

# Night Sky Sangha

Inquiry into Awakening

Volume 1

Mindfulness Corner

(July 2008 – December 2009)

Inquiry Invitations

(September 2010 – November 2012)

Facebook Posts

(November 2012 – Dec 2013)

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## ***Night Sky Sangha Mindfulness Corner (July 2008 – December 2009)***

*Here I sit*

noticing I am waiting

but I cannot fathom what for

The Buddha was a diligently self-observant human being. The potency of his observation had such a force of clarity that he was able to drill down to the core of, and then beyond, the core of his being to observe nothing at all.

And what presented itself at the periphery and at the center, what reflected itself unabashedly everywhere he could see, and not see, was perfect freedom of mind. This freedom, as taught by the Buddha, is completely unfettered and refreshingly present; it is the flow of observation from a place of total and effortless inner silence.

To call it freedom is already a misapprehension, if it could be understood clearly we might refer to it as freedom for whom, and from what. The Buddha's eyes did not deceive him into thinking of himself as a separate being, existing apart from the field and contents and functioning of consciousness. To name this understanding is simply not possible.

The question we may ask (if our capacity for curiosity is awake) is how could that freedom be enjoyed by me? There's a small mystery here though, and it is one of the special wonders of being drawn to the spiritual quest, the adventure of discovering one's self. And that mystery is that there already has to be a kernel of awake inside us that alerts us to yearn for true resolution and effortless peace.

We have to be triggered in our imagination, and in our heart, we have to be reminded of the possibility of God consciousness in order to seek it out. And realizing this is a potent aid in the practice of meditation, because somewhere inside we know that we have been invited to take this journey. We can sense that awake has already occurred and now we must listen more carefully. We become compelled to make the inner discovery, even without any comprehension of what it might be.

*Meditation is simple,*  
do nothing  
and less than that

We practice effortlessness. Of course, you can't assert effortlessness; you have to tolerate everything inside yourself that objects to effortlessness, and that is the heart and soul of the practice.

We learn to understand and relate to restlessness, impulse, discomfort, avoidance, and all the other subtle voices that criticize our practice of effortlessness. We are conditioned from an early age to perform, and name things, to show our capacity for learning and identifying objects. Our parents love this game!

We are products of a society driven by imagery and consumerism that celebrates frenzy, noise, chronic lack, and insecurity – all of which promotes a depth of emotional and psychological dissatisfaction and confusion leading naturally to anger, depression, and often profound loneliness.

Our addictions and lifelong apprehension are symptoms of a life run by hallucination.

So, we practice effortlessness in an attempt to counter the deep and profound fractures in our consciousness and we become willing to encounter our sorrow, our grief, our fear. We practice effortlessness to reveal all of the compensation strategies we have carefully (and often unconsciously) crafted to survive the barrage of insults we have had to endure as human beings.

You can say that meditation practice happens when you make the decision to become intimate with yourself and discover the strength to face all the things you think you can't bear within the private landscape of your own mind.

We practice effortlessness to grow up, to wake up – to reclaim our native intelligence and esteem. Magically, we find ourselves on two parallel tracks. One track is the practical aspect of slowly becoming more available to ourselves, bringing a greater degree of emotional and psychological order to our self-view and relationship with living. The other track is the sacred, it cannot be measured – it is the voice of God whispering "welcome home."

*The gift of refuge*  
serves us to be  
truly human

In Buddhist practice we may use three candles to support our mindfulness, our practice of sitting walking, and our practice of spiritual refreshment. These three candles are lit to represent the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha. These three candles are lit to remind us of the importance and presence of refuge.

For the sake of brevity, the Buddha is one who successfully traveled the entire distance to the other shore of understanding and liberation from confusion, the Dharma is the body of wisdom and the way of life that supports the journey, the Sangha is the fellowship of practitioners that walk the path together.

These three candles serve to remind us of the active presence of freedom and support for our practice, they are referred to as the Three Refuges. As we cultivate a deeper appreciation for them (and that appreciation doesn't have to do anything at all with Buddhism or becoming a Buddhist) we develop an affinity for taking refuge inside ourselves.

As we become more intimate with the practice of stillness and silence, the gift of refuge increases within us. We derive an inner strength to witness and relate to the joys and complications of our fast changing outer landscape. By taking refuge in the real we become more capable of navigating the vicissitudes of the unreal, and this capacity to discern the difference also naturally matures within us.

