... a life of wonder and beauty, a knowledge and being-ness so encompassing so profound as to surpass all previous expectation and experience. For somewhere in your innermost being lie the seeds of light waiting to blossom whispering to you, what you thought ... were only sweet dreams.

Coming Home ...

Having been unburdened by relinquishment, tempered by endurance and elevated above righteousness a threshold is reached. For now when the light fell upon moistened cheek it resonated, generating a river of grace of unearthly light and tender embrace. Illuminating in understanding and purpose all that had seemed convoluted or hidden in a sublime glow of magnanimous benevolence. Refining form and sense to induce a serene knowingness and unifying magnificent over-arching grandeur. Revealing the majestic radiance and splendor of an ethereal realm rich in harmonic diversity, neither of time or space yet ever present, where all things ascendant and of beauty are possible. ... And all hearts reside ... Welcome Home.

... Thus, freedom from filtering, judgmental and other mental limitations will be realized. All things perceived afresh in depth as boundless ... radiating luminous vitality and beauty of being ... the essence of life. Separateness no longer conceivable, transformed into individualized blissful appreciative oneness...living light.



v

... Cloud Gathering ...

For one to acquire the right-mind to make appreciable progress it is first necessary to contemplate and understand on a deep encompassing level the value and elevating influence one's greater-self can have not only one's own well-being but all life. To

achieve a fair degree of consistency or ability to "stay in" this "greater self" it is important to realize one is not responsible for what seem the injustices of the world, only for one's responses ... favoring that which furthers harmonious relationships amongst all things.

❧❧❧

vi

In Honor of the Masters

An honorary note regarding Martin Luther King and compassionate humility: Although King was a devout Christian minister and a giant amongst men he had the highest and deepest respect for Mahatma Gandhi, reflecting on how Gandhi's peaceful resolution had shown more Christ-like qualities than any human since. Gandhi was a Hindu while embracing all faiths, yet considered "all to contain both truth and error" - Rendered imperfect, having passed through the hands of men Gandhi's own conversion was largely influenced by his study and application of Tolstoy's *The Kingdom of God is Within You* (and the truth shall be written in your hearts to set you free) as conveyed by Jesus.

Early Christians were far more diverse in belief largely based on lost or excluded scriptures. Christ's message and disposition inclusive and forgiving.

The Old Testament supported or accepted: Stoning, Sacrificing innocent animals, Slavery, Polygamy etc.

Wide-ranging real-life complexities, multiple text translations then interpretations and scripture stress reserving judgment to God, while past accepted injustices refrain literal interpretation.

Therefore, except for accessibility of previous viewpoints and introduction of new

insights or ideas, it would seem a misconception of duty to try convert others to one's particular faith, especially when intimidation is used: Fear, condemnation or through the promise of reward in the afterlife etc, when what is really needed is to begin with culling the narrow mindedness and error within while expanding and integrating the truths found in all religions, philosophies and otherwise.

❧❧❧

vii

*He had heard of Christ, Buddha, Mohammed and others
Now there is an inexplicable "knowingness" only experience can instill.*

The Tortoise

A tortoise crawls across the vast plain, im-per-cep-ti-bly making his way, the path stretching far behind and before him. Children bruise and tempt him along the way, yet - he no longer cares ... for he sees the tortoise in them, as well, while hearing the call of tranquility beyond, for he has turned ... forever ... homeward ... to ... The Sea.

❧❧❧

vii

Driftwood

Rooted upon the bosom of my mother's steadfast trunk, I hung over the shore of a great water's ever rising and falling reach. One day a great wind tore me loose ... drawing me ever farther upon the vast water. There I drifted alone under the sun aimlessly for time unknown. From time to time new storms, fierce winds and waters tossed and pummeled me ...then calm only again to return, a seemingly never ending cycle. Why had I been torn from my comfortable surroundings to drift endlessly without course on such a hard world?

One day another great storm washed me up, upon a far different shore ... this time

so far that it was unlikely another would draw me out to sea again. Now that the waters had receded, no longer surrounding me, I could see myself as never before. I had changed – almost completely! The character in my grain stood out. All the rough edges I once had had been smoothed out ... so smooth it seemed I almost gleamed.

I had become a thing of beauty.

I then knew why I had been cast adrift, enduring for so long.

❧

ix

Is the path to wisdom long?

– No, but it is deep.

Is the road to salvation wide?

– No, but it is inclusive.

Is the way to heaven high?

– No, but it is comprehensive.

❧

x

As Nature

The greatest masterpiece and worthiest endeavor is the song and art of life.

*– Composing and refining oneself into a wellspring and harmonious expression
of goodness, grace and beauty.*

❧

xi

Great Spirit

Temper me in strength,

*not to acquire more to be better than others,
but to overcome my greatest adversary ... Myself.*

*Guide me on the trail of integrity:
Respectful and compassionate towards all life
~ ever seeking harmony and balance.*

*Above all, teach me wisdom to be Free:
so when the sun sets, my spirit may return ... in*

Beauty and Serenity.

❧❧❧

xii
... greatness is humble

*Knowledge can be limited and prideful, often
acquiring much but learning little of real worth. Whereas
"the timeless stone of wisdom" is comprehensive yet humble, acquiring
little but learning much of enduring value.*

❧❧❧

*True beauty, greatness and comprehension is acquired
when one begins, through discerning wisdom, to cultivate a redemptive
affinity and love for all things regardless of differences or imperfection.
– As the nurturing and cleansing virtue of water when flowing freely.*

❧❧❧

Words of Wisdom and Inspiration

In order for peace and harmony to be achieved people demand justice first— and then consider forgiveness and compassion. Though such qualities go hand in hand we have seen throughout the ages what such prioritization has achieved. There comes a time in everyone's life when one must lay aside and no longer waste time remorseing or focusing on unfulfilled requirements or desires, but prioritize being in one's Higher Nature. – Therefore achieving all that is needed, and thereby through acquired perspective all that is desirable.



Dragons to Slay
There is a gentle way ...

... for the more one opens and deepens one's apprehension and alignment with universal laws of cause and manifestation the greater empowerment to evoke right outcome. As the reasons for disharmony or loss are further evolvment and purification, so are the means of gain ... for to understand suffering is to conceive advancement. The ultimate purpose: Unification. Present ways and systems cannot last. Inevitably all things will naturally become as one with those who relinquish resentment while prioritizing and cultivating compassion, highest use and all inclusiveness.

By what authority do I speak? ... the Greatest: "The Heart"

... Yes, we all have dragons we hope to vanquish with word or sword ... Alas, it would seem to take so much more: Realizing our greatest demons are self-afflicted. Perhaps we could start from within by allowing our highest intuitive aspirations unaffected by acculturation to dominate: Through heart centered purification of motive,

perspective and feelings. The real or imagined malignant spirits thereby would naturally leave, or simply dissipate, no longer having fodder to feed upon ... with no need of word, or sword, the best defense, being ... no offense, thereby having realized the foremost reason for living: Self-contained inner peace and harmony.

We are all so much alike in so many ways ... Aren't we ? ... If in deed I've been a fool, these words, still ... " Ring True " ... by the fool who " rang true "

"Goodness and happiness for its own sake without reason ... soon realizes its own reasons."

❧❧❧

xv

Notes to Myself

People could be happier, evolve much faster and less painfully if we could remember that each moment continually provides an opportunity to start anew, regardless of the past or even what may have just occurred. – Just remember in order to begin afresh, not to drag the past along unless to learn by.

❧❧❧

xvi

A man dreamed he was a butterfly,

and then as a butterfly dreamed he was a man, to

realize he was neither, yet both ... and more ...

Turning Chaff to Silver

... our happiness is yours

There is nothing more satisfying than kindness for its own sake, and giving in wisdom, love and affection, with open mind and heart to ones fellow human beings and creatures.

It is only lack of apprehension of this universal truth that keeps humankind individually and as a whole and earth in disharmony, suffering and chaos.

Upon full apprehension, seemingly miraculous transformations occur personally and otherwise, an endless summer is discovered within, expanding outward to embrace all ... and with time the lamb shall lay down with the lion, the serpent with the child, even the once considered lowly fowl and sow will be considered as brethren, then heaven and earth shall enjoin ... and be as One.

Even now, beyond the vale, those who have learned these supreme truths greatest joy is to increase one another's happiness and harmony along with all things. For they have discovered just as we shall, what we thought as human nature is really human habit ...

no longer waiting for something or someone, but taking responsibility, looking no further than our hearts to bring about change.

They await you as a parent awaits a wayward child, with a smile and a tear in their eyes, awaiting for you to realize and manifest peace and understanding, to become god-like as you become one with "God". Therefore, patience dear ones, for there is a lesson even in this. As the child grows, the answers will come. All will be revealed in time. For to be good without reason for its own sake is the highest form of being, and sets an example for others to follow, and the best way to learn and teach.

So gaze into your innermost being, plum the depths, stay the course, while relinquishing desire and attachment, placing freedom foremost, and so it shall be, for as each petal of your heart unfolds, so shall the mysteries of life blossom forth and be revealed. For just as visions can be greater than knowledge and love stronger than death,

events are preparing "the way" to a new age of understanding. For even now born upon the celestial winds of change are seeds of "light," drawing ever near, bearing new life, new thinking and new ways of seeing ... and Remember, be gentle yet vigilant, for although the darkest hour approaches ... the best is yet to come.

So take courage and comfort, and be still ... then gaze beyond the abyss ... into the fairest of dreams to what can, and with wisdom gained, will be ... Your Final Destiny.

❧

xvii

Dreamers

“He who cherishes a beautiful vision, a lofty ideal in his heart, will one day realize it. Dream lofty dreams, and as you dream so shall you become.” – James Allen

“The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious, the source of all true art and science. People who believe in physics know that the distinction between past, present, and future is only a persistent illusion.” – Dr. Albert Einstein

❧

xviii

Ask Yourself

If one seems to live a life that is often confusing, a life of drudgery and of quiet desperation without recourse, does it not force one to think of a way to rise above, be happy or make it at least worthwhile regardless of inescapable external circumstances? – Upon finding "the answer(s)" one distills the essence and key to fulfillment as well as having opened a threshold to a greater purpose and reason for being – Such answer(s) being far more compelling when found through one's self.

❧

xix
The Lone Gull

Essentially all one needs to face, resolve or rise above the travails of life and fulfill its greater purpose can be found within the "higher-self ... or heart". Drawing directly with purification of motive distills from the impurities of acculturation and ego "essence" integrating dignity and humility while lending clarity and insight to the mysteries of life.



xx
Rising above Perceived Differences

I've often wondered, with life including so many seeming tragedies, cruelties and injustices personally and worldwide, how one can deal with such unknowns, insecurities and so much chaos without becoming wounded and otherwise adversely affected. Though such experiences on a higher level may indeed be used as a means to further awareness, growth and evolvment, it is understandable the undermining difficulty in acceptance. Given the above and what we actually know, is there a simple yet comprehensive perspective that can not only reconcile but rise above the worldly fog?

When experiencing life's difficulties they can be viewed as compost to nurture the satisfaction derived from growing beauty from what seems ugliness. Not because it's moral, righteous or to derive esteem, but simply because it's beautiful. The key and enabling attitude: Beauty for itself, or own sake (... thereby imparts beauty). This could also be applied as a key to happiness, for like beauty happiness without reason soon discovers its own reasons known but to the heart, its depth and breadth, like beauty transcendent in nature. For within the heart and that which manifests outward there-from,

such as the qualities of kindness are of far greater value, influence and of enduring character than all other endeavors in life ... remembered and treasured above and beyond all else.

*Rising above Cynicism, Righteousness,
Dependence and Circumstance*

It's hard to imagine a more direct, self-purifying or fulfilling distillation of the essence of the sacred or elevating foundation to build upon and refine. Being neither dependent nor exclusive such an approach does not conflict with the great faiths of the world or otherwise – For whether old or new such a path by its very nature seeks the integration and most comprehensive realization of truth above all else.

❧❧❧

xxi

*Wisdom of the Ages
... flowing like water, ever present, ever cleansing*

There is an over-arching all-encompassing " universality ", an ageless wisdom that can heal not only body, mind and "spirit" but transcend differences, making all things possible. Such knowledge cannot be logically understood, only experienced . . . "known". It cannot be bought, taught, scientifically derive or defined, nor requires intellect, great faith or discipline to access.

*The Gateway: The Heart.
The Key: Purification of Motive.*

Steadfastly focusing deeply into ones heart (figuratively) in utmost open-minded honesty with the "highest-self / motives" able "universal knowledge" gradually permeates ones entire being. One begins to "reconnect" feel, think and act in balance and ways most beneficial to oneself, others and all things. An independent yet all-inclusive integrity,

serenity, sweetness and wonder beyond that experienced as a child emerges expanding outward. Suffering, fear of aging, death, etc., begin to recede and be seen as phases (passages) or "doors" to ever greater wisdom, harmony and happiness.

In words it might be conveyed fundamentally as ... that which brings about the greatest sustainable harmony with the least suffering amongst all things, and more specifically as ...

Goodness for its own Sake: (here and now, without expectation of reward).
Unreasonable Happiness: Tranquility and Harmony (within wisdom, without reason or logic). Being in the "Higher-Self": Perceiving and evoking the finer sensibilities and nobility within self and others.

It's hard to imagine a more self-affirming, purifying or unifying aspiration the master(s) would want followed in order to "save" ourselves, fellowmen, and world.
"Heaven's within ... truth written in the heart ... to free."

... Would the divine record, pass on or retain materially such treasures subject to loss, fragmentation, augmentation and alterations over time by man?

*Rising above the bondages
of Righteousness, Dependence and Cynicism:*

It would seem sensible and far more gratifying to avoid life's opportunity, and hardships becoming in vain. It's ultimate blessing unfulfilled by the dominant pursuit of temporary superficial gain or clouded by negativities: Cynicism, guilt, fear, etc., argumentation over "technicalities" or exclusive dogmatic adherences and condemnation, but derive "essence" directly.

*Within simplicity often lies the greatest truth and surest path ... it's never too soon nor too late.

❧❧❧

xxii

Illumination

*The heart's soul ...
pure, serene, fragrant as
a blossom ...*

*A personal perspective
free from acculturation neither
dependent nor exclusive of
faiths.*

*Life, Suffering and Enlightenment
... what is the meaning and purpose?*

There are basically two ways one can view life.

The reality that one's existence is often cruel, ugly and meaningless and thereby develop a tendency to respond in kind and integrate with such a "reality".

... Or the reality that such harsh environmental aspects stimulate creative growth, and the ability to rise above in ever-greater harmony, freedom and beauty.

To varied degrees both realities are very "real" fundamentally offering two choices to live by.

Everyone is presented a series of challenges large and small, the lesser as guidance to learn relatively quickly and easily rather than cumulatively. The greater hardships providing the opportunity for a corresponding leap forward to enhance well-being and further evolvment from resulting insight and empathy.

To avoid regression, stagnation and to alleviate life's travails only one lesson (realization or habit) need really be learned and applied to all forgivingly :

To gently try as best as able to be in ones "higher-self" at a given moment (a sense of "Being" rather than "Becoming" the more fruitful.)

Whether victim or victimizer it's most important to never give up, thereby eventually moving forward. For to dwell upon the past or future other than to learn is to invite illusion, cynicism and hinder growth.

The maladies of the world and veil between "heaven" and earth are like a fog created largely by entrenchment and ignorance. The more light permitted to emanate from the higher-self the greater the dissipation and multi-dimensional revelation.

The "Higher or Greater Reality

(also referred to as the ultimate reality because of the inevitably natural gravitation toward that which manifests the greatest harmony, happiness and fulfillment).

The higher or greater-self is a manifestation of the heart .The heart's center pure and as a holograph incorporating all "knowledge" and aspects of the universe (the characteristics of a holograph are such that its qualities are never diminished even when fragment etc). Its all-inclusive realms accessible through the cultivation of purification of motive (goodness for its own sake) ... Or outwardly as that which sustainably brings about the greatest progressive harmony amongst all things (... love tempered and guided by wisdom).

As the path is scaled and the higher-self rises above constricting adherences and gains dominance a gradual incline is reached in which fear and events experienced as suffering begin to fall away followed by refinement leading to every greater wisdom and happiness ...the "blossoming of the soul"... The comprehensive nature of salvation, enlightenment and "heaven" may then be experienced as "a peace that passes all understanding": The timeless serene elation of the "unified field" and or as an evolved entity and "place" ...

Ever - Present, Ever - Lasting

As a novice, like myself, you may mentally doubt how such things can come to pass. Yet accepted cutting edge physics reveal correlations and mergings equivalent to an age when the world was assumed flat when proposed round. One need only realize that dimensions of such nature inherently cannot be understood by the limitations of the mind, which is but a tool, only experienced and realized within the depths of the heart.

Inevitably all grow weary of revolving worldly artificialities and disappointments longing for the lasting fulfillment and oneness discovered when dwelling within their true home ... The heart's all but forgotten yet ever-present aspect as a portal and source of all-encompassing illuminating beauty.

*"Heaven's at hand ... within ...
the truth written in the heart, to free " Bible*

The heart's soul ... pure, serene ... fragrant as a flower

For within the heart and that which manifests outward there-from, such as the qualities of kindness, are of far greater value, influence and of enduring character than all other endeavors in life ... remembered and treasured above and beyond all else.

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A great and wonderful spirit has implanted within the heart of everything a part of itself ... an immortal " seed of divine light", which when nurtured by goodwill towards all things, flowers into an all embracing beautifying state of being from which everything can be realized.

Clarification:

Other faiths may declare exemption of their entity as a key factor i.e. Christ. If such an entity be essential, anyone cultivating purification of

motive will naturally become aware of it.



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Rising Above

*The Solution ...
Being in the "Higher Self"
and ... letting go of everything else.*

*The heart rather than the head will render
the deepest and most comprehensive understanding,
we're just not in the habit of using it.*

Be patient. Try to practice love in all its finer dimensions, and you will still be happy regardless of return and always have and "know love," even as you become ever more a part of it. You don't need faith, you just need to "love" Love is enough, and the most beautiful, precious and fulfilling of all things in the universe, and worthy of devotion ... just try and be there more often, until your always "there".

"There " is no better place to be.

". . . and then all things will be given unto thee "

When one finally lets go of it all, one gets to have it all.

A paradox, yet crucial lesson for all.