Through no particular effort to accomplish anything, these gifts blossom within us. The gift of refuge is truly remarkable; it is like the mighty oak growing out of a tiny seed.

*The funny thing about free*  
is that it never happened  
to anyone

We can look at some of these curious Buddhist paradoxes through the eyes of dismissal or the eyes of wonder. I prefer the later. Having “suffered” for some time from the dubious gift of spiritual seeking, I have many times attempted to elicit a condition of free. Sometimes my urgency and craving for free has brought me to the point of a kind of constipation. Being a natural inquisitor, I have attempted to better understand 1) why my self-admitted sincerity for enlightenment has not been fulfilled, and less frequently, 2) just who is this me that plans on benefitting from this grandiose idea I harbor of free?

Every once in a while a whisper of inner silence and spontaneous receptivity arises within me that captures my attention and bestows a sense of blessing that I cannot contain and I know is not the result of any effort or preparation. These natural gifts of wonder happen to all of us; however we are often too distracted or active to pay them any heed or relax into the invitation of presence. So in a sense by practicing stillness (meditation) we become better able to listen for and welcome these nourishing interludes of freedom.

The funny thing about free is that it never happened to anyone. While this may sound like a paradox at first glance there may be something of value to consider. When wonder and not-knowing replace the habit of identifying ourselves with thinking and self-preservation, freedom blossoms. And when this occurs it is very difficult if not impossible to remain seated in thought or the conviction of a separate self. We don’t become free, free becomes all that is.



*We want to suffer less,*  
and still remain as we are;  
this is a mistaken preference

Buddhism is often sold or taught as a program for mitigating suffering. There is a lot of emphasis placed on defilements, precepts, vows, and the cultivation of improved moral fiber and behavior. There are the ten Paramis or perfections, which are useful to enumerate:

1. Dana parami: generosity, giving of oneself
2. Sila parami: virtue, morality, proper conduct
3. Nekkhamma parami: renunciation
4. Pañña parami: transcendental wisdom, insight
5. Viriya parami: energy, diligence, vigor, effort
6. Khanti parami: patience, tolerance, forbearance, acceptance, endurance
7. Sacca parami: truthfulness, honesty
8. Adhitthana parami: determination, resolution
9. Metta parami: loving-kindness
10. Upekkha parami: equanimity, serenity

And this journey of purification is considered "valuable" as it pertains to confronting and transcending the ten fetters, also worth enumerating:

1. Sakkaya-ditthi is translated as "personality belief". This is the belief that we are solid beings, which leads to the illusion of a separate self, egoism, or individuality.
2. Vicikicchā means "skeptical doubt." In particular, doubt about (a) the Buddha, (b) the Dhamma, (c) the Sangha, (d) the disciplinary rules, (e) the past, (f) the future, (g) both the past and the, (h) the doctrine of dependent origination. The Buddha said that this kind of doubt is like being lost in a desert without a map.
3. Silabbataparamasa means "adherence to wrongful rites, rituals and ceremonies"...in the mistaken belief that purification can be achieved simply by their performance.
4. Kama-raga means "sensual desire."
5. Patigha The literal meaning of this term is "to hit against", but it is often translated into English as "ill-will or hatred".
6. Rupa-raga is "attachment to the form realms." That is, still binding ourselves to Samsara.
7. Arupa-raga is "attachment to the formless realms."
8. Mana literally this means "measuring" and is often translated as "conceit, arrogance, self-assertion or pride", but measuring is a better term because it means all forms of evaluation.
9. Uddhacca means "restlessness." It is the confused, distracted, restless state of mind, in which there is no tranquillity or peace.
10. Avijja is translated as "ignorance", but this is ignorance in a special sense

The problem with this altruistic and well intentioned approach is that it remains tethered to the material and temporal nature of consciousness; focused on process, psychological time, an action plan resulting in and having some benefit that inures to "me."

There won't be any freedom here. Please pardon (or don't) my glib dismissal of 99% of Buddhist process. The humanity is as it is, full of self-deceit and the reckless clamoring for personal fulfillment and security – the chronic dissatisfaction that accompanies existence. There is nothing inherently wrong with the humanity and its apparently insatiable confusion. And the natural condition of humanity does not preclude us from having an encounter with the potency and immediacy of liberated understanding.

So we have the inspiration and motivation to suffer less, an arguably relevant endeavor that may permit us to live with greater ease and less affliction. And we have the confrontational invitation to wake up, which leaves neither residue nor the chance to enjoy our spiritual progress. While these are not necessarily mutually exclusive prescriptions for tranquility, the former leaves you as you are/were; the later will kill you outright.

Since I'm already out on a limb, let me cut the branch. The Buddha's emancipation (and gift to us) is expressed as cessation and nirvana (nibbana), the transcendent and singularly ineffable freedom; "This is peace, this is exquisite — the resolution of all fabrications, the relinquishment of all acquisitions, the ending of craving; dispassion; cessation; Nibbana."

Merry Christmas.

## *Subtle Point of Conception*

Have you ever noticed a difference between the facility of awareness and the conception point of a separate self? Perhaps some readers' fond of self-inquiry may be interested to explore a subtle nuance that reveals the time lapse between actual perception and the thinking reflex, the reflex of self-referencing.

Let's imagine consciousness as the canvass, the content, and the vehicle of perception underlying existence. The movement of our human consciousness as a witness mechanism is what we might refer to as noticing. This awareness is the simple and effortless process of seeing (with all the sense windows) what is happening, what is stimulating our senses, attracting our attention. This awareness can be observing our thoughts, objects in our surroundings, and all manner of subtle or gross phenomena.

There is generally no question that phenomena are occurring, and something is noticing it, participating in it, flowing (with or without resistance) with it. There is the sense of what we call time as the arising, duration and passing of events. Time can be conceived as being outside (cosmological or geophysical) and inside as psychological time, the movement of thought.

So what we refer to as reality is the dance of phenomena arising in what we refer to as time being noticed by what we refer to as us. This is the simple view, unadulterated by too much interpretation or storytelling. In the endeavor that we call meditation there is a general interest in turning our attention away from the outside world and simplifying our noticing to this present moment, this immediate space, this capacity and movement of awareness happening inside of my consciousness. By practicing meditation we take a look at the nature of awareness and its mannerisms, using ourselves as the laboratory for discovery.

This is a practice of simplifying our attention to see what is, in lieu of becoming absorbed (or lost) in abstraction, naming, and various levels of day dreaming. As this looking deepens we can peer into the subtle field where noticing happens all by itself prior to the conception point where/when a separate me forms. Noticing of phenomena is what is happening, the movement of stuff in consciousness is happening. So how is it that the natural state of impersonal choice-less awareness is remixed to include a "me" as the center of attention? How did I find myself in the picture?

We human beings are aspects, extrusions of the stuff happening in consciousness. We are elements of phenomena, perceiving mechanisms, complex sense vehicles of observation and action. Nowhere in this streaming unfolding is there the slightest hint of a discrete self-inhabiting the body mechanism. The subtle point of conception for the separate self (referred to as I or me or we) occurs when the thought structure effortlessly infers the magical and completely hallucinatory doer.

This sense of a separate doer operating in time gives rise to decision making, choosing, preferring, the myth of creative attraction and manifesting, and the accompanying warts of chronic apprehension, self-preservation, clinging as attraction and rejection, control dramas – the stuff of isolation and fear. The root of suffering (in all its manifestations) is the impersonal reflex of self-referencing, the creation and presumption of separative existence apart from the whole field and movement of consciousness.

We miss being nourished by the wonder and unfathomable expression of consciousness because we are never (or seldom) without the movement of naming and abstraction that creates a muffled filter between what is and the grasping perceiver as the experiencer and doer of actions. We live in a chronic condition of always being late, after the fact, seduced by one failed attempt at control after another. This fundamental irritability is the root mechanism of all forms of contention and conflict, whether felt inside us or acted out on the global scale.

If your impulse is to deny this, our friendly conversation comes to an amicable end. If, on the other hand, these suggestions attract your interest we can walk together a little further. If you take a bird's eye view of the basic inherent insecurity of the "me" and the fallacy upon which all remedies (where you part with your money for a better experience) rely, you may see that any effort of this me in time is a self-perpetuating jail cell. If, as I am suggesting, the "me" is not real (being merely a function of naming and self-referencing) then any form of self-improvement (including spiritual advantages) is a continuity of the phantom. No real satisfaction or lasting peace can come to me, the apprehension that accompanies my conviction of separate self will not be ameliorated by anything short of a profound wakeup call that opens the mind beyond its familiar perimeters.