Perhaps the intended purpose of the world's confusion is purification of motive without expectation of reward. . . and falling in love with ourselves, not the vain self, but our "Higher Selves", in other words, falling in love ... with Love.



xxiv

Lost Horizons ... Found

The Journey of Light

It would seem above all mankind needs a unifying perspective to bridge the abyss and manifest sustainability and harmony. A "new" perspective yet ageless as wisdom itself, one that distills the essence, greater purpose and potential from the morass and stifle of acculturation while embracing the diversity and truth in all.

There is an over-arching "universality", an ageless wisdom, ever fresh and flowing, that can heal not only body, mind and "spirit" but transcend differences, making all things possible. Such "knowledge" cannot be logically understood, only experienced. It cannot be bought, taught, scientifically derive or defined or materially retained subject to loss, alteration and rigidity. Nor does it require intellect, great faith or discipline to access.

The masters throughout the ages essentially concur: "The truth is written in the heart to free, heaven at hand ... within". This is where the journey of chaos ends and another begins: one of wisdom, tenderness, beauty and lasting serenity, the real treasures ...

The heart being the portal to our greater selves and realm of our true home, illuminated in ever greater splendor by purification of motive, goodness for its own sake and compassion for all things. – It's hard to imagine anything inherently more self-affirming, productive, self-purifying, or unifying the masters would want followed to enjoin heaven and earth and become the noble civilizations meant to be.

This is the essence, the shift in perspective, emphasis and integrity needed to begin to experience here and now all one needs to become and remain free. Conveying to

the simplest of men a knowledge and well-being greater than those having acquired the greatest material and intellectual power on earth. – And with time and refinement so much more as to be magnificent beyond words.

- It's never too late nor too soon.

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xxv

The Bridge Across to Forever ...

The most pervasive fundamental question people ask themselves is what or who am I ?

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You're beautiful beyond words and comprehension.

To begin to manifest your greater character what is needed is to allow your self to realize the sublime and universal nature of this beauty, there after a natural attraction will do the rest.

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xxvi

Given What We Actually Know

Stripping-away the suppositions and grays areas of religion/faiths and acculturation to distill a fundamental basis of living:

It may be helpful to postulate different levels to reach a higher one:

Those who harm others for self-gain thereby hurting and hindering themselves.

Live superficially or make little effort to improve or having given up.

Are aware and continue to try to a significant degree.

Having learned the "principles of harmonious living".

Continue to refine, expand and exemplify those principles.

It would seem one should strive most for the "having learned" level and beyond in which events experienced as hardships fall-away. The "trying yet not achieving phase" being the most frustrating therefore it's important to rest as needed bearing-in-mind the greatest waste of a life opportunity is giving-up or falling back.

How might these principles be expressed:

Continue in balance to strive to do your best while letting go and minimizing negativity. In the East it could be called Relinquishment, in the West; Surrendering, in the Heart; Affirmation.

"Your Best" isn't the narrow pursuit of superficial gain which in turn produces narrow diminishing returns but the contrary, nor needn't be rooted in morality, spirituality or otherwise but highly practical leading to more enduring overall fulfillment ... while doing so for its own sake with all inclusiveness the worthiest and noblest of endeavors.

Life's Real Purpose...?: To instill Courage, Wisdom and Compassion. Learning therefore teaching without expectation of reward. Fact nor faith needn't substantiate such self-affirming worth.

Could it be that rather than man's highest nature being a reflection of God that the most refined conception of God is a reflection of man's higher nature? - Or if a noble God does indeed exist having evolved to one's highest levels there are no longer any meaningful differences?

Goodness and happiness without reason soon discovers reason enough.

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xxvii

*Reaching Towards the Sky
... attachment is the fabric of illusion ...*

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xxviii

*There is an overarching principle,
a power reaching long and wide across the universe*

embracing all in a mutual harmonic destiny

Transformation

... and the truth shall be written in your heart and set you free ...

... Intuitively we know this true ... freeing ourselves is why we're here, bringing the simplest man a knowledge and well-being greater than those who have achieved the greatest power, status and wealth on earth.

For ... "Heaven's at Hand" ... the seeds of light within, awaiting to be nurtured, blossom forth and encompass all.

As others having "out of body experiences" and experiencing the indescribable love of "The White Light" one cannot deny or explain in logical terms such phenomena ... such experiences being far more.

There really is something wonderful beyond expression, given an open mind and heart (innocence? -- allowing the "heavenly" influences in?) anyone can experience, even normally while retaining individually, and by ever striving for the "higher self" -- kindness and goodness for its own sake ... ultimately become "One" with

The Essence

For those longing to manifest peace and justice yet frustrated with conventional means ... A Prayerful Affirmation:

The "Wonderful Light" of Truth ... that which creates the greatest sustainable harmony "shining down" ... permeating all things ... dissolving ignorance and separateness, bringing about an ever expanding perspective of compassionate understanding and universal harmony amongst mankind and all creation.

A Forever Love

My greatest love ... truly it has no bounds. For it is by nature all inclusive. A love greater than self yet infinitely more ... the warmth of the sun, the tender caress of the breeze, the scented earth after the cleansing rains, the kindness of the heart. For the more I love, the more there is to love. More than father and mother, the earth, sky and beyond ... even time itself. Touched by its spirit and flowing within its infinity, there are no qualifications only integrity ... only oneness. - bk

Footnote Trust: There's little man or world can offer I want nor not already have ... my principle desire is to increase awareness/harmony.

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*... Skimming the ethereal
to the mountain tops ...*

Genuine "freedom" and contentment lie in non-attachment. Attachment to things, people, concepts/religion, entities, etc., ... even "God." Though God may in fact embody that which seems worthy of worship and emulation and inseparable it is what "he" or "it" essentially represents in essence, which is of greater importance, value and worthiest of personal and universal dedication, commitment, i.e., kindness, heart centeredness and purification of motive. In other words that which brings about with minimal suffering and utmost compassion to all creation the greatest sustainable harmony.

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Beyond the Physical

There have been releases categorizing "Near death" or "Out of body experiences" as stress induced, etc. The tendency of science, presently limited to the three dimensional,

is to categorize and label. Considering no prior drug use or religious orientation, I would like to convey two experiences of comfort and hope.

Working alone, hearing music, a thought occurred: "If there can be such beauty there must be the divine", immediately all was "light", brilliant, yet unblinding, immersion in profound compassion, acceptance, peace ... timelessness, when sensing "returning" the only desire to remain ... the fairest of days that followed ... paled in comparison.

Time passed ... Contemplating receptively, overlooking a secluded pond, upon rising, feeling a great "lightness of being", clarity, insight, oneness and tender compassion for all creatures and creation. Walking the woods, finding myself observing myself from above and behind, again timelessness, then "back". Moments later a different race of unknown appeared, blocking my path, cursing and threatening. Normal reaction: anger, fear, possibly fatal given the circumstances, yet my "being" knew only compassion and tranquility ... somehow seeing deeply and beyond. A presence ... a voice that wasn't, conveyed "all rightness", protection ... the shouting grew silent, then stares ...

In times of weariness and discouragement, I've tried to discount such experiences and others for the small comfort of giving up, honestly I can't.

I'd always wondered what was meant by "Heaven's at hand and within" ... no longer.

All I know: There really is something wonderful beyond expression, given an open mind and heart (innocence? -- allowing the "heavenly" influences in?) anyone can experience, even normally, and by ever striving for the "higher self" -- kindness and goodness for its own sake ... ultimately become "One" with.

... and merge endlessly.

* Similar insightful experiences documented from all faiths and perspectives world-wide and further expansion and analysis.

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An Affinity for All Things

The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious, the source of all true art and science. People who believe in physics know that the distinction between past, present, and future is only a persistent illusion.

A human being is a part of a whole, limited in time and space experiencing his thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest - a kind of delusion or prison. Our task must be to free ourselves by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of beauty in nature.

Dr. Albert Einstein

I would like to share a phenomena experienced because of its potential to manifest great and wondrous things personally and worldwide. Neither religiously nor culturally derived the following experiences having occurred spontaneously in ever-greater frequency.

In such an experience one finds oneself normal and fully conscious, yet in a completely satisfied state of sublime integrity and wholeness in which desire and attachment fall away. Of perceiving an essence and magnanimous beauty in which ego and worldly qualifications no longer apply. Of immersion in the flow of love from and for all things. When mere breathing is exquisite as an endless wave and tender caress ... of being home ... free.

Rather than an altered state could this not be our natural state?

Though one eventually finds oneself flawed and again in the mechanics and chaos

of what we perceive as the "real world" one is still aware of a far more expansive refined reality or plane permeating and gradually transforming all levels of being.

I cannot convey specifically how to evoke such transformational states, though such ascendancies seem to neither require faith nor teaching, occurring naturally as one becomes receptive to higher levels of awareness and begins to realize the depth, breadth and beauty of one's higher nature.

... Or simply by nurturing an affinity and love for all things.

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*Those who have experienced such grace and majesty should be humbled and considered privileged to be fore-bearers of great and wondrous things.

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xxxii

Martin Luther King:

"Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted."

At some point everyone consciously or unconsciously sets a standard to live by. Though in most this standard is low, medium and in some high, generally it's a mix accounting for the current state of the world. Though excellence may be achieved in specialized areas it may be undermined if not guided by balanced perspective.

Many react to the insecurities of lack of tangible guidance by becoming cynical or adopting one of many conflicting faiths. Unfortunately such assumptions are subject to alterations, distortions and narrow interpretations thereby often contribute to disharmony. With so many discontinuities, given what we actually know, what might better cultivate the most comprehensive harmonious sustainable progress?

Principles

Go Direct. Best to avoid "Merchants."

Keep it simple. Don't argue or be stymied over details/technicalities.

Be open-minded, honest ... especially with self. Allow for diversity of truth.

Be good for its own sake ... without expectation of reward.

Be kindly, tolerant and forgiving with self and others, firm when necessary, yet gentle
... see and evoke the nobility within.

Be on good terms, compassionate and all inclusive as possible.
Always look for just, constructive solutions.

Avoid overly superficial living and negativities: Guilt, Fear, Anger, Cynicism.

Wait not for miracles/saviors nor mistake attitude/habit for human nature.
You're the summation of thoughts. Start with self ... now, and
you'll begin to see change around you.

Never give-up. Sincere efforts are unstoppable.

Aspire

– Set your goals as high and wide as conceivable.

Look to your heart and higher nature for guidance and inspiration
concentrating on self while minimizing the negative affect and excesses of the cynical,
distorted and narrow-mind, tolerant yet firm while patient and of open mind. Just try and
do your best maintaining temperament and balance while living simply and close to the
heart. Forego the vanities of status, wealth and power – Their traps and hindrances to
genuine enduring happiness and fulfillment. Future speculative benefits will accrue
naturally and be self-perpetuating and purifying, the surer
reward within and of itself.

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*May Your Thoughts Be Calm
... then Soar*

New Horizons

If there seems to be no reason

or beauty, create it ...

If there is a purpose in life, it surely is to learn and achieve the most harmonious relationship possible amongst humankind and all creation. Even if not preordained, such an idea is our greatest asset to inspire, enabling us to bear our responsibility and achieve our noblest potential. For it's not how long we live, but how we live.

Perhaps the great lesson and purpose of this world of confusion and chaos is to be good for goodness sake alone without affiliation or expectation of reward. It's hard to imagine a more purifying path or higher sense of being or worthier aspiration ... and if they're not be the divine. Let us embrace our finest qualities, give them life and thereby make them real.

Inevitably, one grows weary of revolving artificialities, for surely life's deeper meaning and purpose is to learn harmonious living and free ourselves ... our hearts know this true.

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xxxiv

Who and What am I?

The most basic question humanity asks itself, who and what am I?

You've heard it before. I need to find myself, or who am I ... and what are we? There is an understandable answer, though paradoxical.

We are the creator in essence, yet we are not. Just as a newborn, conventionally speaking, is to their parents, yet thereafter primarily molded by their reactions, so are we, the creator ... providing the fertile seed, leaving it to the individual to cultivate. Though we cannot become our parent(s) we can become as one, which as fully comprehended is

magnificent beyond words.

This may seem discouraging considering our current development. To the contrary, one comprehending their essence and wondrous potential should be inspired.

For something great and wonderful has implanted within the heart of everything a part of itself, an immortal “seed of light,” which when nurtured by goodwill towards all things flowers into an all-embracing state of being from which everything can be realized.

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On the Threshold

... on the path to enlightenment

When one begins to relinquish the past and future "living light" in the eternal present one is on the threshold of an ultimate state of being.

Realizing all one has of importance and decisive is essentially cultivated from within one is able through purification of motive and refinement to attain an ever-expanding knowledge and beautifying integrity with all things.

It would be wise and infinitely beneficial to contemplate and comprehend this as a door to lasting serenity.

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The Way

*The more one opens, broadens and deepens oneself,
the greater the apprehension of truth and universal laws
of cause/effect and manifestation.*

First and foremost, one must fulfill the principle reason for living: Independent Personal Freedom (self-contained inner peace and harmony.)

Starting with self: By open-minded honesty, letting go, replacing negatives with positives, seeing and evoking goodness for its own sake and the greatest sustainable harmony for all to become dominant.

Doing so, a basic shift occurs. One begins to notice practical results becoming ever more expansive while experiencing a permeating harmonious interconnectedness, gradually healing, renewing physically and otherwise. One starts to naturally feel and act for the greater good of self and others and all things while receiving support and a knowingness that with earnest resolve, despite residual flaws and seeming insurmountables, everything will work out.

Therefore: Neither be cynical nor anxious, but deeply inclusive and steadfastly sincere, it will come; gently ... as the leaves release in fall, and the warmth of the sun after the cleansing rains.

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A Golden Bridge

Beyond the Physical ... Others' Experiences:

Excerpts and Composites

"She then took three last breaths upon which I felt a serene warm glow within and throughout the room. I later learned from my sister who had been present at the time that she had also had the same experience ..."

While having an out - of - body experience, although still having the same form though non - physical and ethereal in nature I discovered I could glide through walls and

even living things such as trees. Upon merging I would experiencing a great sense of affinity. My perception and senses on all levels of all things was also far more acute, refined and comprehensive. When looking in a mirror I could see my face and features were the same yet greatly refined. All blemishes, distortion and weariness had vanished replaced with a luminous angelic perfection.

I had been devastated by the death of a loved one and un-consolated. I felt a presence: Standing there was my lost one conveying clearly but without words that everything was alright [sic], and in fact quite wonderful and that I needed to let go and move forward with my life, and I would never really be alone. After a tender embrace ... then just faded away. Thereafter I felt a great peace.

During the experience I found myself traveling a great distance very rapidly. I then found myself in the presence of lush greenery and beautiful flowers and others ... All seem to be exchanging luminous nourishing warmth and happiness - There was a breath and depth of love and beauty beyond description. All my questions were answered though not through words, and although unremembered I then somehow became aware all things were working - out for the greater good. I knew if I wanted to stay I could, but felt a strongly I had unfinished things to conclude first and could only stay briefly. Needless to say I no longer fear death and actually look forward to it when the proper time comes.

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No Real Boundaries ...

Mankind's hopeful ascension from adolescence to maturity.

Nature now lies subdued at man's feet. We now have the power to destroy or heal the earth.

Looking back historically, we can clearly see our excesses and how dangerous power without wisdom has been. We are finally beginning to understand our obligations to the human and natural communities, the interdependence show us all life should be treated respectfully, that there are no real boundaries, nor are we lords of this earth, but rather a part of its children, yet in order to heal all we must heal ourselves. We are afraid yet relieved for we intuitively know our past was unworthy of our higher nature. We now know our very existence and children's survival depend on transformation. This is not a time for despair or apathy, but perseverance and new ways of thinking and doing.

Don't let outside forces define you, advertisers mold you conventionalism trap you, government coerce you, industry use you or personal ambition and profit corrupt you.

You have a choice. Look to your heart. For dreams and visions can be more powerful than knowledge and facts, the mystery of life awaiting those with eyes to see and hearts to know. Each doing their part can awaken the inner potential for good and become the noble beings and civilizations meant to be.

Or Simply Stated:

Take care of yourself.

Take care of each other.

And take care of this place.

A Simple Path:

*Thoughts
To Live Fully ... be Courageous*

For from Courage comes Strength From Strength of Character ... Wisdom and from Wisdom: Peace ... Contentment ... and Happiness.

By what authority do I speak? ... the Greatest: "The Heart." The following prayer may further understanding.

Great Spirit ... help me choose an honorable means of living. Temper me in strength not to acquire more to be "better" than others but to overcome my greatest adversary ... Myself. Guide me on the trail of integrity: Respectful and compassionate towards all life -- ever seeking harmony and balance. Above all, teach me wisdom -- to be Free: so when the sun sets my spirit may return ... in Beauty and Serenity.

Faith ... Alternative Perspectives

Faith has its place and positive aspects, yet there's a broadly accepted aspect that has taken much of mankind down a narrow road contributing to his demise and now even threatens his survival.

Faith's greatest attraction fundamentally is a sense of order and security ... an investment often hard to modify or relinquish once adopted. Faith by its nature tends to ignore or discount conflicting information, personal growth often the casualty.

Faith's greatest benefits are realized when mated with the sincerest open - minded honesty directed towards the greatest sustainable un - going growth and encompassing harmony.

Mankind is at a cross-roads: With three-fourths of the world's population waiting for a "Savior" in the here or hereafter (although most adamantly disagree as to "the chosen" or "true faith") the focus tends to be on technicalities: How and when one can be

"Saved", etc., rather than taking individual responsibility addressing critical issues such as over-population and ecological destruction.

Must we create or wait for an entity to evoke our higher natures or the promise of heaven in exchange for abiding by a particular faith? What is the inherent lesson here?

Those who sincerely hunger for truth realize the surer path is through tempered moderation and wise discernment and that the greatest benefits of faith are realized when remaining open to all possibilities, that one position can contain a diversity of truths yet be an integral part of a greater truth. That tolerance is but another facet of humility and compassion. And that if there be but one transcending aspiration and foremost commandment it would be to seek truth through love. Rather than create or wait for an entity to evoke our higher natures or the promise of heaven in exchange for abiding by a particular faith it would seem the simplest, most direct and self-purifying approach would be to base ones motives on that which brings about the greatest sustainable harmony amongst all things without further expectation of reward. Therefore regardless of religious or philosophical affiliations anyone cultivating such resulting unifying qualities would naturally come in alignment with the divine.