At some point we may find ourselves really interested in waking up, really interested in looking deeply at the nature of existence, urgently interested to find out what's true. This yearning begins to infuse our lives and we would rather discover or practice or talk with friends about inquiry/spirituality than go bowling or entertain ourselves with typical distractions. At some point the seemingly impenetrable hallucination begins to crack and we get glimpses of discontinuity, feelings of expansion, momentary absorptions, curious encounters we can't easily define or dismiss. The impersonal nature of consciousness playing the role of disquieted human begins to stir into self-inquiry and we are driven to find out what's real.

If this curiosity has been triggered in you we can enjoy the adventure of noticing not just the content of experience, but the field in which it is occurring. More and more we can catch moments when our presumptions and certainties are suspended and the unnamable is evoked in our wakefulness. Wakefulness is what we are, and as our encounters with reality deepen, we may find ourselves empty of motives and in love with what is.

## *A Fresh Look at the Four Noble Truths*

Have you ever noticed just how rich and nuanced the human capacity for imagination, expression, and interpretation is? Isn't the wonder and flow of discovery more nourishing and satisfying than the "confidence" that comes with knowing things? It's as if our true nature is fulfilled more by awe and surprise than knowledge and certainty. Perhaps much of our spiritual and socio-political malaise has to do with our inherent (and often overlooked) dissatisfaction with conceptual projection, the appearance of knowledge, the fixity we apply to ourselves and our relationship with the natural world. We are bereft of surprise and the gift of conscious novelty, the joy of not knowing, and the mystery that infuses our very being.

We have become far too accustomed to ourselves, presuming we know who and what we are, identifying with the mysterious field of thought projection and the creation of self-hood. We don't really see clearly anymore, we are so filled with certainty and interpretive expectation that we actually believe what we think/project to be the real. And we wonder why boredom, apprehension, regret, fear, misrepresentation, facade, manipulation, and so many other "indigestibles" are so common in our day to day experience.

Many have turned to the Yogic and Buddhist paths for insight and guidance if for some strange reason we find ourselves having an interest in exploring the depths of our own being, seeking to be nourished by genuine spiritual discovery, and urgently working to embellish our lives with light, freedom, and mystery. The Dharma (the non-denominational way of understanding) has this remarkable capacity and holographic potency for inconceivable freedom and encourages a meticulous personal discovery process in order to evoke a profound realization, freedom from the known.

So let's take a walk together along the path referred to as the Four Noble Truths and see if we can't have a little fun interpreting these truths in a novel way, a way that might rekindle or ignite a new curiosity in us.

### 1. Life is Suffering –

To look more clearly at this condensed homily we need to see what was meant by the nature of unsatisfactoriness (Dukkha) as it pertains to experience. The implication of this insight is that all experience (mental or physical, gross or subtle) is irritating and/or not fully satisfying because it is too often (if not always) tainted by craving, subject to change and therefore not reliable, and cannot be captured or held as the experiencer him - her - itself is of the nature of emptiness.

The unapologetic pointer is that consciousness and its content/phenomena are of a rudimentary unsatisfying nature, hence we can trace all suffering back to the inherent nature of consciousness itself. And if this view has some merit then we can adjust our personal spiritual journey accordingly so that we give our naked attention to the arising of phenomena and the nature of sentience and observation, rather than investing in the numerous life-long and arguably vain attempts at struggling to make things better.

We simply stop. We stop all manner of dream improvement, and see what happens.

### 2. Suffering is Caused by Desire –

Craving (attachment/desire) or need or preference or clinging is a natural extension of our physical, psychological, and emotional condition, the imagined condition of separation. Craving can't actually be the cause of suffering as it is only a symptom or permutation of consciousness; it doesn't stand sufficiently alone to be responsible for anything. The implication of this second Noble Truth was partly to highlight the inherent three-fold nature of craving; craving sensual enjoyment, craving continued

existence, and craving the end or annihilation of existence. I think we can all relate to these three experiences.

Were we to see clearly the impersonal nature of consciousness and awaken from the conviction of an individualized entity, we might stumble into a non-clinging relationship with living that could bring about a profound change in our experience. We won't likely be successful attempting to negotiate or manage the symptoms of suffering/clinging as an individual. The breakthrough objective here is the piercing of the misinterpretation of consciousness as our possessing a separate and self-deterministic nature. This presumption is the fuel for the fire of craving and suffering.