Why gamble by following the all-too-well-traveled road of cynicism, narrow mindedness or superficial living?

If the majority are fixated on hope, faith or ego and material gratification rather than prevention, progress and evolvment and if this is just a "planetary school" expendable for the sake of learning cause and effect and appropriate response then we're in for some very tough lessons ... bearing in mind presently faith is just that ... faith not fact.

Regardless, one thing we all know yet try to deny and delay: If we don't make some major changes starting individually then collectively we'll soon certainly destroy our precious planet

Therefore: Let us guard against cynicism, be open - minded, have hope and faith while taking personal responsibility here and now so we indeed save ourselves and world.

Renewing Democracy

Most realize our democracy is in peril from leadership in both parties that place their individual affluence above that of the common good.

We feel frustrated by the limits of our ability to affect change, yet all corrections of injustices that inspired and swept the country had humble beginnings.

I am writing across the nation to ask the media and other fellow countrymen as a movement to initiate change and rise above differences and many forms of pork and bribery used to pacify, exploit and divide us and join to address the greater internal threat. The time has come when one must no longer take a position narrow and self-serving but sustainable and for the greater good of all.

Given the deplorable situation though anger may seem justified it must be displaced by the light of our higher natures to ennoble, inspire other and rise above obstacles.

Let us honor our traditions and the sacrifices of our forefathers and do our duty as real patriots and save our homeland while able.

It won't be time consuming or complicated while infinitely rewarding.

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And the future ...

Transitioning from the age of translucence to the age of transparency.

We are presently being prepared for another age of human planetary evolution, a deeper and broader understanding of life's meaning ... from separation to integration.

Transitions are usually chaotic, therefore, it's crucial in order to expedite the process to react constructively to what seems bad as well as good while avoiding fear and resentment of that which is necessary for advancement in order to optimize well-being and happiness.

The present age could be described as the age of translucence in which essential truths conveyed are often defracted. This defraction is of the mind and caused by ignorance and residual negativity, etc. As events intensify and transformations expand from realizations of the true nature of life a great shift will occur. There after an age of transparency will manifest and prevail in which all things will be naturally experienced as a harmonious whole and flow ... Relevant religious and philosophical principles merging and experienced as a continuum, qualifications transcended. That which is now considered miraculous will be common and so comprehensive and wondrous as to exceed present imaginings. Technology will be limited, its real cost realized and seen as crude compared to awakened sensibilities enhanced by simple wholesome living.

Such insights should not draw attention to the individual nor are such premonitions exacting. For necessary beneficial purposes are being served by a lack of full disclosure such as goodness for its own sake tempered by wisdom. For what seemed dire circumstances and harbingers of doom are really the engines necessitated to drive continual circumspection and evolvment though fitful which ultimately results in ever greater comprehension, well-being and enduring happiness.

Like myself, you may mentally doubt how such things can come to pass, yet accepted cutting edge physics reveal mergings equivalent to an age when the world was assumed flat when proposed round. One need only realize that dimensions of such nature inherently cannot be understood or made manifest by the limitations of the mind, which is but a tool, only experienced through purification of motive within the depths of the heart.

Therefore be at peace, then look beyond the learning, to what with wisdom gained, will be ... Your Final Destiny.

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Lifenotes ...

Inspirational Notations along the Way

Yesterday is now a dream and tomorrow but a vision, but today's moment well lived, can make the past a path to fulfillment in the present.

It would seem reality as we think of it is as a dreamlike apparition of "The Oneness of All" – The only true reality.

Goodness and Happiness naturally follow and flow outward when in the "Higher Self." ~ bk

The hard times keep us a-growing while
the good times keep us a-going.

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I know I'm not what I ought to be,

but I know what I want to be.

– and I know that I am trying to be,

and better than I used to be

– and that some day ... I will be.

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Just take it one step at a time, and everything will work out fine.

☸☸☸

By emptying one's self, each moment can be fully appreciated and transcendent qualities realized to achieve a mindful elevated awareness and "lightness of being." Exemplified in the Japanese tea ceremony as focused on the present and one, yet deeply aware of the sublime and timeless quality and integrity of the whole.

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One may come to liberating realizations but become discouraged in not being able to harness the will to actualize them. - Not taking into account the ability to overcome old attitudes, habits etc., may require further seasoning.

☸☸☸

Aspire, set your goals as high and wide as conceivable.
Look to your heart and higher nature for guidance and inspiration.

☸☸☸

Being in one's higher-self naturally manifests serenity, sweetness of life and bliss ... and creatively enhanced through happiness without reason.

Greatness is Humble

Attachment is the Fabric of Illusion

"Without spirituality science is lame, and without science spirituality is blind".

Einstein

I consider myself neither an agnostic nor pantheist, for I'm only inclusive of reasonable intuitive viewpoints of compassionate affinity as possibilities to continue to expand harmonious personal and universal growth.

The higher one rises in the "greater self" the less affected one is by worldly affairs and hardships.

Time and time again I am reminded one can only find true happiness and enduring fulfillment when "within the higher-self" ... while wondering what lesser impulses, cravings or distractions could have ever justified "leaving."

It would seem experience and time are required to remind us of the infinite worth and wondrous beauty fully awakened upon deciding to dwell within our true "home."

Life's foremost purpose is to teach ... to acquire wisdom, compassion and learn harmonious living ... all else is of lesser importance ... events observed and experienced reminders and guides.

A great barrier has been breached when one realizes their lower or limiting self is their most resistant adversary. Thereafter the way can be cleared and progress greatly increased.

That within the heart and which manifests outward there-from ... the qualities of kindness are of far greater value, influence and of enduring character than all other endeavors in life ... remembered and treasured above and beyond all else.

On every level all things to a degree are "alive" and in a sense possess individuality even though appearing as a whole singular. Each component or "individual" part needing continual recognition, appreciation and love for its optimal well being. It would be wise to appreciate how steadfast and wondrously one's body works together and its potential in part and whole given a multi-leveled intimate and loving relationship.

Life and Sexuality: "An angel on the bedpost or a demon in the mind ... ?"

There seems to be a great deal of attention given to sexuality especially if of a deviant nature. This is not surprising given its instinctually driven nature and the marketing opportunities present in modern societies. The logical mind finds such impulses puzzling, illogical and even humorous. The acculturated and cynical mind: often immoral, "dirty" with shades of regret/guilt etc. The heart, though fun loving ... gently conveys moderation while moving forward to ever greater compassion and refinement.

Essentially all one needs to face, resolve or rise above the travails of life and fulfill its greater purpose can be found within the "higher-self ... or heart". Drawing directly with purification of motive distills from the impurities of acculturation and ego "essence" integrating dignity and humility while lending clarity and insight to the mysteries of life.

Whether referred to as the Christ or Buddha within the "greater or higher-self" it is neither dependent or exclusive of such entities or faiths ... it's higher realms accessible to all seeking wisdom, purification of motive and goodness for its own sake.

Attachment is the fabric of illusion.

For one to acquire the right-mind to make appreciable progress it is first necessary to contemplate and understand on a deep encompassing level the value and elevating influence one's greater-self can have not only one's own well-being but all life.

To achieve a fair degree of consistency or ability to "stay in" this "greater self" it is important to realize one is not responsible for what seem the injustices of the world, only for one's responses ... favoring that which furthers harmonious relationships amongst all things.

Although ones worldly goals and aspirations may be of a high order it's important not to allow frustration or what seems the inability to manifest them to deprive one of the personal serenity of the moment - To let go or rest when weary or encountering the heaviness of what seems insurmountable. For the reasons for such deprivations may be to instill the liberation and elevated perception realized when first acquiring appropriate order and priority. Bearing in mind the greater the personal transcendence (in the moment) the greater the ability to evoke positive change on multiple levels both externally and internally leading to ever greater awareness and fulfillment.

Might it not be possible if God does indeed exist we often unknowingly see or portray "him" as ourselves ... too small? Can we presume to be able pass on such a comprehensive nature through mere words let alone understand? Would there not be a finer more inclusive sense capable of reaching beyond our mental limits and human vulnerabilities?

Regardless, with due respect for all the possibilities what would seem most crucial is not the belief in or existence of God but the belief in good - Not the promise of heaven but its manifestation - Not the securance of salvation but the greater good.

Could it be rather than our higher-natures being reflective of God, are a reflection of our higher-natures?

Knowledge can be limited and prideful, often acquiring much but learning little of real worth. Whereas "the timeless stone of wisdom" is comprehensive yet humble, acquiring little but learning much of enduring value.

Why are we here?

Essentially we came into this world with its full range of choices and examples as observers and experiencers to internalize and carry forward that which is of real value.

It's better not to choose as an objective a particular, but a general value as guidance, such as the cultivation of wisdom, thereby remaining open to all opportunities for optimal growth.

Regarding Local and Worldwide Intolerances

It would seem, regardless of religious or philosophical affiliations, anyone cultivating purification of motive and the resulting unifying qualities, i.e. all-inclusiveness, compassion etc., would be in alignment with the divine, including the agnostic or atheist. " For there are many rooms in my mansion ".

Many are the self-limiting insecurities and distractions both cynical, righteous and otherwise on the path to the sacred. The simplest, most direct and self-purifying: To base ones motives on that which brings about the greatest sustainable harmony amongst all things without further expectation of reward.

Presently it may be essence, purification and illumination are better distilled and cultivated by disregarding the chaos of the religions, etc., of the world ... looking only to higher-self with purification of motive without expectation.

It could be that "God" on this plane or world is largely irrelevant and impersonal regarding injustice and learning important lessons of real value the bottom line.

Perhaps the universe ebbs and flows maintaining equilibrium while all are presented with creative opportunities for greater harmonious refinement.

It would seem once a lesson is learned karmic debt need no longer apply.

Always look to the higher-self in times of difficulty. To minimize suffering to self and others when initially feeling frustration, anger or despair or otherwise overwhelmed immediately return to the wisdom and serenity of the higher-self for alternatives, understanding or acceptance in order to avoid greater hardship.

All the principle religions and many other perspectives include those having striven for essence who have achieved great wisdom and insight through heart centered purification of motive.

Most are consoled in life by the adoption of religions and/or the gratification derived from worldly achievements. Though such endeavors may have considerable merit it is the boundless "higher-self" rising above

the worldly fog unhindered by acculturation which gains the higher ground and greater perspective.

Blessings – bk

Consolation for the Weary

When looking ahead the road forward seems so long and unknown, yet when looking back you've come so far and learned so much. As the greater meaning of this unfolds bear in mind the possibility at any time a cumulative threshold or decisive insight could be reached in which that called enlightenment or heaven is realized and thereby liberation achieved.

Therefore be comforted and at peace. – bk

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xli

Devastating Perfection

... the beautiful dilemma

Free Falling ...

Amongst the unbroken outstretched arms of the forest, a leaf, gracefully eddied downward, weaving waywardly through the calm Autumn air, to come to rest 'neath an Aspen's smooth white bark.

Like the weathered arms of the tree and that leaf, I too, was falling Free ... falling, to reside upon, then within, that earthen tomb ... and cradle ... to Rest.

When in great despair, suddenly from nowhere, a sparkling multi-colored jewel-like robe was tenderly placed about me with unearthly majesty and compassion. Thereafter following deep sincere contemplation the following occurred to me:

"Enlightenment" is not acquired ... in the sense from outside ourselves. Although worldly experiences increase awareness, enlightenment is already complete within, and realized consciously to the degree one relinquishes distractions and distills essence from symbology and complexity. Simply stated: All that is really needed is provided when striving for and when within the "higher self". If one were to comprehend and integrate just this, all would be resolved.

... You need but flow, not know. Knowing comes in good time.

The "Higher-self" resides within and is a manifestation of the heart. The Heart is as a hologram of the universe and "contains" all knowledge, things and omnipresent. The portal to the heart is purification of desire or motive. The greater the degree of purification, the greater the accessibility.

Though the yield be boundless when steadfast in one's endeavors to practice Goodness and Happiness for its Own Sake, it's wise to bear in mind enduring goodness and happiness naturally follow and flow from striving for and being in the "Higher Self" here and now when realizing it's never too soon nor too late.



And so a broken heart is the price we pay, cleansed by the tears shed along the way but these hard times, that free us will pass away, and lead us to a better day.

So why worry, just do your best and leave the rest, then look beyond the darkness, the learning, to happi-ness.

Lyrics from The Learning composed by Brad Kalita

My worldly goals were wonderful, altruistic in many aspects: the preservation and highest use of the land while helping others to renew and heal.

After many years of hard work, considerable cost and sacrifice they had become a reality ... upon reaching that very stage they were crushed. Why would the universe bring about or allow such a tragedy and where now could I turn having lost faith in: Work hard, Persist = Success? Finally after great sorrow and contemplation I realized that by losing my worldly aspirations I was being forced to focus and cultivate in proper order a more self-contained and complete foundation from which to expand outward. You see, having in a sense put so much emphasis on worldly/material goals subject to the vagaries of same I'd had allowed important pre-requisites unattended or essences to be eclipsed.

Such heart-breaking lessons are " the quickened path". Those having continual success yet lacking properly based/ordered priorities eventually are taught successes limitations, diminishing returns and inherent impediments to genuine progress/success ...if necessary to the point of exhaustion, thereby willingly giving-up such pursuits to embrace simplicity, balance ... or purification. For worldly success craves ever more to maintain a satisfactory level of gratification and one of the greatest impediments to genuine progress, harmony and happiness.

Each is given their own unique circumstances tailored to bring about essential growth in accordance to the most pressing need given ones level of evolvment. The sooner the integration of harmonious universal principles the sooner the realization of lasting freedom and the fulfillment of life's greater purpose.



xlii

What to Believe In?

I've experienced the inexplicable and inexpressible beauty and serenity of the "The Great White Light". Observed my physical body from above and beyond. Once threatened, facing death, felt only compassion, protection and indescribable peace. Observed golden "flakes" sparkling downward from the heavens. While alone felt my face stroked and "a voice." For hours occasion a oneness and flow with all things and incredible bliss ... such experiences and others initiated in a normal/unaltered state.

It would seem reasonable that I believe in the divine. Yet, I often feel agnostic. Why? No matter what religious, philosophical perspective explored, none justifies what seems unnecessary suffering. In nature this is a special dilemma.

Whereas man has ability to alleviate his own and others suffering, etc., animals do not. Evolutionary evolvment over millions of years seems cruel ... Even the explanations of the great religions seem inadequate and incomplete ... while mankind continues fragmented and adrift ... yet I cannot deny my wondrous experiences or give in to cynicism.

Above all, I am driven by self-honesty and purification of motive, which I believe the key to truth. Intellectually/culturally I am limited, yet my heart, though broken and longing, seems to know more ... Perhaps ones noblest potential requires facing a world of

chaos, uncertainty, even hopelessness to distill the essence of soul ... or "goodness for its own sake". It is hard to imagine anything more productive, self-purifying or unifying ... while the worth of such self-affirming motives and qualities need no substantiation from logic, the divine or otherwise.

Gradually, as all is inevitably stripped from us, even "life" itself, it would seem the most purifying, enduring, fulfilling and worthwhile of endeavors.



*... Seeing differences as opportunities
Reconciling Conflicting Beliefs
to Create Social and Ecological Harmony*

It seems above all mankind needs a unifying perspective to bridge the abyss and manifest sustainable harmony. – A "new" perspective yet ageless as wisdom itself, one that distills the essence, greater purpose and potential from the morass and stifle of acculturation while embracing the diversity and truth in all.

Humanity is at a crossroads: With most of the world steeped in materialism, cynicism or depending on a "Savior" (though most disagreeing as to "the true and faithful") the focus tends to be on consumptive distraction, entrenchment or being "Saved" rather than taking individual responsibility addressing critical issues such as over-population and ecological destruction.

While cynicism's appeal may be indifference, faith's is a sense of ordered security, often assumed unchanged through the ages, interpreted as fact, creating tendencies toward superiority, exclusion and excesses.

Rather than succumbing to cynicism, egotism, self-limiting absolutes or the promise of heaven in exchange for abiding by a particular faith the simplest most direct

approach would seem to base ones motives on that which brings about the greatest sustainable harmony amongst all things without further expectation of reward. Thereby, regardless of religious or philosophical affiliations anyone cultivating such unifying qualities would inherently be in alignment.

Those who hunger for truth, realize faith's greatest benefits when recognizing one position is but an integral part of a whole or diversity of truths. – That tolerance is another aspect of humility and compassion. – And if there be one transcending aspiration it would be to seek truth.

Could the ego be but a self-made security-blanket, and when realizing the comprehensive worth of one's individualized higher-nature a natural attraction and manifestation occurs. – Evil, ignorance, therefore man's dilemma not one of human-nature but perspective? That "the truth that frees" is "written in our hearts," and cannot be materially retained or adequately understood...only experienced. – The divine diversely present in all creation, evoked through compassionate affinity?

Rising above righteousness and cynicism: Such a perspective doesn't exclude the existence of divine guidance, but rather opens the possibility of greater comprehension. And if an entity be essential to further evolvment then anyone openly seeking truth would naturally come to such an acknowledgement, thereby establishing an interim harmonious foundation while reconciling perceived differences.

People of physics know that the distinction between past, present, and future an illusion, a human part of an inseparable mysterious beauty and whole. – The source of all true art and science. – Einstein

It would seem experience mated with time are necessary to apprehend and instill

simple harmonious living: Persisting in balance trying to do one's best while minimizing negativity and cultivating empathy manifesting the deepest comprehensive affection, knowledge and fulfillment.

Truth, goodness and beauty for their own sake. – It's hard to imagine a more self-purifying, affirming, unifying distillation of the essence of our higher-nature or the divine.

Perhaps this is human kind's greatest lesson.

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The Nature of "Truth"

Some original thoughts: To help solve problems personally, locally and world – wide one must try to understand the nature of truth:

The more inflexible the adherence to absolute truth the greater the inherent contradictions, exclusion and tendency towards counter productive results. Recognizing and practicing "the diversity of truth" is wisdom in blossom. Compromising all the "diverse truths" and constantly counter-correcting the "over-all truth" is realized dynamically in nature as a constantly adjusting balancing, tolerant, harmony. The practice of overall truth is not optional, but a necessity. The greater non - appliance the more disharmony and potential for destruction. It is important to recognize "truth" can and does change with time ... so when one states a truth in reference to a period it may no longer be as true presently. The greatest "over-all" truth or equilibrium, is achieved by the compromise of all components in accordance with the degree of truth contained within each components "truth". Since balance and tolerance is critical to the sustainability and welfare of all, non-adherence, ignorance and abuses etc. of these practical truths bear considerable negative consequences. There is simply no way around the integral

application of these principles without eventual strife and suffering ... cheat "the system" and you cheat yourself at greater net loss.

It's simple, complex and contradictory all at once ... and yet it works.

*Supported by the biography: Beautiful Mind, and
Nobel awarded: Efficiency of Economy.*



A More Inclusive Vessel

We are in a crucial stage in man's history in which everything must be re-examined and modified: Energy, economics, science, politics and religion. Traditional views, to a large extent, have been counter-productive. All must become less exclusive, monolithically dominating, man-centered and more focused on the integrity of the whole. - Just as in the past when cultures or religions evolved, i.e., Christianity, as a result of endless brutality and need of hope, Islam as a result of warlord territorialism and need for cohesion.

We have seen the excesses and prevalence of narrowly interpreted competing cultural aspects, i.e., economically: Increasing affluent and corporate domination. Socially: Environmental degradation from over-population often due to social and religious attitudes, faith viewed as fact, used as a condemnation and reward system, submission often exploited or seen as a self-serving spring-board to heaven, while lacking integral compassionate affinity for the natural world and its inter-connected life support systems.

Rather than severing this great tree of many branches, the time has come to prune, to allow healthy growth and provide a larger more inclusive vessel to prevent becoming fatally ingrown.

The masters cautioned there would be much spoken that would not be fully understood, and greater comprehension and refinement would follow. Thousands of years have passed and much has become self-evident or revealed through those of open heart and mind. Given present critical circumstances, it would seem that time has come for all to make a leap forward.

Man a Reflection of God, or God a Reflection of Man

Many find security and order by adopting religious beliefs, others long for or wonder, while some succumb to cynicism. Yet few realize the more one integrates with their higher-nature the less relevant such concerns, for when elevating into the greater-self one naturally evokes or creates the divine ... Relevant religious and philosophical principles thereby merging and experienced as a continuum and whole, qualifications transcended.

Might it not be possible if God does indeed exist we often unknowingly see or portray "him" as ourselves ... too small? Can we presume to be able pass on such a comprehensive nature through mere words let alone understand? Would there not be a finer more inclusive sense capable of reaching beyond our mental limits and human vulnerabilities?

Regardless, with due respect for all the possibilities what would seem most crucial is not the belief in or existence of God but the belief in good – Not the promise of heaven but its manifestation – Not the securance of salvation but the greater good.

Could it be rather than our higher-natures being reflective of God, God is a reflection of our higher-natures?

Given the possibility of such potentials wouldn't it wise not to depend upon the existence of the divine nor assume its reflection or equivalent doesn't already exist within, but rise above perceived differences and complexities and assure its presence by evoking or creating it outwardly here and now through the most sensitive of preceptors: The heart.

Affirmation: Seek and you shall find, for heavens at hand ... within. - The truth

written in the heart ... to free.

Footnote: The nature of my philosophy is to remain open to all possibilities, place truth above all else in order to grow, yet I see little difference between man's higher-nature and God, nor even the requirement of such an entity, or for that matter one of evil, which for the most part I attributed to ignorance, i.e. Would God have the character attributed to an ego such as to requiring homage or damnation regardless of motive. Are these not the traits of men rather than God?

Is not the content more important than the package, the essence rather than the presentation?

This view has nothing to do with arrogance on my part but of purification of motive and deep longing for the greatest good, for if such aspirations exist in myself they surely exist in others and most certainly in God.

If I'm right it does not really matter nor if I'm wrong, the point being it's the essence of such qualities that is of most importance and worthiest of emulation.

Might such a perspective more naturally attract and manifest such qualities?



*Meditation and Prayer?
A unique approach.*

* Removing the mental clutter, impediments and burden of the ego, etc. to "connect" and manifest greater inner and outer harmony.

We often ask God or universe for something, yet with our prayers in the process mentally fill the "space" with thought, desire, images or otherwise rather than naturally allowing "God" in. Even the leanest of meditations recommend some focal point be used. If there indeed be a God, the divine or worthy something why not just empty our heads

and implicitly invite it in ... to fill the space ... which is probably where "it" otherwise would naturally be anyway. – Not according to our terms or expectations, but just as it is and will: that at times this may include no "response" – Nothing, therefore not always expecting gratification, thereby instilling greater independence and even temperament.

I have found by using such an approach upon clearing and opening myself I soon experience a gentle serenity, then a non-attached harmonious connectedness in which all things seem in perspective often followed by a "peace that passes all understanding".

Being sure to exclude the ego I may creatively enhance this state by seeing myself physically, mentally and otherwise as my optimal greater-self in comprehensive harmony.

Such a state even when un-enhanced can lead to a soothing healing energy massage – like inner "movement" ... physical yet non-physical (very pleasant and consoling) then luminosity throughout ... Something you don't feel, but do ... yet just as real ... As though having another sense, another body layered ethereally within ... something you don't see, but do ... As though having another eye that truly sees ... with the ability to experience a wholeness and satisfaction in which nothing more is desired and all is complete.

If there was or is a Garden of Eden perhaps such is akin to the continuous state which truly makes it real.

Regardless, I've discovered such an approach evokes practical as well as tangible improvement in well-being and relationships which carry over significantly into day to day living. I've also found such a state more sustainable if inserted when ever possible into ones normal daily routine.

Could this be a simpler more direct and natural way to connect with God, "universality" or our higher-natures while improving well-being?

☪☪☪

Reconciliation and Empathy

I do not invite a revisit of the past, but an opportunity to share the future ... a-fresh, based upon the most progressive perspective and attitude available at a given moment - bk.

... a letter of reconciliation - bk

Do not think I don't empathize.

I think empathy is an important lesson we must all learn, which is easy to forget over time and over-react in the chaos of day to day to dealings and moods of which we are all susceptible to. It is so easy for all of us to lose our perspective and place pride and above the far more important lesson of learning how to create harmonious relationships. For when we can begin to rise above ourselves on a personal level then we can begin to locally and internationally as well ... There is much we may not be aware of or willing to consider at a given moment therefore it is essential to keep an open mind ... and forgive in order to start over again, and again if necessary until we get it right.

☪☪☪

Inconsistencies

If inclined to look at me as a personal example...

There have been and likely will continue to be inconsistencies though my words be sincere and from the heart. Therefore forgive me as I forgive, now and in the future. Thereby relinquishing pre-mature or un-realistic expectations that we may continue to grow together ... in ever greater compassion.



Old Buildings and People

I have some older buildings. Some seeing their weathered rusticity view them as shacks, others as quaint, but I know otherwise – knowing what has gone into them and what they have been through.

It occurred to me that people are much that way as they grow older: The lines in their faces from what they've endured – The bend in their backs from the pain and the burden from what they have born – The light within having grown a character more beautiful and luminous than the former outward glow of youth.

Perhaps like those old buildings and people by looking more to and from the heart we could enrich our lives and better see and understand the real value, nature and purpose of all things.



The Best for Last

... each stage of life has its compensations, even old age.

As a society we tend to view advanced age negatively. Youth, especially in its prime is idealized, yet in mid-life we tend to look upon youthful foolishness and the senility of old age with equal condescension. When oldsters act oddly or in an aggravated manner due to loss of mobility or "warehousing" etc we give them drugs with debilitating side effects repressing their immune systems, often encouraged by myopic profit oriented "health" providers, thereby short-circuiting the beneficial aspects of the natural aging and dying process.

My father has long been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, a label which immediately categorized him as having anti-social characteristics. Yet I have always viewed him as

"just old" and under - standably prone to moods of frustration. Yet when I talk to him not at him and really with him I can have intelligent and stimulating conversations on the deepest mutually rewarding levels. Doctors have expressed their amazement as to how well he has done without drugs and caretakers confided how others had degenerated.

Past cultures were far more intuitive and inclusive ... the age-ed honored and their occasional strangeness seen as naturally re-connecting/orientating prior to "passing-over." A more enlightened approach could provide the last of life stages to be the greatest: Of growth, insight, and wisdom ... "the flowering of the soul".

Therefore take comfort and wisdom regarding your age-ed loved ones and your own demise, while allowing and nurturing ... "The Best for Last".



To the Greater Benefit of All

There is far too much polarization politically and otherwise, rooted in unawareness. It would seem more than anything everyone wants to be happy. Many having given up - Succumbing to the small comfort of cynicism, the self-limited security of conventionalism, void-filling of consumerism or distraction in stimulation or ego gratification. Ironically once steadfastly committed personal happiness and harmony are far easier to maintain than remaining discontent.

Happiness is essentially quite simple: As long as you are trying your best to be in your "greater or higher self" in the present moment, regardless of circumstance, you will be happy, knowing in your heart having transcended such qualification as winning, losing or fault while moving ever closer to that most comprehensive and universally enduring.

True and lasting happiness requires heart, an open mind, growth and courage, and can be acquired through inspiration - By having a constant vision of one's full potential

and awareness of what is of greater value and tight focus. - Realizing we are all our worst enemies.

Such an endeavor and perspective naturally leads to greatness - Not to be great, but in balance, free, and nobly enlightened to the greater benefit and harmony of all things.

There are three essential questions we all ask ourselves:

Who am I, What's the purpose "of all this", and why do things seem so unfair. When left unanswered, they result in variable degrees of neurosis or socially pathological behavior.

Who am I?: Everyone harbors the aspect of true greatness beyond ego, which can be realized through the cultivation of one's greater or higher nature, and experienced to a degree or continuum as peaceful harmony, blissful unity, and love beyond compare.

From Eden back to Eden - So what's the point?: Manifesting into the physical emphasizes contrasts experienced conducive to internalizing what's of real value, while having evolved to the point of individual self-awareness versus original ambiguity of innocence expands and enhances the potential for more appreciative comprehensive fulfillment.

But why do things seem so inexplicable and unfair?

Consider: Could ego be but a security blanket and in reality a hindrance and burden? Evil basically stemming from ignorance - Would anyone be "bad" are indifferent for long if aware they're short-changing or cheating themselves of the far greater gratification of their higher nature? Unfairness: Could it be just as we learn through the suffering of others and they in turn learn through ours - The chaos of the world to learn goodness for its own sake and reward? The root of all suffering is related to ignorance, and at some level learning and evolvment towards an ultimate state of happiness, harmony and well-being. Cultivating an open mind and heart transcends ego and cultural influences while expanding awareness of the unlimited wondrous beauty of one's greater and finer nature, creating a natural attraction which eventually overcomes all impediments to attain a timeless being-ness magnificent beyond words.

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Distractions

I was getting very excited, for I had realized I was reaching a level of excellence in an area which had always inspired me which was becoming a dominant focus in my life. Then I realized something I already knew but now really came home: That if recognition did actually come, and possible fame and fortune I would likely take it to an ever higher level ... for the rest of my life.

Well excitement is fine, it's stimulating and highly motivating/ – But also turbulent, and like spice and sugar an enhancement, and complementary if kept in proportion and balance within the whole. Having become aware of this I realized if I didn't get my values in perspective I would fool and cheat myself out of the far greater well-being and happiness from cultivating an elevating lifestyle and regimen conducive to cultivating inward peaceful harmony promoting outward lasting fulfillment.

I determined I would not allow myself to deprive myself of what I always would realize and want above anything else – The totality of what I really was: My greater, finer and comprehensive higher nature.



xliii

Real Value and Lasting Happiness

I have spent more than half a lifetime seeking happiness, and as others, experienced much hardship and disappointment. After deep contemplation I've discovered afflictions rather than adversaries have been guides to ever-greater insight, wisdom and happiness while gradually realizing most commonly accepted symbols of prosperity to be misleading and driven by insecurities, conventionalism and marketing

influences.

When people seek fame, fortune and social status usually what they really want is love, to feel special and control. But such an approach is inherently fleeting and superficial while often evoking negatives: Jealousy, superiority, etc. It's ironic that such traits are a model in our culture and continue to be emulated as evidence of intelligence and sophistication without noting that worldly success inevitably results in diminishing gratification while "failure" tends to stimulate circumspection and adaptation of that which is of real and enduring value.

Though the devil may seem in the living and details the essence of what nurtures ever-greater fulfillment and of greatest worth has become clear: Being aware of the unlimited ever-expanding potential and wondrous beauty of one's higher nature and trying to be in this elevated self regardless of circumstances. It's funny, but doing so seems to also bring out the better in others and situations.

It would seem experience mated with time are necessary to apprehend and instill harmonious living and remind us of the comprehensive worth of our individualized greater nature – Persisting in cultivating simplicity, compassionate affinity and interconnectedness bringing far greater empowerment while gradually manifesting in return the most comprehensive and deepest affection, knowledge and fulfillment.

I believe trying to naturalize and integrate such elevated individualized qualities for their own sake in spite of our own and others short-comings to be the essence of what is unifying and worthiest in ourselves, and therefore sacred.

– While doing so without further expectation of reward the noblest of aspirations.

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xliv

As Children

It would seem like children we need both time and experience to learn what is of greatest value. We are simply maturing and ignorance is our greatest fault and adversary for not being conscious enough of the magnificence of what we deprive ourselves of. It is hard to imagine anyone doing terrible or base things for long knowing how much more grand and enduring the inherent inward enrichment they're depriving themselves of - Besides becoming aware such negative pursuits eventually lead to personal tragedy as a stimulus to awaken, and to be pitied for being in darkness and very well may have a long suffering journey before seeing the light. The brightest which inevitably overcomes all - Being Love.

Realizing this we can come to forgive ourselves for our short-comings even when willful, just as a child would be forgiven, thereby able to forgive others as we come to see them in ourselves, realizing their wonderful potential as our own, thereby naturally being drawn together towards a greater good.



xlv

For those weary for justice and longing for peace ...

To my fellow traveler:

As you strive for high ideals, be not discouraged; try to maintain a wholesome balance. Remember, living well is your best revenge and laughter the quickest cure.

Try to live simply and “lightly” ... Strive for happiness. Give life your best, for in time it will be reciprocated. Remember wherever you go and whomever you meet, you always leave something behind. Keep in mind the kindness and acts of heroism exemplified throughout the world. Bear in mind the beauty in nature and the arts of man as well.

Be of even temperament, gentle but firm, practice tolerance ... allowing

for the diversity of truth. Be respectful to those of lesser means. Cultivate a healthy discipline, yet gentleness. Be honorable while exercising caution in your endeavors and worldly affairs.

Hurt not the plants, trees, nor animals, neither the earth nor its waters. Consider with compassion your voiceless fellow brethren, for they too have a place and story to tell as well as an intrinsic part to play in earth's unfolding drama.

Remember your origins, for you are a child "of the light" born of earth's celestial firmament ... ever evolving, ever returning, so be at home wherever you are, living each moment to the fullest, allowing the days to unfold as they will.

Take kindly the experience and wisdom gained from the passing of years, for the path to enduring fulfillment lies not in the path of conquering new adversaries and acquiring greater wealth, but in discovering the beauty of riches within. Remember in time life's mysteries are unfolded to those of gentle spirit and opened mind.

Therefore, be at peace with yourself and as much as possible with others, as well as all life. Yet be not too timid or self-seeking. Listen to your heart. For there comes a time in every life when one must commit to a higher ideal. Those who would never embrace a cause worthy of self sacrifice deprive not only themselves, but the world of their greatness of higher being. For the individual on the path to true greatness not only dreams nobly, but has begun to live those dreams.

For just as visions can be greater than knowledge, and love stronger than death, events are preparing "the way" to a new age of understanding. For even now, born upon the celestial winds of change, are seeds of "light", drawing ever near, bearing new life, new ways of seeing and new ways of thinking.

*Such are the ways of truth, beauty and greatness
and the path to lasting freedom.*

So take courage ... and be still ... then gaze beyond the abyss, into the fairest of dreams to what can, and with wisdom gained will be ... your final destiny.

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xlvi
Dreams

"You are only as strong as your purpose, therefore let us choose reasons to act that are big, bold, righteous and eternal."

Barry Munro

✽✽✽

xlvii

Life can return ever greater integrity and beauty ... with age.

✽✽✽

xlviii

*May the waves make you strong
and the wind bring you home ...*

Life Songs

... So fill your sails with adventure and your heart with desire,
and when you've found it's all illusion ... Head for Home.

Lyrics from Homeward Bound - Coming Home by – bk

Home is where I'm go-in, no matter how long it takes.
For I've been searchin' wide, for a way.
And though I may not understand - so many things
I think I know the answer - and the way.

Chorus:

Truth I'm come-in to know you
Love I'm on my way
- I know I've been away, but I just have to say;
I coming to stay ...

And so I'll keep on try-in, though I know I'll go astray
Still I know I'll get there - And I'm on my way ...

Now it seems a lifetime, and I've learned so much along the way,
And though it's made me weary, there's a peace I can't explain ...

And so I'm happy,
and now I have to say; it did me good to be away,
But now I'm coming home to stay ...

Truth I'm coming to know you ...
Love I'm on my way ...
Beauty I'm gon'na see you ...
- Peace and harmony ...

Now this old life can wear you down,
especially when your dreams run out
but don't despair, come what may
for what goes down, returns someday.

For there's a lot still ahead of us
Such a high road ahead of us,
So keep trying with what's in front of you
... and it will work out, so fine.

That You May Find Your Way

I know not where you've been and done, or gone through ...
I just know I'm here to share, care, and comfort you
To empty your head, and fill your heart instead,
with wonder to rise above ... So you may find ... Your Way.

Into the Fine

I walked outside. I hugged my dog
- and looked to the sky
It was so bright - sooo nice.
I then knew in my heart,
everything would be all right
- and sooo fine ...

For we're on our way,
to "some day" - to better times.

- Into the night ... Into the fine
... Into "The Light".

So Look to the Heart

Now what can I say? and what can I do?
Though I know, I haven't been - it's true ...

For I'm only me
Though I know, someday - I will "Be" ...

And your only you ...
What else can you do?
- And if we forgive and forget - we can be free ...

So what more can I say?

And what more can I do?
All I know, is in the heart - in the soul ...

So look to your heart, yes look to the heart ...
The soul, to know - And be free – Free!