Another potent and subtle element of this insight is referred to as Dependent Origination. This Buddhist equation is a way to emphasize and reveal that all phenomena (including the arising of our sense of self) is conditioned upon previously existing factors, thus eliminating the illusion of personal responsibility and the ailments of insufficiency, inadequacy, and all manner of performance anxiety. The equation looks like this:

With Ignorance as condition, Mental Formations arise  
With Mental Formations as condition, Consciousness arises  
With Consciousness as condition, Name and Form arise  
With Name & Form as condition, Sense Gates arise  
With Sense Gates as condition, Contact arises  
With Contact as condition, Feeling arises  
With Feeling as condition, Craving arises  
With Craving as condition, Clinging arises  
With Clinging as condition, Becoming arises  
With Becoming as a condition, Birth arises  
With Birth as condition, Aging and Dying arise

### 3. Suffering can be Broken –

Well if that ain't good news, the absolute extinction of craving! To discover the interest and curiosity within to consider these teachings in the first place is a formidable revelation. To attend to the instruction and vocabulary and nuance of these teachings is another joyful step. To enter into the stream of practice so the potency of direct experience may be apprehended is yet another amazing adventure.

To become acquainted with the nature of consciousness, to see the myriad permutations of thought and projection, and to begin to witness periods of wholeness within ourselves is the promise and fulfillment of the Dharma. This third Noble Truth concedes that cessation of suffering (the collapse of clinging) is possible. The deep view is that the suffering and clinging being referred to are not the content of our experience and the travails of common human experience, but the very nature of consciousness itself and the fallacious view/interpretation of separative existence that we have become habituated to.

The relinquishment of separation as the result of deep penetrating insight is the "mechanism" by which individuation, clinging, and suffering are transmuted into silence and wholeness.

#### 4. Suffering can be broken by following the Eightfold Path –

The Buddha introduced the Middle Path (as an antidote to the sensual indulgences and styles of self-mortification common in his day) as a true way to understanding. This Noble Eightfold Path consists of

1. Right Understanding,
2. Right Intention,
3. Right Speech,
4. Right Actions,
5. Right Livelihood,
6. Right Effort,
7. Right Mindfulness,
8. Right Collectiveness (meditation)

For the sake of brevity, as one embarks upon the journey of self-discovery these “encouragements” become more joyful expressions than burdened expectations of how we might interface with living. We seem to be already laden enough with behavioral guidance, especially from the pulpit of organized religion. The emphasis on laying the groundwork for penetrating insight is to keep our “karmic” house in order. Emotional maturity and behavioral maturity are keen pre-cursors to making time for productive meditation and stillness practices.

Our freedom is an act of seeing, not an act of doing. The natural consequence of observing the arising of consciousness, the movement of the thought structure, and the quick conclusory habit of “selfing,” is a meta-understanding of the geometry of experience. As we commit ourselves to the practice of noticing and stillness, the matrix of joy replaces the hallucination of separation, gratitude replaces inertia.

## *Leaping Past the Truth*

The doorway to reality is reality itself. Sounds simple, perhaps glib, but it is a poignant and remarkably strange observation. The ever subtle and mysteriously fractal nature of reality is that it alone is. We could say it is here, but what does here mean? We could say that it is now, but what does now mean? We could say that it is beingness, divinity, sacred, god; but what do those imprecise abstractions imply?

While we're on a roll, let's playfully engage another curious set of imprecise implications. The consciousness that perceives, the canvass upon or within which phenomena and experience unfold, and the contents (all and every perceptible and imperceptible symptom) are all characteristics or expressions of reality. They have no discernable existence apart from the expressive functioning of reality. More to the point, we have no discernable existence apart from the expressive functioning of reality.

You might notice within the privacy of your own experience and mental habit is that we leap over the immediate and solely existent fact of reality; we miss it entirely perhaps because it is all and only what is. We create (or more aptly put, consciousness creates) through thought, language, and psychological time, the conviction of a separately occurring self, a self that is definably separate from the whole of reality. It is this imagined self that is the bane of all confusion, craving, anguish, and conflict – the reflexive and purely impersonal creation of me-self as separately arising and apart from the heart of reality is the root and least common denominator of suffering, everything else is mere symptom.

The habit of mind to bifurcate and interpret reality as being more than one thing evokes the appearance of a discrete entity arising and being in possession of self-hood. Consequently this same habit imagines itself to be the center of experience, the interpreter, the decider, the chooser, when it is none of these. It is just an inconvenient (or convenient if you wish) apparition.

Reality alone is. The entire catastrophe, the ever present and always full-on vibration of creation containing and expressing itself as All This is the truth of being and perception – it is the ineffable and constantly shifting, never to be repeated, beyond description, living presence of itself.