A Place in the Heart

Somehow, I know we will find our way,
to our place, of the heart:
A place to grow, and know
A place to thrive, and sow
A place to share, and care
A place to become ... as one
I know, somehow we'll find, our way
To a place in the sun, of living light ... so fine
A place for you, and a place for I
A place to be free, play and run ... beyond space and time
a place of peace, beauty and love sublime
Someday, I know we'll find our way, back home,
to that place ... of our hearts. - bk

Inspired and composed on a starry night
while sitting under a tree:

Hello out there ... And beyond.
I'd like to get to know you ... and be friends.
Hello ... Hello ?
I know you're out there ... So send a beam, for me,
... So we can
... Be

Gentle Callings ...
a celestial lullaby for all ages

(Preceded by soothing cooing)

Now rest in peace,
and travel far,
to who you are,
beyond the stars,
to light so fine,
and love divine,
beauty of mind,
and a heart so kind.

You're on your way ...

back Home ...

* Note: You know in my later years I came to realize all I wanted to do musically was compose song and lyrics that were both beautiful and inspiring - To go about giving free concerts promoting progressive free thinking honoring all life.

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You Ask Me Why I Write

Why do you write?

BK: Because it's only natural to express that which one loves.

In response to a fellow writer: Yes I too wonder at times after having written something of inspiration, where did it come from, and then I realize ... and know, it came ... from all of us.

Do you consider yourself "enlightened" or prophetic?

BK: No, although at times to varying degrees reflecting such qualities, my present evolvment increasingly shifts from the mundane to the inspired or "higher nature". My confidence/authority cultivated from delving deeply into the heart and "tuning in" to what I call "all inclusive knowledge" resulting in an inexplicable knowingness, guidance and continuous growth founded upon harmonic, compassionate open-mindedness and acceptance of the diversity of truth. This capability is inherent with the right attitude and purification of purpose. "Connecting" anyone inspired can speak truth worthy of emulation, for human frailty/inconsistencies neither change nor diminish truth's value, therefore, cynicism unjustified.

If ever renowned or popularized, I ask myself honestly and on the deepest levels what worldly personal gains might be derived. I was encouraged to realize that greater understanding and simplification then broadest application of the essence of harmonious inter-relating not only eclipsed but surpassed all other motivations. It's important to understand: while there is a considerable diminishment of returns in the further pursuit of ego and material gain, just the opposite is true in the spiritual realms. On a personal level, my ultimate goal is to fully integrate and flow naturally with that which is aligned and manifests the greatest sustainable harmony or greater good. Make no mistake, this is far more than an intellectual endeavor, being all inclusive in nature.

One of humankind's biggest mistakes is the expectation of those who speak of divine principles to also demonstrate them fully in living, failing to realize the varying degrees of human frailty thereby becoming disillusioned with the conveyor of such truths, or even truth itself. This reaction is not uncommon and should not be used as an excuse to become cynical or give up. All carry within a divine spark. In some it is a candle, in a few a fire, in others an occasional flicker. I consider my truth at present as a candle, at times bright, and others dim, subject to the effects of the wind, yet never entirely extinguished, presently more of a conveyor, yet ever progressing in the embodiment. I realize I am unworthy and often humbled to speak in the manner which I have taken on myself, yet I feel an inexplicable natural calling, realizing my present role as a reflector. An individual being seen as a source of truth can pose a problem for followers, for they often develop a personality cult, etc., ... to see, hear and touch, rather than listen, integrate and "be." In other words, looking outwards, rather than inward where truth may be found .

Do you believe Christ savior and the Bible word of God?

BK: "I feel a great affinity for the masters and reverence for the Bible, etc., unfortunately, they've suffered institutionalization, modification, exploitation and often narrow superficial interpretations, i.e., nearly devoid of reference/compassion for non-human inhabitants and exclusive: Salvation largely based upon details/technicalities, and negativities as motivators: Fear, guilt/condemnation or rewards in the hereafter when it's hard to imagine a more encompassing, inherently purifying or productive singular aspiration the masters would want embraced than goodness for its own sake here and now without expectation of reward.

You decline comment or debate of some questions/issues ... Why?

BK? If the intent is malicious, petty or likely to result in non-constructive dialogue it's counter productive.

I have a saying: Ten steps upward, nine steps back; (and everything in between) ...just try and remember the one forward ... that constructive step leading to the final one

P.S. And please ... Don't whip the donkey while on the way to church.

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Thesis Summation

Wisdom of the Ages

... a "new" perspective

Rising above Cynicism, Righteousness and Dependence

There is something self-affirming all can believe and act upon that need not require faith, etc. to "Save" ourselves, fellowman and world.

I would like to present a kinder more essential personal prospective neither dependent or exclusive of other viewpoints or faiths accessible to all of open mind and heart.

It would seem above all mankind needs a unifying perspective to bridge the abyss and manifest sustainability and harmony. A "new" perspective yet ageless as wisdom itself, one that distills the essence, greater purpose and potential from the morass and stifle of acculturation ... a perspective self-affirming by nature, comprehensive yet comprehensible while directly accessible to all: The religiously oriented, agnostic or otherwise ... by its very nature, simplicity and directness resistant to disparagement, exploitation, categorization, rigidity, and other maladies neither religious nor non-religious, its inherent integrity rising above the worldly fog: The bonds and bounds of science, conventionalism and historical belief ... A perspective whose universal nature transcends differences while embracing diversity and the truth in all.

I feel humbled and unworthy to speak of such things, yet cannot deny the inexplicable or evident need. Therefore, look not to the conveyor but within the heart openly and deeply with purity of motive for guidance and understanding.

There is an over-arching all-encompassing " universality," an ageless wisdom, ever flowing, that can heal not only body, mind and "spirit" but transcend differences, making all things possible. Such knowledge cannot be logically understood, only experienced ... "known". It cannot be bought, taught, scientifically derived or defined, nor requires intellect, great faith or discipline to access.

Seek and you will find ...

The vale between "heaven" and earth like a fog is created by ignorance and dissipated by ever-greater light emanated from the heart. When one looks with consistency deeply to the heart (figuratively) in utmost open-minded honesty with the "highest-self and motives" able "universal knowledge" gradually permeates. One begins to "reconnect" feel, think and act in balance and ways most beneficial to oneself, others and all things. An independent yet all-inclusive integrity, serenity, sweetness and wonder beyond that experienced as a child emerges expanding outward. Suffering, fear of aging, death etc begin to recede and be seen as passages

or "doors" to ever greater wisdom, harmony and happiness.

Ever – present ... Ever– lasting

... the heart's all-encompassing illuminating beauty.

This "higher or greater-self" is a manifestation of the center of the heart which is pure and as a holograph incorporating all knowledge and aspects of the universe, its all-inclusive realms accessible through the cultivation of purification of motive.

As the higher-self gains dominion events experienced as suffering begin to fall away followed by refinement leading to every greater wisdom and happiness ... The blossoming of the soul. Upon dwelling in one's true home the comprehensive nature of salvation, enlightenment and "heaven" may be experienced as an evolved entity or the timeless elation and serenity of the "unified field".

The masters throughout the ages essentially concur: "Heaven's within ... the truth written in our hearts to free.". For such truths, and knowledge by their nature cannot be understood by the limitations of the mind only experienced, known through the breath and depth of the heart -Manifest qualities such as kindness being of far greater value and enduring character than all other endeavors in life.

This is where the journey of chaos ends and another begins: one of wisdom, tenderness, beauty and lasting serenity, the real treasures ...

The heart being the portal to our greater selves and realm of our true home, illuminated in ever greater splendor by purification of motive, goodness for its own sake and compassion for all things. It is hard to imagine anything inherently more self-affirming, productive, self-purifying, or unifying distillation of the essence of the sacred.

This is the essence, the shift in perspective, emphasis and integrity needed to begin to experience here and now all one needs to become and remain free. Conveying to the simplest of men a knowledge and well-being greater than those having acquired the greatest material and intellectual power on earth. - And with time and refinement so much more as to be magnificent beyond words.

Such esoteric insights could outwardly be expressed as: Perceiving and evoking the finer sensibilities in self and others. Minimizing negativity. Open-minded progressive self-honesty. Compassion and kindness within wisdom. All inclusiveness. We already know the qualities, in other words, Goodness For Its Own Sake. It is hard to imagine a more inherently self-affirming, purifying or unifying aspiration "the master(s)" would want

followed.

Rising above Cynicism, Righteousness and Dependence

Faith's greatest attraction fundamentally is a sense of order and security . . . an investment often hard to modify or relinquish once adopted. Faith is not fact, but faith, passed down through the ages subjected to the possibility of alteration and exploitation and therefore cannot be assumed absolute, for the greater the adherence to absolutes the greater the tendencies toward contradictions, exclusion and excesses. Therefore to refrain from abuses and allow personal growth the adaptation of faith requires continual circumspection.

Those who sincerely hunger for truth realize the surer path and the greatest benefits of faith are realized through wisdom gained when remaining open to all possibilities: That one position can contain a diversity of truths yet be an integral part of a greater truth. That tolerance is but another facet of humility and compassion. And that if there be but one transcending aspiration and foremost commandment Therefore regardless of religious or philosophical affiliations anyone cultivating such unifying qualities would inherently come in alignment with the divine.

Rather than create or wait for an entity to evoke our higher natures or the promise of heaven in exchange for abiding by a particular faith it would seem the simplest, most direct and self-purifying approach would be to base ones motives on that which brings about the greatest sustainable harmony amongst all things without further expectation of reward. It naturally come in alignment with the divine.

Rising above righteousness and cynicism: Such a perspective does not necessarily exclude the existence of "God" or universal guidance but rather opens the possibility of greater comprehension. Though God may exist it is the essence or qualities represented that is worthiest of integration. And if an entity be essential to further evolvement then anyone taking such an approach would naturally come to such an acknowledgement, thereby reconciling apprehensions and perceived differences while establishing an interim harmonious foundation by seeking the most comprehensive realization of truth above all else.

It would seem experience mated with time is necessary to apprehend and instill harmonious living and remind us of the comprehensive worth of our individualized greater nature, persisting in cultivating simplicity and compassionate affinity while minimizing negativity and trying in balance to do ones best bringing far greater empowerment while gradually manifesting in return the deepest comprehensive affection, knowledge and fulfillment - In the East it would be called Relinquishment, in the West;

Surrendering, in the Heart; An Affirmation.

For within the heart and that which manifests outward there-from, such as the qualities of kindness are of far greater value, influence and of enduring character than all other endeavors in life ... remembered and treasured above and beyond all else.

*Many are the self-limiting insecurities and diversions
on the road to the sacred.*

- Belief in a Prophet or "Savior"?

How can one affirm the unproven, degree existed, if biasedly recorded, exaggerated, distorted, etc (the norm over time).

- Faith?

Faith has its positives and place, but is the "assumption of" not necessarily "the truth". Inherent problem: Ignoring and discounting other possibilities thereby potentially limiting growth. Downside: Exclusive dogmatism, exploitation, extremism, etc.

- "Saved"? "Sinned" ... Forgiven?

Logic and compassion dictate: Change, Compensate ... and progress.

Aspiring to the "higher-self" one should not be concerned or argumentative over technicalities but strive for "Essence".

Must we create, wait, have an entity convey the obvious ... to forgive, heal, a placebo to change, reason to be happy or promise of heaven in exchange for abiding by a particular faith. What is the inherent lesson in this?

Genuine "freedom" and contentment lie in non-attachment.

... Attachment to things, people, concepts/religion, entities etc ... even "God" ... Though God may exist and embody that which seems worthy of worship and emulation and inseparable it is what "he" or "it" essentially represents in essence which are of greater importance, value and worthiest of personal and universal dedication/commitment i.e. kindness, heart centeredness and purification. Whether referred to as the Christ or Buddha within the "greater or higher-self" is neither dependant or exclusive of such entities or faiths ... its higher realms accessible to all seeking wisdom, purification of motive and goodness for its own sake. That within the heart and which manifests outward there-from ... the qualities of kindness, are

of far greater value, influence and of enduring character than all other endeavors in life remembered and treasured above and beyond all else.

Most are consoled in life by the adaptation of religion and/or the gratification derived from worldly achievements. Though such endeavors may have considerable merit it is the boundless "higher-self" rising above the worldly fog unhindered by acculturation which gains the higher ground and greater perspective.

Essentially all one needs to face, resolve or rise above the travails of life and fulfill its greater purpose can be found within the "higher-self ... or heart". Drawing directly with purification of motive distills from the impurities of acculturation and ego "essence" integrating dignity and humility while lending clarity and insight into the mysteries of life.

Perhaps the intentional purpose of a world of confusion and suffering is purification of motive, and that which brings about the greatest sustainable harmony amongst all things without further expectation of reward the basis for all else.

Regardless of religious or philosophical affiliations anyone cultivating purification of motive and the resulting unifying qualities would be in alignment with the divine ... including the agnostic or atheist.

" ... for there are many rooms in my mansion ".

Rising above ...

It would seem sensible and far more gratifying to avoid the opportunities of life, and hardships becoming in vain, unfulfilled by the dominant pursuit of temporary superficial gain or clouded by negativities: Condemnation, cynicism, guilt, fear, etc., argumentation over "technicalities" or exclusionary dogmatic adherences, but derive "essence" simply and directly.

Perhaps the simplest path is the surest.

Could it be that rather than man's highest nature being a reflection of God that the most refined conception of God is a reflection of man's higher nature? - Or if a noble God does indeed exist having evolved to one's highest levels there are no longer any meaningful differences?

... And if there not be the divine let us create it outwardly from our hearts here and now and thereby make it real.

Such an aspiration steadfastly pursued conveying to even the simplest man

a knowledge and well being greater than those who have achieved the greatest status, wealth and power on earth.

It is never too late ... or too soon.



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Besides the inexplicable and inexpressible sublime beauty and serenity of the "The Great White Light" and observing my physical body from above and beyond ...

While alone I felt my face tenderly caressed and "a voice." Experienced golden "flakes" sparkling downward from the heavens when in a high level of harmony and unity with others. With great majesty an exquisite luminous multi-colored jewel-like robe placed about me at time of feeling intense inadequacy. For hours occasion a oneness and flow with all things and incredible bliss ...Such experiences and others initiated in a normal unaltered state without intent. The spirit assuming a life of its own, of flowing and merging in a blissful yet fully conscious light of transcendence ... its inherent integrity and universal nature rising above the worldly fog: The bonds and bounds of conventional belief.

Touched by its spirit and flowing within its infinity, there were no qualifications, only integrity ... only oneness.

I feel humbled and unworthy to speak further of such things, yet cannot deny the inexplicable.

Questions and further Guidance

Why must I go through "all this (...life's seeming injustices and travails)."
...Why can't you just do it for me ?

"We would very much like to, but if we did you would not have developed your character and wisdom, and therefore, truly be free. It would be superficially imposed on you. In other words it would not be a part of you, etched in your very soul, which only experience mated with time can bring."

As one drowning in the shallows on the shoals of paradise, you think yourself emptied, with little love or will to give, yet you've always been loved and lover of that within and without, which knows you as it self. Even now it calls you by its name, beckoning ... reminding you, awakening your finer senses and nature while ever guiding you home.

Do not allow your sufferings and hardships to become in vain and be

deprived of the lasting and genuine treasures and value of life. You have worthy qualities and abilities. If you let go, trust and step into the true and larger light, all your talents will be put to use for the greater good in ways which will be lasting and make you far happier than any plans or ambitions you may have previously had.

Each is given their own unique circumstances tailored to bring about essential growth in accordance to the most pressing need given ones level of evolution. The sooner the integration of harmonious universal principles the sooner the realization of lasting freedom and the fulfillment of life's greater purpose. Essentially all one needs to face, resolve or rise above the travails of life and fulfill its greater purpose can be found within the "higher-self ... or heart". Drawing directly while developing purification of motive distills from the impurities of acculturation and ego "essence" integrating dignity and humility while lending clarity and insight into the mystery of life. Life's purpose is to teach, events observed and experienced reminders and as guidance. One is not responsible for what seem the injustices of the world, only for one's responses favoring that which furthers harmonious relationships amongst all things ... The heart rendering the deepest and most comprehensive understanding.

The gentle way ...

The more one opens and deepens one's apprehension and alignment with universal laws of cause and manifestation the greater empowerment to evoke right outcome. As the reasons for disharmony or loss are further evolution and purification, so are the means of gain ... for to understand suffering is to conceive advancement. The ultimate purpose: Unification. Present worldly ways and systems cannot last. Inevitably all things will naturally become as one with those who relinquish resentment while prioritizing and cultivating compassion, highest use and all inclusiveness.

All experiences are to turn and guide mankind in more understanding closer to this light, bringing ever-greater freedom and harmony within, to then blossom outward and be shared with all creation.

So take comfort and hold fast while being tempered for only the thinnest of veils and shift of perspective separates you from your hearts desire ... a life of wonder and beauty, a knowledge and being-ness so encompassing so profound as to surpass all previous expectation and experience.

For within your innermost being lie seeds of light waiting to blossom whispering to you, what you thought...were only sweet dreams

Be patient. Try to practice love in all its finer dimensions, and you will still be happy regardless of return and always have and "know love," even

as you become ever more a part of it. You don't necessarily need faith, you just need to "love" Love is enough, and the most beautiful, precious and fulfilling of all things in the universe, and worthy of devotion ... just try and be there more often, until your always there. There " is no better place to be ... and then all things will be given unto thee ... When one finally lets go of it all, one gets to have it all, a paradox, yet crucial lesson for all.

For there is nothing more satisfying than kindness for its own sake, and giving in wisdom, love and affection, with open mind and heart to ones fellow human beings and creatures. It is only lack of apprehension of this universal truth that keeps humankind individually and as a whole and earth in disharmony, suffering and chaos.

Upon full apprehension, seemingly miraculous transformations can occur personally and otherwise, an endless summer is discovered within, expanding outward to embrace all ... and with time the lamb may lay down with the lion, the serpent with the child, even the once considered lowly fowl and sow considered as brethren, then heaven and earth can enjoin ... and be as One.

Even now, beyond the vale, those who have learned these supreme truths greatest joy is to increase one another's happiness and harmony along with all things. For they have discovered just as you shall, what were thought as human nature is really human habit ...no longer waiting for something or someone, looking no further than ones hearts to bring about change.

You are awaited as a parent awaits a wayward child, with smile and tear ... awaiting you to realize and manifest peace and understanding, to become as one with your higher nature. Therefore, patience dear ones, for there is a lesson even in this. As the child grows, the answers will come. All will be revealed in time. For to be good without reason for its own sake is the highest form of being, most unifying and self-purifying, setting an example for others to follow and the best way to learn and teach.

So gaze into your innermost being, plum the depths, stay the course, and look for "lights," for as you relinquish desire and attachment, placing freedom foremost, so it shall be, for as each petal of your heart unfolds, so shall the mysteries of life blossom forth and be revealed, the journey to true riches being in the acquirement of insight and wisdom ... the higher realms accessible to all through purification of motive.

Each doing their part can awaken the inner potential for good and become the noble beings and civilizations that were meant to be. For just as visions can be greater than knowledge and love stronger than death, events are preparing "the way" to a new age of understanding.

Therefore be gentle yet vigilant, for although darkness approaches ... the best is yet to come.

So take courage and comfort, and be still ... then gaze beyond the abyss ... into the fairest of dreams to what can, and with wisdom gained, will be ... Your Final Destiny."

V i s i o n:

I saw us from the present, we were in what
seemed a foreign land, trying to free ourselves
from our burdens, while seeking refuge from
ignorance and convention.

I then saw us from a future, childlike beneath
nature's beauty renewed. Reawakened to the magic
of our finer senses, no longer a part but a whole.

For we had finally returned to what our hearts had
always known: No logic, No mantra or religion.
Just peace on earth, the garden and
the beauty ... within all.

A Prayerful Affirmation:

The "Wonderful Light" of Truth ... that which creates the greatest sustainable harmony "shining down" ... permeating all things ... dissolving ignorance and separateness, bringing about an ever expanding perspective of compassionate understanding and universal harmony amongst mankind and all creation.

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If I could ...

Like $e = mc^2$ –
so simple, while so complex,
yet so comprehensive.

... And if I could but summarize thus far all I have come to realize through life which is profound and of greatest importance it would be:

When through the most sensitive of preceptors ... the heart, one begins to realize the sublime beauty and universality of one's higher nature, there begins a natural attraction and manifestation that eventually overcomes all obstacles and challenges.

For man's dilemma is not so much one of human nature, but one of human perception.

– Stripping away all acculturation, speculation and otherwise, it boils down simply to trying to do your best and be in your higher-self or nature, thereby regardless of what-ever, one would be in alignment with the divine or greater good.

Be Aware:

There is a final hurdle to self-actualization or true spirituality most are not aware of and only those with genuine purification of motive avoid. This is the often very subtle "hijacking" of one's aspirations by the ego. Co-opting by the ego should be interpreted in its broadest sense and can only be prevented by the most earnest and open un-going circumspection. It's worth noting one's ego should not be viewed as an aspect of evil, but rather a dimension of our-selves primarily manifested by insecurity. This insecurity and ego persistence is a result of ignorance of the far more beneficial qualities of our true and greater nature. Upon realization of the unlimited benefits derived from our greater nature the ego and its derivatives are willingly relinquished. Contrary to conventional thought it is they who through ignorance dismiss the far greater riches of their higher nature in order to preserve the ego, material and the transitory who are really the renunciants and impoverished. While such worldly adherences fragment the individual, community and world, those based on our higher nature i.e. humility, compassion and purification of motive unify. - For understanding and real intelligence isn't as much from the head as the heart ... and the integration of its best qualities diversely found in all fields its greatest expression.

It could be that "God" on this plane or world is largely irrelevant and impersonal regarding injustice and learning important lessons of real value the bottom line.

Perhaps the universe ebbs and flows maintaining equilibrium while all are presented with creative opportunities for greater harmonious refinement.

It would seem once a lesson is learned karmic debt need no longer apply.

Consolation for the weary:

When looking ahead the road forward seems so long and unknown, yet when looking back you've come so far and learned so much. As the greater meaning of this unfolds bear in mind the possibility that a cumulative threshold or decisive insight could be reached in which that

which is called enlightenment or heaven is realized and thereby liberation achieved.

Therefore be comforted and at peace.

-bk

Footnote: Many perceive a greatness in such conveyances and although ethereal in nature sense a presence, a genuineness and innate majesty. Such greatness is not exclusive or more so than others, even if just awakening or still dormant, but an integral part of a far more comprehensive realm of awareness.

Why someone so human could become intimate and begin to express the universal and greater nature of things is a mystery. Perhaps the answer dwells in a willingness to shed the worldly influences of acculturation, remain open, fluid and flow, and in the deepest of longings to nurture the greatest sustainable and most inclusive comprehensive good.

What is most important is that such wonders can intuitively be awakened through the heart in anyone, then through purification of motive and thought cultivated and expanded to experience in all things an ever greater unifying integrity, transcending oneness and serene splendor magnificent beyond words.

Meditation and Prayer?

A Unique Approach.

* Removing the mental clutter, impediments and burden of the ego, etc. to "connect" and manifest greater inner and outer harmony.

We often ask God or universe for something, yet with our prayers in the process mentally fill the "space" with thought, desire, images or otherwise rather than naturally allowing "God" in. Even the leanest of meditations recommend some focal point be used. If there indeed be a God, the divine or worthy something why not just empty our heads and implicitly invite it in ... to fill the space ... which is probably where "it" otherwise would naturally be anyway. - Not according to our terms or expectations, but just as it is and will: realizing that at times this may include no "response" - Nothing, therefore not always expecting gratification, thereby instilling greater independence and even temperament.

I have found by using such an approach upon clearing and opening myself I soon experience a gentle serenity, then a non-attached harmonious connectedness in which all things seem in perspective often followed by a "peace that passes all understanding".

Being sure to exclude the ego I may creatively enhance this state by seeing myself physically, mentally and otherwise as my optimal greater-self in comprehensive harmony.

Such a state even when un-enhanced can lead to a soothing "caress", healing energy massage - like inner "movement" ... physical yet non-physical (very pleasant and consoling) then luminosity throughout ... Something you don't feel, but do ... yet just as real ... As though having another sense, another body layered ethereally within ... something you don't see, but do ... As though having another eye that truly sees ... with the ability to experience a wholeness and satisfaction in which nothing more is desired and all is complete.

If there was or is a Garden of Eden perhaps such is akin to the continuous state which truly makes it real.

Regardless, I've discovered such an approach evokes practical as well as tangible improvement in well-being and relationships which carry over significantly into day to day living. I've also found such a state more sustainable if inserted when ever possible into ones normal daily routine.

Could this be a simpler more direct and natural way to connect with God, "universality" or our higher-natures while improving well-being?

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Snowflakes Are Dancing

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Snowflakes are Dancing

Snowflakes are dancing ... drifting downward, at first barely perceptible, high in the night sky, then becoming larger, descending, ever increasing in number and size. Sparkling in the moonlight. Exquisite in form, delicate in texture, an endless cascade of elegant white, making my mind spin as I try to keep track of their erratic spiraling paths. Looking straight up, my mouth widely open, I try to catch one, then another ... one falls on my cheek, another on my chin, finally one lands squarely in my mouth, melting instantly on my tongue, tingling with cool moisture.

Content, I sit beneath the broad brow of a tree's snowy mantle ... a child again. – bk

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Dancing in the Wind

Shadows fall, gradually drawing evening's blanket ever so gently across the land. A breeze quietly begins to steal its way through the wilds, weaving its way to the hills and forests beyond. Leaves respond, rustling with an ageless voice, then begin to sway seemingly reaching outward to an ancient friend, the breeze, a welcome caress, then inward, almost playful, as if to capture in tender intimate embrace, as the trees together, with all things ... dance in the wind.



liv
Beyond Compare

Within Simplicity often lies the greatest wisdom and surest path.

Slipping into the Autumn of life's tempered calm and mild warmth. Feeling deeply life's past seasons ... the glow of the sun's rising after the cleansing rains ... the passage of time having distilling an essence, a richness and beauty beyond compare, undefined, yet meant to share:

Goodness for its own sake ... here and now, without expectation or care



lv
The Rose only Blooms Amongst the Thorns
Justice within Injustice

Many conclude life doesn't make sense and live accordingly. How can one reconcile negative experiences when at times no matter what perspective one takes there seems no redeeming lesson or benefit derived. Was it to simple "let go" and forgive as simply a victim or karmic debt (which often would seem misunderstood or unjust because presently you know you wouldn't treat another likewise) or to build faith, yet faith can be constrictive and limiting while producing its own victims.

So you are left with the discomfiting likeliness you will live the rest of your life in a state of subdued neurosis. So you search deeper, more comprehensively with the highest motives able ("seek and ye shall find" for "the truth is written in your hearts") to reconcile both the experience of the divine and contrary. Then you realize what would seem almost obvious given a larger perspective, that maybe the answer is an integral part of the chaos. The great lesson and intended realization to be derived is for one to do what's right for its own sake through purification of motive.

Accepting Suffering as others have Suffered for us:

From a greater perspective perhaps the reason for what we observe and experience as injustice is indeed just, considering learning valuable lessons to further awareness, compassionate affinity and thereby involvement the greater natural or spiritual priority. – For just as others suffer directly or indirectly presently, in past lives or otherwise to advance our own humility and growth, in turn we may then un-be-known suffer for others to further greater understanding and well-being.

Commitment to such sacrifices for the greater good may very well have been made in the interim by choice during higher levels of awareness.

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A Simpler Time

... autumn memories

Pausing as the day ebbs and evening approaches, a tempered calm and mild warmth settles in the air and hills and valleys beyond. As far as can be seen, all is serene ... at rest.

I feel calm, secure; at peace. A sense of wellness pervades as if the world had been transformed ... and I with it ... to a simpler place ... a simpler time ...

❧

lvii

Wind Oceans

Sometimes I listen to the wind outside my cabin deep in the Northwest forest.

One morning upon hearing it amble through the tall pines I was taken by how much it sounded like waves, though not as constant, mildly rolling inward from the sea. I'd always reveled in the percussion and varied intonations of the waves arriving upon the shore from far away places and mystical other worldliness hidden beneath.

I then realized how similar they were ... the Wind, the Ocean. Both are contained in Great Basins or envelopes, yet in constant flux and motion inwardly and outwardly ... swirling, dancing upward and downward rushing pressing into coves, creating eddies over and around the landed areas and less tangible interfaces ... breathing, ever giving and carrying

life to its farthest reaches ... and beyond.

I'd always dreamed of living by an ocean, I know now ... I do.

❧

lviii

Life, as the seasons, has its winters

As winter approaches there is a subtle yet palpable reluctance, even dread, gratefully compensated for and then eclipsed by the approaching holidays. At their passing a shadow gradually falls, winter deepens and a chronic melancholy seems to take hold. Spring renewal comes frequently to mind though ever so distant only to become surreal with the seeming intractableness of the season.

As one having experienced the chill and depth of many a winter, both inwardly and outwardly, there is a comfort, a ray of insight I draw to ... In the chill and depth of winter I finally realized within the heart lies the warmth and light of ... An Endless Summer.

❧

lix

Always Homeward

When the day breaks and morning's breath reawakens the scented flower... and the sun's warmth refracts upon the dew, showering the meadow with unearthly light ... I turn homeward.

As days pass ... then years ... Lost and alone in a world of confusion, I find myself wandering ... wondering, always ... why. Still, I turn homeward ... to the one who bore, nurtured, and now tempers me, ever present ... ever far.

Now as evening's reds and blues converge with twilight ... a deep indigo calm pervades the valleys and hills ... days seem intimate ... profound, yet strangely numbered.

For once again, I find myself turning homeward ... through purple wooded shadows ... into the blue firmament beyond ... Homeward ... Always Home ... Ever Home.

❧

lx

Poem for the Poet

To convey the blush of dusk
... subtle pastel blues ... and marbled mauves.
The texture of driftwood, ocean mist, falls radiance, the fragrance of
spring. A kiss ... Love in the air ...
as if one were there.

This and more ... with a glimpse into
soul, that it may be more than seen, felt ... Known
... to the heart ... Most profound
of humane preceptors.

To transcend the mundane to reveal
the uncommon in the common, simplify complexity,
ambiguity and shed light where light is seldom seen ...
Perceive the unifying thread of life and give voice to a
tree, a mountain of stone, or stream unseen.

...is a rare quality ... indeed.



lxi
Winter

Winter chill in the forest, Autumn leaves on the ground,
Yellow moon on the horizon, naked branch against the sky.

The glint of frost in twilight, Mountains cloaked in gray
Icy stream is thawing, while muskrat stirs fast asleep.
Swallow awaits the seedling and the promise of its return.

Whispered in the wind, carried on the wind
whispered ... in the wind.



lxii
Beyond Acculturation ...

Many find security and order by adopting religious beliefs, others long for
or wonder, while some succumb to cynicism. Yet few realize the more one
integrates with their higher-nature the less relevant such concerns, for
when elevating into the greater-self one naturally evokes or creates the
"sacred" ... Relevant religious and philosophical principles thereby
merging and experienced as a whole – Qualifications transcended.

Might it be if God indeed exists we often unknowingly see or portray

"him" as ourselves ... too small? That is, Would The Highest have the character attributed to an ego such as to requiring homage or damnation regardless of motive – Aren't these rather the projected traits and errors of men?

Can we presume to be able pass on such a comprehensive nature through mere words and uncompromised through the ages, let alone understand? Could there not be a finer more inclusive sense capable of reaching beyond our dependencies, suffocating in-growth, mental limits, perceived differences, complexities, "rigid-mortis" and other human vulnerabilities capable of evoking or creating such integrity inwardly and outwardly here and now?

– And could this most sensitive of preceptors not be innate ... within or "written" in the heart (as conveyed by Christ)?

Regardless, with due respect for all possibilities what would seem most crucial is not the belief in God but in Good - Not the promise of "heaven" but the aspiration towards the most encompassing harmony – Not the securance of salvation but the greater good.

Could it be rather than our higher-natures being reflective of such a deity, God is a reflection of our higher-natures - Evil rooted in ignorance – Such a perspective naturally attracting and manifest such qualities?

Right or wrong what is worthiest of consideration is the clarity and understanding derived from un-acculturation and direct experience of essence.



lxiii

if ever I wrote a book or ...

If I ever wrote a book or screenplay the opening scene would be a person on their death bed contemplating their life, and all that was good and otherwise, yet still an unsettling awareness they could have done more, and then upon reaching the point of no return: A light and gentle voice asking what they had learned.

The next scene: Birthing, childhood - With all the usual experiences, then upon reaching adulthood a noticeable determination to be in their higher nature .

The remainder of the script would be the challenges and joys as well as magical insights of such an endeavor - With the final scene the same as the first, yet with a fulfillment, peace and transcendence achieved beyond

words.

...An autobiography of mankind and self.

ଅନନ୍ତ

lxiv

Part of Something Greater

I pick – up on it or hear it all the time: I'm proud to be this or that, whether race, group or otherwise. – People seem to need "group security" to feel special, yet such an attitude tends to towards a sense of segregation, superiority along with elements of prejudice or bigotry, which can lead to separation, strife and conflict. – Must our perspectives be so narrow and small? Cannot we see our greater and higher natures as we truly can be: That we are already special individually and otherwise and both a part and whole of something greater and universal in nature. – A perspective which naturally attracts and manifests harmonic relationships, not only with our fellow man but all things. It would seem such a vantage point in our evolution has become not only desirable but necessary for our survival individually as well as a species.

ଅନନ୍ତ

lxv

Leaves Brighten the Day ...

Leaves and breeze sway ...
children of summer, at play.
In frolic and delight, they mature ...
Then fade ... and fall ...
To again, become ...
The Leaves ... of ~ the ~ Day.

ଅନନ୍ତ

Islands of the Mind ... traveling light

ଅନନ୍ତ

lxvi

Sailin'

I looked out this mornin'

clear blue skies, gentle breeze

couldn't have been more invitin'
couldn't keep from smilin'

left all my possession ...
caught in childhood dream

I sailed out that evenin'
sun glistenin' in my wake

✽✽✽

lxvii

Islands of the Mind

The sea sparkled effervescent. A seabird and then another trailed my stern. I discovered the island I had sailed nearly a thousand miles had rendezvoused with during the night ...

The sun was beet red, hanging as a lantern in the evening sky. Inland the mountain crests revealed their entourage of lush tropical palms. Here and there a ray of light escaped to reach the lakes below ... like pearls within their setting.

Following a narrow path up the spur of the mountain ridge; breaking through the dense foliage, the morning mist parted to reveal a magnificent view of thick forests and lagoonal beaches. The contrast between blue-green tidal waters and bright green tropics shrouding the hillsides was striking. To the east, waterfalls feathered, spreading their sparkling contents on rocks below while the sun rippled sister lakes adding a opal fluorescent hue to the rugged highlands.

Here it seemed, Life paused then began again ... and somehow waited for me.

from " Islands of the Mind"

✽✽✽

lxviii

*as the sun sets ...
may I return serenity and beauty ...*

✽✽✽

lxix
The Final Voyage
Something seems to be drawing me ...

upwards ... irresistibly ... into the heavens. Flying
past the planets, the stars, galaxies blur by ... ever onward.
Discovering their infinites, exploring their wonders, their
boundaries ... learning their secrets ... treasures, and somehow,
along the way, ennobled, and at the journey's end
... the gift of wisdom ...

then Freedom ...

❧

lxx

Journey with me into the night
Beyond the reach of space and time
where silvery wings weave phosphorescent paths
on transcendental flights
across starry and moonlit stars
... to sow the seeds of life

❧

Those Sweet Dreams ...

❧

lxxi

Romanticism
Encantica

... come to me

... Lovers of the Wood

I knew her as Encantica when
first she came ... though as "Enchantica".
that day when the morrow would wait.

When through the wood I followed her to a secret place ...
in wonder of sunlight ascending, through illuminated translucent lace.
Bathed in gold, her hair a-glo, the deepest of auburn shades.

*Form natural and fresh, slip outlining every recess.
Breasts softly highlighted 'neath a light cotton dress
... radiating warm tenderness.*

*A breeze wakened banquets of evergreen
aside flowered brook and scented stream
as we continued in wonder, in what seemed ... a dream.*

*Then ...
as the breeze she turned
and with "a look" like a caress
did say: "Come to me"
from 'neath the shade where she lay.*

*Upon that natural weave, of fragrant mint and tender leaf we played ...
until with murmur and sigh, I felt her bodily say, "Come onto me"
... thereafter we were
... slept away.*

*The forest stood in wonder ...
and heaven seemed with-under on that fair summer day ...
when with one last refrain, arching ever upward, she exclaimed,
"Come with me my love ... that we may together ...
fade ... away.
Sweet Dreams ...*

❧

*lxxii
Lovers at Dusk*

*... Evening arrives gently,
drawing her blanket of calm across the forest
and around the hills with a sigh, then a coo.
Soon twilight weaves her magic ... lovers embrace,
then rest in wonder of heaven's depth and beauty,
to then sleep in reflective serenity.*

❧

*lxxiii
To Ourselves
The return to self ...*

*We were old, yet young,
strange, but natural. Wisdom gained*

through countless ages bathed our complexions
with remarkable health.

Laying upon the tender earth ,
face to face, the majestic splendor of
the hills beyond, breath taking, serene ...
a breeze, warmly feathered ...
profound contentment.

It was clear, we had
found the key to our souls
... we no longer longed for
... but lived ...
destiny.

There was no need for words
... our eyes exchanged “light” ...
We had traveled afar ... and long,
and at last had returned ...
“two” ... “one”... self.

❧

lxxiv

*Wake UP! Wake UP!
Springtime is here!*

*Life is
abundant and everywhere.*

All is renewed, fresh and vibrant.

Unlatch your doors. Open your shutters.

Loose yourself of the complexities of modern life!

*Live with compassion. Boldly! With adventure
undefined. As fresh as children at play, in the
sparkling summer waters.*

❧

lxxv

Valley of the Clouds

Sometimes on a quiet day, I’m drawn to a field I’ve walked since a boy ... I’m walking there now ... finding the grass thick and tall, waist deep. I wade through feathering my, leaving a meandering wake behind. Pretending I’m invisible I bend down hidden and tunneling. I like this, it feels secure, creating my won world close to the earth. Satisfied I lay on my back and feel the soft grassy textures beneath. Tall leafy stalks

encompass, embracing me. wispy rainbow green silver plumes sway to an occasional breeze as sunlight penetrates creating a glowing emerald mosaic. Ladybugs, caterpillars and other denizens make their way to and fro embellishing their grassy world with intricate movements and colorful patterns. Nature's earthy aromas, pungent from a recent rainfall freshly scent the air. Gazing up now to the drifting cumulus clouds a thought calls out to my entire being "The silver lining in the clouds ... The silver lining. See it ... I feel it ... I'll Be it." Suddenly I find myself drawn up ... into the clouds ... I'm sitting on one now, looking out upon its vastness, outer edges forming eddies of delicate pastels. Nearby clouds drift like suspended islands, ever changing, billowing as they pass by.

Entranced I explore every ravine, canyon and mountain column, barefoot across every plane, plateau and valley, feeling its soft delicate textures under my feet, on my skin, in my hair, the elements permeating my lungs seems to revitalize with every breath! Finally, after climbing the highest column, I rest, overcome with a sense of deep satisfaction and completeness. Looking down now, watching the shadows of the clouds drifting across the earth below, it somehow seems different, enhanced, more peaceful, healthy, lovelier. A deep sense of appreciation upwells from me. Then somehow I find ...

I'm back on the ground, it seems strange, foreign by comparison, yet firm, more tangible.

I'm walking along a fence through the countryside now going back to things that don't really matter anymore, but nonetheless beckon me.

Someday I will return to my Field of Dreams and Valley of Clouds ... perhaps to stay.



lxxvi

*Journey with me into the night
Beyond the reach of space and time,
where silvery wings weave fluorescent paths on
transcendental flights across starry and moonlit skies ...
to sow the seeds ... of life ... now follow me
into a fountain of dreams.*



lxxvii

The Child Speaks

*I'm looking for a better way.
Something warm and cozy when it's gray.
I'm looking for a way ... kind of breezy, light and easy.
Like a shady lane or smile to pass my way.*

*Perhaps I'm looking for Merlin to show his
face, wave his hand, and send it all away, or maybe I
could see a unicorn someday! I guess I'm looking for
what words can't say to show that miracles
... still take place.*



lxxviii
“Little One”
(A Lullaby)

*Little One,
The day has grown long: sha-dows fade,
As Mister Sun re-turns to dawn.*

*Sil-ly one,
Snug and warm with your furry chums.
Sometimes I ev-en think,
I saw one give me a wink.*

*Sleep-y one.
Let the sand-man have his fun,
and journey far, to that, enchanted land ~
Grownups seldom can*

*and may all your dreams be bright
and soothe you through the night,
and may all the king's horses,
and all the king's men,
no longer fight.*

*Little one,
when you pray,
pray for every-one,
for though you're young,
we need your wis-dom.*



lxxix
Sweet Dreams

*We were young of no particular age, just young, and
yet old, not in the sense of deterioration, but wisdom. Old and
young at the same time ... how strange, yet wonderful,*

still somehow, it felt natural like falling off a log, as if acquired through countless ages.

Gatherings called "Celebrations of Life" would take place from time to time in natural settings. Sometimes the "forest dwellers" would join in, for man was now their friend.

Our favorite time was evening when everyone would form circles holding hands, gaily dancing around the firelight under the stars to exotic, seemingly magical, rhythms. People spontaneously hugging, gazing compassionately into each others eyes permeated with a heightened sense of wonder ... of oneness. Later, walking home, we often experienced an incredible lightness of being ... as if having been cast in a mid-Summer Night's Dream.

Skinny dipping at the ol' swimming hole at Applegate Gorge.

I still sense the sound and feel of the gentle breeze caressing my tanned glistening skin. Laying upon the smooth sun warmed boulders ... the soothing intonations of the nearby flowing waters ... the wafting, overarching leaves of madrona, oak and maple forming portals along the river's meandering path.

Being unclothed had unexpected equalizing effects. People were just people, and everyone seemed to get along the better for it.

Taking our brightly colored van, we'd seek out other uniquely scenic spots to explore, such as a majestic ancient forest within the "See - Can't - Yous" mountain ranges. Hiking beside brook and stream and colonnades of fir and pine bathed in the morning light, the peace almost surreal, it's as if in a sense we'd entered another world ... a lost Garden.

Nightfall would find us camping under the forest's canopy, star gazing, at times the heavens seemed almost animate as if telepathically twinkling esoteric messages of great knowledge and beauty. Now and then we'd happen upon a hot spring the healing waters, soothing and washing our cares away, re-uniting us with a sense of the interconnectedness of all life.

I can still feel the gentle breeze caressing my tan glistening, skin laying amongst the smooth warm boulders ... the soothing intonations of the flowing waters ... the wafting leaves of the madrona,

*oak and maple forming portals along the
river's meandering path.*

*Yes, life could be so fine ... we could spend hours and hours, even
lifetimes, immersed in such sublime pastimes ... we just have to get the
"knack" of how to go about it the right way ... Don't you agree!*

*Being un-clothed had unexpected
equalizing effects ... people were just people,
and everyone seemed to be the better off for it.*

❧❧❧

*lxxx
Summer ... time*

*Summer ... a spinnin' me in the wind,
lettin' my spirit mend. Summer ... fair weather
friend. Takin' me round that bend ...
once again.*

*Guess I'll walk on down that ol' Madrone Road.
A reminiscent breeze is just a tuggin' on my sleeve,
I can hear the water's son as it plays along the Applegate
Creek. Those summer days, in emerald shades ...
a shinin' down on me ...*

*Guess I'll sit a spell,
just takin' in them summer smells.
I see the local kids are still a skinny dippin'
off the ol' covered bridge. Their deep brown skins,
warm as a summer wind, glistenin' as they tumble in.
Swimgin' off that ol' dead pine, they're sho'
'nough havin' a good time.*

In the Prime of ... Summer ... time

❧❧❧

Selections Drawn from Life and beauty ...

❧❧❧

*lxxxi
Close to the Heart*

Dreams a hundred thousand miles away ... where the stars
dance and play ... but close to the heart.

❧❧❧

lxxxii

Brave is the Heart

Home not a space or time, but where the soul grew beyond
the mind, to reach and touch the stars.

❧❧❧

lxxxiii

From "failure" I discovered and
realized the greatest success of all
and from naive idealism
learned wisdom.

A Simple Path

For from Courage comes Strength
From Strength of Character
... Wisdom

and from Wisdom:
Peace ... Contentment ...
and Happiness.

One must be cautious of
being too exclusive in outlook
thereby limiting growth or of expecting
rewards in the hereafter.

For the greatest peace and
purification may very well be derived
from living life close to the heart while
enduring without expectation of
further reward or incarnation.

❧❧❧

lxxxiv

You Ask Why

As the student grows, the answers will come.

All will be revealed in time. For to be good without reason, for its own sake, is the highest form of being, and sets an example for others to follow, and the best way to learn and teach.

*Gaze into your innermost being,
plumb the depths, stay the course,
and look for the "lights", for
as each petal of your heart
unfolds, so shall the
mysteries of life blossom forth
and be revealed.*



lxxxv

The Essence of Why

All the principle religions and many other perspectives include those having striven for essence and having achieved great wisdom and insight through heart centered purification of motive.

It would seem, regardless of religious or philosophical affiliations, anyone cultivating purification of motive and the resulting unifying qualities, i.e., all-inclusiveness, compassion etc., would be in alignment with the divine, including the agnostic or atheist. " For there are many rooms in my mansion ".

Presently it may be essence, purification and illumination are better distilled and cultivated by disregarding the chaos of the religions, etc., of the world ... looking only to higher-self with purification of motive without expectation.

It's better not to choose as an objective a particular, but a general value as guidance, such as the cultivation of wisdom, thereby remaining open to all opportunities for optimal growth.

We ask ourselves, Why are we here? We come into this world with its full range of choices and examples as observers and experiencers to internalize and carry forward that which is of real value.



lxxxvi

Consolation for the Weary

When looking ahead the road forward seems so long and unknown, yet when looking back you've come so far and learned so much. As the greater meaning of this unfolds bear in mind the possibility at any time a cumulative threshold or decisive insight could be reached in which that called enlightenment or heaven is realized and thereby liberation achieved.

Therefore be comforted and at peace.

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lxxvii

Honoring Our Greater Natures

To increase awareness and focus, it may be more compelling to list a few of the benefits derived to the degree we prioritize being in our higher natures. Greater: Happiness, affection, health, longevity, energy, physical rejuvenation and refinement, Poise, insight and peace and harmony with others, along with increased acuity in worldly affairs and possibility of success .

– The fulfillment from knowing one has given their best.
It's never too soon or too late.

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lxxviii

The Spirit Rising

The higher one rises in the "greater self" the less affected one is by worldly affairs & hardships.

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lxxxix

*Avoiding the Cynical
or "Rational" Perspective*

Thoughts derived from experience and deep contemplation may be incomplete or seen as superficial or even hypocritical, yet that which is true remains true whether or not exemplified or fully revealed. - Therefore it's wise to keep in mind: Although words are cheap, those that lead to ever greater harmony and liberation are priceless.

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xc

*Life's EverPresent Flow ...
Moving forward ... Persevering*

People should neither be labeled as heroes nor cowards, for one could be either depending on the circumstance. This applies to victimizers as well as victims, that being of most importance having rebounded in a positive direction.

The truer heroes are those who, in spite of themselves and others, persist in trying to be in their higher natures. For to endure continual failure yet persevere in such a manner is a far greater success than "success".

What is most important is bearing in mind and keeping focused on - Although incremental and at times seemingly inverse: Moving forward into one's finer and greater nature whether through success, failure or otherwise.

❧

*xc
Unreasonable Reason*

The things about us that are logical are only those things that humans have created; if we wish to think about those things, that man didn't create, we need to step outside of reason in order to discover, that which didn't originate in reason.
– anonymous

❧

*xcii
Winter's Purity*

Shifting One's Perspective: Disappointment and conflict are often opportunities in disguise ... The engines furthering progressive evolvment.

❧

*xciii
When There Is Calm*

And when there is change
we will see change in
others, as well.

And when we have done our best
and the world is at rest
we will be blessed.

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xciv

To My Fellow Traveler

As you strive for high ideals, be not discouraged, try to maintain a wholesome balance. Remember living well is your best revenge and laughter the quickest cure. Keep in mind the countless acts of kindness and heroism exemplified throughout the world. Bear in mind the beauty in nature and the arts of man as well.

Hurt not the plants, trees nor animals, neither the earth nor its waters. Consider with compassion your voiceless fellow brethren, for they too have a place and story to tell as well as an intimate part to play in earth's unfolding drama.

୧୩୪

xcv

Balance to All Things

Morning's quiet ... punctuated by only one sound ... drops from heaven to the trees, leaves, the earth. Water, simple, life giving, cleansing ... profoundly precious. The surrounding hills, shrouded, breached by tall masts: trees caressed by mist's moist, translucent touch. Below a toad crouches beneath a leafy mantle, overlooking a verdant pond. Awakened by golden rays, dragonflies emerge, sweeping into the warmth of the afternoon sun. It was good. Balance abundant in the nature of things.

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xcvi

... and it was Good

from the tale of the True Toads

Neither the dragonfly nor the toad were special although all creatures are in their own way. Then why the "true" in True Toads ...? Because my children, there was a time not long ago, when all was not well as spoken. Humans through long "ignore – ance", and lack of foresight, brought about one calamity after another. Great strife of all kinds came upon the inhabitants of the earth and many perished. "True" toads, not deformed by the toxic by-products were able to survive by burrowing deep in the mud to become dormant, which they did ... for many years.

Finally emerging ... they found change. Somehow humans had actually learned: realizing what they thought was human nature was human habit. They took responsibility. No longer waiting for something or someone. Looking no further than their hearts, they became wise, compassionate stewards. In time they transformed reality to what they had always longed for, "Heaven on Earth." At last fulfilled, all prospered, living long harmonious lives.

And it was good. Very good indeed.

☸☸☸

xcvii

Mountain Fairy

"Why humans have excluded by their behavior plants and animals from their intimate embrace I'll never know, for their lives could be so much more enhanced by their heartfelt appreciation of their natural family as well."

☸☸☸

xcviii

Happiness that Lasts

Inevitably, one grows weary of revolving artificialities, for surely life's deeper meaning and purpose is to learn harmonious living and free ourselves ... our hearts know this true.

Neither be cynical nor anxious, but deeply inclusive and steadfastly sincere, "it" will come, gently ... as the leaves release in fall, and the warmth of the sun after the cleansing rains.

☸☸☸

xcix

Evoke Nobility Within

Be kindly, tolerant and forgiving with self and others, firm when necessary, yet gentle ... see and evoke the nobility within self and others.

☸☸☸

c

Start with Self

Wait not for miracles or saviors, nor mistake attitude and habit for

human nature. You're the summation of thoughts. Start with self ... now,
and you'll begin to see a change around you.

☪☪☪

ci

*Never Give Up.
Sincere efforts are unstoppable.*

☪☪☪

cii

Good for Goodness Sake

If there seems to be no reason or beauty, create it.

If there is a purpose in life, it surely is to learn and achieve the most harmonious relationships possible amongst humankind and all creation. Even if not preordained, such an ideal is our greatest asset to inspire, enabling us to bear our responsibility and achieve our noblest potential. For it is not how long we live, but how.

So keep an open mind and heart, and be good for its own sake (for goodness sake!) Then gaze beyond the abyss, to the fairest of dreams, to what can be, with wisdom gained ... your final destiny

☪☪☪

ciii

The Way

The more one opens, broadens, and deepens oneself, the greater apprehension of truth and universal laws of cause/effect and manifestation.

☪☪☪

civ

Your Final Destiny

Take comfort and courage and be still ... looking beyond the
abyss, to the fairest of visions ...

To what can, and with resolve, will be
... your final destiny.

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cv

A Forever Love

A love greater than self, yet infinitely more ...
the warmth of the sun, the tender caress of the
breeze, the scented earth after the cleansing
rains, the kindness of the heart.

More than father and mother, the earth, sky and beyond
... even time itself. You "Are" The Journey's End ... and, Everything
... My, Forever Love. – *bk*, speaking of the "infinite"

ଝରଝର

cvi

Blossoms of Life

Somewhere in our innermost beings lie the seeds of
light waiting to blossom, whispering what we thought
... were only sweet dreams.

ଝରଝର

cvii

Islands of the Mind

Here is seemed life paused ...
and then began again ...
and somehow waited for me.

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cviii

Heaven Meets Earth

Beyond the open places, deep within the densely forested
mountains there is said to be a lake of dazzling blue, sheer plummeting rock
faces and phantom isles ... known by the natives for its sacred purity and
power ... a place where heaven meets earth and joins.

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cix

Words Become Unnecessary

Words often become unnecessary.
The "spirit" assuming a "life of its own" ...
of the intent, of flowing, merging ... in blissful
yet fully conscious "transcendence."

ॐ

cx

The Real Journey

Words often become unnecessary.
The "spirit" assuming a "life of its own" ...
of the intent, of flowing, merging ...
in blissful yet fully conscious "transcendence."

ॐ

cx

Overarching Principle

There is an overarching
principle ... a power reaching
long & wide across the universe,
embracing all in a mutual
harmonic destiny.

ॐ

cxii

Faith Should Be ...

Ideally faith should be mated with the sincerest open-minded
honesty focused on the greatest sustainable un-going growth &
encompassing harmony.

Therefore, let us be open-minded, have hope/faith, yet take
responsibility and action here and now to ensure we do indeed "save"
ourselves.

ॐ

cxiii

Guidance

You ask, why must I go through "all this." Why can't you just do it
for me?

"We would very much like to, but if we did you would not have
developed your character and wisdom, and therefore, truly be free. It

would be superficially imposed on you. In other words it would not be a part of you, etched in your very soul, which only experience mated with time can bring.

Do not allow your suffering and hardships to become in vain and be deprived of the lasting and genuine treasures and value of life. You have worthy qualities and abilities. If you let go, trust and step into the true and larger light, all your talents will be put to use for the greater good in ways which will be lasting and make you far happier than any plans or ambitions you have previously had.

All experiences are to turn and guide us in understanding closer to this light, bringing us ever greater freedom and harmony within ourselves and then blossom outward and be shared with all creation.

For ... Only the thinnest of veils and shift of perspective separates you from your heart's desire ... a life of wonder and beauty, a knowledge and being-ness so encompassing, so profound as to surpass all previous expectation and experience.

For somewhere in our innermost beings like the seeds of light waiting to blossom, whispering to us, what we thought ... were only sweet dreams.

ॐ

cxiv

Back to the Garden

... a return to innocence

I saw us from the present, we were in what seemed a foreign land, trying to free ourselves from our burdens, while seeking refuge from convention & the crowd.

I then saw us from a future, childlike beneath nature's beauty renewed. Reawakened to the magic of our finer senses, no longer a part but a whole. For we had finally returned to what our hearts had always known: No logic, No mantra or religion. Just peace on earth, the garden & the beauty within all.

The return to Innocence

ॐ

cxiv

Goodness for Its Own Sake ...

so simple, self-affirming yet so little known
& understood, as to its comprehensive
universal nature.

ॐ

cxv
Brad's Commentary

In these troubled times we are all looking for guidance and inspiration. When I write, compose or perform I like to think I'm doing more than entertaining. I like to think I'm doing something constructive as well ... that I'm leaving something behind that will endure. In my life I want to make a "difference."

✽✽✽

cxvi
Our Long Awaited Destiny

And so, as the sorrow within our hearts continues to precipitate and mount and our darkest hour has arrived, we find ourselves leaving the dark abyss of ignorance behind ... forever – to rediscover innocence. For somewhere in our inner most being lie the seeds of light waiting to blossom.

✽✽✽

cxvii
Sacred Passage

And the night shall be filled with enchantment of distant carols sung by relatives beyond. And when the evening wanes and all thought and care fall away ... then magical beings shall appear ... to guide on wings of clairvoyance, on an unremembered celestial flight to our true beloved but forgotten home amongst the stars and kindred spirits ... of light.

✽✽✽

Humor, Whimsy and Stories

✽✽✽

cxviii
The Legend of Ashland

It was around the turn of the century ... or so it seemed, historically considered to be a relatively peaceful time in man's tumultuous history, a period of no wars and little strife, a time when people could take a deep breath and exclaim, "How good it is to be alive!"

We were young of no particular age, just young, and yet old, not in the sense of deteriorate but wisdom. Old and young at the same time ... how strange, yet wonderful, still somehow, it felt natural like falling off a log as if acquired through countless ages.

We lived in a community called Lifelong. Some “old-timers” would at time call it “Ashland” and even claimed at one time it was, in which case most who were “newcomers” would smile respectfully and nod. Lifelong was a town neither large nor small, actually just right. It had many of the facets of the “Big Places”, outdoor theaters, quaint shops and an especially beautiful park, yet it still retained the “feel” and ambiance of an agrarian village, after all, the surrounding area consisted of vast stretches of pasture and vineyards. To the north, rose steeply rolling hills. Southward rising rapidly were densely forest mountains called the See-Can’t-Yous, claimed by some to have magical powers. The openness of the hills and valleys allowed plenty of space for the youth and the young at heart to roam and use their imaginations for wholesome explorations, and “wisdom gathering”.

Transportation in Lifelong was primarily by “Hicycle”, heavier luggage being transported by more elaborate versions of the same. The broad sidewalks gaily lined with flowers and variety of shade trees, allowed plenty of room for walking. People would casually browse about the open markets for crafts, fresh fruits and vegetables or simply stroll through, enjoying the natural serenity and beauty of the nearby park.

From time to time townsfolk gathered to join in special festivities. Music, dancing and story telling filled the air with laughter and an ambiance of respect and carefree harmony. As you can see Lifelong was a healthy, happy place in which to live, but it said that it was not always that way.

Legend tells of how Lifelong at one time, and the world around it, had become very unhappy indeed. As the apathy and sadness grew darker, more and more people living in the town then known as Ashland, wanted to use its magical treasures for their own purposes, so they could sell, and have more and more ... always more.

Large corporate like businesses began buying most of the property, driving up taxes and forcing the smaller shops to move out. The streets all began “feeling” the same. Impersonal, lacking the old warmth and character of the former shopkeepers. Most ordinary folk soon had to move to outlying communities and commute. Soon, only the well-to-do could afford to live in Ashland. Young people were becoming disrespectful, even destructive. Many new ordinances and restrictions were enacted to maintain order and protect business. Soon people began to become unhealthy and not live so long. People began to become so self-centered they no longer wanted to do anything unless they directly profited by it.

Finally things became so bad people couldn't stand it anymore.

Then – suddenly, it dawned on them. it was really themselves they could no longer stand. They had botched things up so badly there simply was no longer any use, they had met the enemy, and it was them. They had a choice, either change or live in another dark age. So they changed ... It was hard, especially at first, but they were determined and persevered and learning restraint, proper order and balance they knew they'd made the right choice. Slowly things began to improve and gradually get better, and in time Ashland again prospered becoming even a nicer place in which to live.

Other communities followed and began to prosper as well. They too became happy and healthy. And people did indeed live! ... Long and meaningful lives which they passed on to their children and their children's children, ... for all time, for they had finally learned the meaning of enough and the value of what they already had.



And so that is the Legend of Ashland ... or perhaps “back to the future”?

And now to return to where I left off at the beginning. Let's see ... I think I would like to call the rest of the story Look No Hands, if that wouldn't be confusing to the reader.

As I was saying, Lifelong was a magical place, and where we met. I hadn't known you long, yet it seemed we'd grown up together, as if we'd known each other a long time. There was a deep sense of trust and openness, almost innocence, a sense of being kindred spirits, or simply best buddies. We both shared what seemed an intuitive keenness that somehow guided us away from worldly entrapment. Like many others of the community there was a healthy glow, a youthful vitality about us. a golden brown bathed our hair and skin with the warmth of the season of summer.

We worked at the same place, so to speak. In fact, that's where we met. You were a coordinator for groups often using the retreat where I lived and worked. We were trying to create a holistic community where people could live in greater harmony with one another and nature, kind of an oasis, an example which others could follow. We felt each doing their part could somehow make things better, although challenged we were happy. We could be creative and constructive in our work. In fact, most folks in the community took to be active positively in some way.

The town of Lifelong as a whole was relatively of enlightened character emphasizing human growth, offering lectures, workshops and classes in various disciplines in the art of life. It seemed we were always enrolled in something ... there was just so much to learn!

Larger gatherings called “Celebrations of Life” would take place from time to time in natural settings outside of town. Sometimes the

“forest dwellers” would join in, for man was now their friend.

Our favorite time was evening when everyone would form circles holding hands, gaily dancing around the firelight under the stars to exotic, seemingly magical rhythms. People spontaneously hugging, gazed compassionately into each others’ eyes, permeated with a heightened sense of wonder ... of oneness. Later, walking home we often experienced and incredible lightness of being As if having been cast in a mid – Summer’s Night Dream.

On occasion we would spend time with friends ... or “Our Gang”. Allowing the imp to come out, like pirates we’d sit around weaving outlandish lists and plots, most never attempted, those that were of good humor leaving the victim with a perplexed grin.

Sometimes in summer we would all go to “the Gorge”, our favorite skinny dipping hole. Some of the more adventurous would dive from huge boulders dropping dramatically into cool, deep pools. In some places water would flow into shallows forming natural Jacuzzis. Along its course overhung Madrones. We would spend hours swinging out on branches into lagoon-like pools and lounging on the smooth boulders.

I can still feel the gentle breeze caress on my tanned glistening skin. Being unclothed had unexpected equalizing effects. People were just people, and everyone seemed to get along the better for it.

Taking our brightly colored van we’d seek out other uniquely scenic spots to explore such as a majestic, ancient forest within the “See-Can’t-You”. Hiking beside brook and stream and colonnades of fir and pine bathed in the morning light, the peace almost surreal, as if in a sense we’d entered another world ... a lot, Garden. Nightfall would find us camping under the forest’s canopy, star gazing, at times the heavens seemed almost animate as if telepathically twinkling esoteric messages of great knowledge and beauty. Now and then we’d happen on a hot spring, the healing waters soothing and washing our cares away re-uniting us with a sense of the interconnectedness of all life.

Another of our favorite past-times was to bicycle on rural dirt roads outside town into the surrounding countryside where old barns of a by-gone era stood in pasture lands. Things were especially lovely during late spring when wildflowers prolifically lined roadsides under overarching oak and maple. There were plenty of berries to pick in the fall too, especially the black ones from which our hands soon turned deep purple.

Yes life could be so fine ... we could spend hours and hours, even lifetimes, immersed in such sublime pastimes ... we just have to get the “knack” of how to go about it the right way ...

*Don’t you agree!**

**The idealized personifications depicted are an integration of facets of myself presently evolving. Some may be recognizable as qualities you may aspire to as well and find worthy of emulation in “real” life.*

Enchantress of the Lake

Beyond the open places, deep within the densely forested mountains there is said to be a lake of dazzling blue, sheer plummeting rock faces and phantom isles, known by the natives for its sacred purity and power ... a place where heaven met earth and joined ... and where by story begins.

The vision kept returning ... seemingly compelling me to seek out its sources. I'd heard of the legend of the lake. Somehow there seemed to be a connection, a calling, one which longed to be fulfilled, as if per-destined. I'd already spent much effort trying to locate the legendary lake, but all had failed. After more exhaustive attempts I finally gave up.

Years passed, the images faded, then altogether ceased, I'd supposed aberrations of an over-active imagination. Then one evening while relaxing, they re-occurred, but with even greater intensity. I tried to relinquish them but to no avail. With hope of resolving this anomaly once and for all, I decided to try a different approach and let go of my rational attempts simply passing the helm to intuitive facilities, "go with the flow" and wait and see what happened.

In time the vision returned. Paying particular attention to its content and an esoteric messages implied, I meditated deeply, hopped in my trusty jeep and headed for the hills with only faith as my guide.

After spending most of the weekend on just about every back road I could find on the map I was, to say the least, becoming frustrated. I told myself I'd try one more road I'd happened to run into then head for home. As I traveled the "road" which was really more like a trail, I noticed an old cabin – ancient would be a better word – up ahead. Stopping, I noticed an old man walking toward me. Listening to me courteously, relieved (most people thought I was an anthropologist, a nut, or both) I told him of the legend and briefly of my dream. He simply nodded, then pointed and said, "Follow the blue in the Grayjay?" Then he turned abruptly and disappeared.

What that could mean I didn't know. Was there even such a bird, and where had the man gone?

Finding the path he'd pointed out, I figured, "How could I go wrong, as long as there is a path?" Perhaps I'd stumble on some clues to the riddle of the Jay along the way.

After hiking some distance I began to notice the unusual scale of the trees. Like nothing I'd ever seen. They towered, cathedral like, reaching to great heights, simply magnificent! The vegetation was quite lush, flowers vibrant, pristine, emanating the fairest of scents. There was an uncanny sense of the primal here, pure and untrammled. Truly a healthy place, yet curiously not on the map?

Hiking further I noticed the wildlife seemed unafraid, even curious. I had often thought how hunting had instilled fear, and had pre-empted any kind of intimate relationship with the animals of the wild. Yet this rule didn't seem to apply. Sighing, I thought, "I'm glad it isn't on the map."

Lost in reverie, I noticed the path growing narrower, suddenly I became aware there was no longer any path at all? Stricken, I realized I should be able to find my way back, to have come so far only return. Besides there was such a mystical ambiance about this whole adventure ... I wondered if I could ever even find it again. Logic clicked in. I realized there really wasn't a choice. I must return. To proceed would be too risky.

Disillusioned I turned around and started to walk back. Suddenly, I heard an emphatic birdlike call. Looking up, I saw what appeared to be a Grayjay with a brilliant touch of blue in each wing, fluttering back and forth trying to get my attention, to go somewhere ... to follow.

The riddle, I'd almost forgotten. "Follow the blue in the grayjay." I had my doubts, but curiosity overpowered. As I followed, climbing ever upward, following the feathered one's call, gradually the trees became sparser and more windswept with meadows interspersed. I sensed I was approaching something but wasn't quite sure what. Strange, I'd been hiking for some time yet felt vigorous with the heightened sense of well-being, which, for lack of explanation, I attributed to the excitement of being here, wherever here was? Emerging from the forest, into a large opening, I could see some natural feature of hug magnitude lay below the tree line on the opposite side. My pace quickened as I crossed. Upon reaching the other side I caught my breath gazing upon a most beautiful awe-inspiring scene.

The legend was true.

There before me, plummeting a thousand feet below, was the lake of dazzling blue and phantom isles. I stood motionless, absorbing the solitude and the peace, losing sense of time and self. Then something brushed me. At first I thought it was the breeze, yet it was almost human, like a soft caress. My thoughts then focused on the rock formation from which an incandescence seemed to emit. I approached, noticing that the origin of the strange hue was behind a group of rocks.

Inching my way through a narrow crevice emerging on the other side between two huge boulders, suddenly! I felt it again ... the touch, only this time distinctly! Turning around, I could hardly believe. There before me, within the glow, was what I could only describe as a goddess, or an angel! Her face gentle, radiating deep compassion, her eyes of unusual blue ... like that of the lake, her skin and hair so fair, appeared almost luminous. There was an agelessness about her as though she was young and old at the same time, as if youth and wisdom had merged.

Suddenly I became aware that I'd been here before. Those rocks, the trees ... this was the same scene as my recurring dreams ... only this time it was real! Standing there speechless, transfixed, I realized she was conveying a message, yet it was verbal or by any other conventional means, but seemed direct ... from heart to heart. Reaching out tenderly, grasping my hands, cupping them she drew me near, almost sensuously, her eyes intense, gentle beyond compare, met mine, drawing me in. her scent was of wildflower and fresh mountain air. I began sensing energy flowing within me, releasing all the blockages acquired through the years, emptying me. gradually the intensity subsided, her image fading, then altogether disappeared, leaving me the most soothing sense of peace I'd ever known.

Time's relentlessness had been subdued, as though shielded.

The details of my return, irrelevant. My life, irrevocably changed.

Thinking back on the reasons for such an experience, I guessed I'd reached a point

in life where I needed some special help ... a boost, perhaps I'd become too cynical. Regardless, it isn't important whether my story be believed or disbelieved, but that the "feeling" be passed along ... that maybe we're not so alone, as long as we remain open to higher possibilities.

So no matter what ... don't give up!

❧❧❧

cxx

The Celestial Ark

The " Celestial Ark " awaits very near, beyond the shrouds of mind,
around the bend of time, rising heaven-ward on gentle waves of understanding.

Specifications

Powered:

By imagination & harmonic heart waves ("L. Waves")

Speed:

As fast as white light ("Be here now.")

Range:

Infinity & Beyond. (As Far as the Mind Can Wander.)

Weight:

Varies According to Thought Patterns. (Negative & Positive.)

Capacity:

All ... especially the gentle.

Destination:

Harmonyville, Mellowtron (& occasional trips to "inner space.")

Disposition:

On standby in case of planetary self-destruction.

Mission:

To inspire unconventional innovative thinking.
To bring unification & sustainability to the earth.

Theme Song:

Crystal Blue Persuasion. "Better Get Ready."

Crew Song:

Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream, Merrily,
merrily, merrily, for life is but a dream.

Patent Pending ...☺

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cxxi

Internet Blues

Internet Blues? Think you have problems: I was spammed by a Nigerian bandit promising redemption into adopting his Zulu mother-in-law who then granted life estates to her five militant sons. This having occurred along with continually being reminded of certain, ah "inadequacies" which I initially thought were from an old girlfriend or mis-routed e-mailings between high-level politicians. Thereafter following a series of computer crashes, viruses, user related illnesses and operations my home was re-possessed and I was compelled put my wife up for adoption and live in my car. I then totaled my car while multi-tasking on my auto-visual cell phone. Soon after my dog and pet turtle left seeking better environments. I now have a small sidewalk residence, my computer my only possession and a modest pencil retail business while seeking pro-bono therapy. Needless to say I cannot begin to express my feelings regarding the convenience, freedom and leisure this modern technological wonder has afforded.

Eulogy: "At first it in was a novelty, then a habit and then a necessity".

Now seriously folks, if you can laugh you can live.

- And what ever happen to the simple things and pleasures like doing next to nothing? Sitting under a tree enjoying the serenity and wonders of nature, being cuddly with kids your pets, a good book or some soothing inspirational music.
- Have we been so commercially programmed that we can't fathom these so called time saving conveniences and entertainment modes are actually having a negative overall affect on our well-being and contrarily are becoming our masters while distorting our sense of perspective (let alone health related issues, disposal and toxic residues, etc.).

Therefore let us be of moderation while bearing in mind what's sustainable, least

costly and of greatest value.



cxii

Prayer, Meditation and Healing

A unique approach

* Removing the mental clutter, impediments and burden of the ego etc. to "connect" and manifest greater inner and outer harmony.

On every level all things to a degree are "alive" & in a sense possess individuality even though appearing as a whole singular. Each component or "individual" part needing continual recognition, appreciation & love for its optimal well being. It would be wise to appreciate how steadfast & wondrously one's body works together & its potential in part & whole given a multi-leveled intimate & loving relationship.

We often ask God or universe for something, yet with our prayers in the process mentally fill the "space" with thought, desire, images or otherwise rather than naturally allowing "God" in. Even the leanest of meditations recommend some focal point be used. If there indeed be a God, the divine or worthy something why not just empty our heads and implicitly invite it in ... to fill the space ... which is probably where "it" otherwise would naturally be anyway. - Not according to our terms or expectations, but just as it is and will: realizing that at times this may include no "response" - Nothing, therefore not always expecting gratification, thereby instilling greater independence and even temperament.

I have found by using such an approach upon clearing and opening myself I soon experience a gentle serenity, then a non-attached harmonious connectedness in which all things seem in perspective often followed by a "peace that passes all understanding".

Being sure to exclude the ego I may creatively enhance this state by seeing myself physically, mentally and otherwise as my optimal greater-self in comprehensive harmony.

Such a state even when un-enhanced can lead to a soothing healing energy massage -like inner "movement" ... physical yet non-physical (very pleasant and consoling) then luminosity throughout ... Something you don't feel, but do ... yet just as real ... As though having another sense, another body layered ethereally within ... something you don't see, but do ... As though having another eye that truly sees ... with the ability to experience a wholeness and satisfaction in which nothing more is desired and all is complete.

If there was or is a Garden of Eden perhaps such is akin to the continuous state which truly makes it real.

Regardless, I've discovered such an approach evokes practical as well as tangible improvement in well-being and relationships which carry over significantly into day to day living. I've also found such a state more sustainable if inserted when ever possible into ones normal daily routine.

Could this be a simpler more direct and natural way to connect with God,

"universality" or our higher-natures while improving well-being?