The nature of reality (and this is perfectly available to see for one's self) is to depart at the same "time" it arrives, to arrive at the same "time" it departs. It doesn't last long enough (and yet never ceases to exist) to know or say anything about it. Thought can only comment or ruminate or lament, after the fact. Thought (as well as the hallucination of me-self and the imagination of time) are expressions appearing within reality; they cannot capture or accurately communicate reality.

The implication of this curious conversation is that awakening suggests (and that's putting it diplomatically) a shift in the geometry or dimensionality of our perception. We are obliged to see through, or penetrate, or wake up from the habit of reducing the whole of reality into a separately arising entity that enjoys (or suffers) existence apart from the whole. And this depth and spontaneity of perception-understanding does not occur in the dimension of time, it is not knowledge, it is not a conclusion.

If we are interested in discovering the nature of reality, we must look here (though we can't say what here is), we must look now (though we can't say what now is). We are not going to be successful at some other time in some other place, or through the time-bound filters of purification, rituals, or spiritual practice. We must look with our fullness, our entirety of being.

Reality is always in hot pursuit of itself, the human adventure of awakening is this delicious and maddening love affair. Perhaps we can approximate the subtlety of this natural unfolding by saying that we turn our attention to the vast and ordinary array of reality as incomprehensible fullness and



presence. We begin to see directly that organizing and agonizing ourselves into discreet existence is merely a habit of misinterpretation.

And once we get a glimpse of the profoundly unsatisfactory reflex to imagine ourselves into unreal existence, we start to wonder and ponder at what reality might look like and feel like if we could only stop. So we stop, we just stop. The arrogant and defended conviction of me-self with all its clever knowledge and inertia comes profoundly and spontaneously into question. We stop, and reality floods the doorways of perception, reality reveals itself to itself without distortion, entirely free of time space. This is not describable, it only is.

## ***Profoundly Empty Handed***

Let's say that our present scientific representation and interpretation of the electromagnetic spectrum, the nature of vibration, frequency, wavelength, and amplitude including the atom, its protons, neutrons, and electrons, and all the other cool magical stuff that we have names for including the neurotransmitters and synaptic fatty tissue of the brain that they say is responsible for the perception of reality, or even the creation of reality, and maybe even subjective consciousness itself, is all flawed.

I encourage you to go in search of a coherent biological explanation for the appearance of subjective consciousness and some or any definitive science that can express with certainty what exactly reality is. My suspicion is that you will have an interesting time of it; maybe a fantastically rich adventure sifting through a serially complex web of metaphors and structures and plausibility / assertions / hypotheses all of which merely self-refer so you end up profoundly empty handed.

It sincerely amazes me how deliciously and delightfully plastic the radiant dreaming actually is, and how rigidly we defend the hyper-fantasy and belief matrix of ourselves based on what the scientists would have us believe about the nature of "reality". Could it be that some profound expression of magical randomization and patterning (particle + wave + observing force) having no motive or utility and no agency is self-seeding the creative impulse of radiant and ever transcendent recognition via some electromagnetic apparitional blueprint that no one will ever find?

Here this is, are you really so sure you have any clue what this is? What might happen in your present experience if (just for fun) you could not assert or presume you knew? Here's a nice place for us to sit and consider the consequences.

## ***This Pimento Omelet***



Now that I have this pimento omelet stuck to my head, I can see more clearly!

Enlightenment is easy, ignorance is complicated. Let's unravel the bogus and perennial (if not perineal) advertisement that your life is worth improving, once and for all.

In order to improve your life, you must first believe that you are having a life, and if you believe you are having a life you are phucked silly in ignorance of the already and ever present transcendental nature of being.

This is not your life, This is an aggregate singularity of inconceivable radiant expression which is absolutely free from story, explanation, process, duration, motive, and agenda - so why bother improving a life that you are not even having?

What you really want is freedom from time, freedom from self, freedom from the slightest thought or impulse of even seeking for or requiring fulfillment. Seeing the nature and sacred geometry of how consciousness forges ontology and phenomenology out of nothing and forgets itself in the process (aka the presumption of your individuated experience) permits you to see its "simultaneous" nature as absolutely free from mental, physical, emotional, or spiritual adhesions.

Seeing what This is releases you from presuming you know what it is, and that is Awake – not even awakening. With due appreciation to our friend Shawn McDonald (see tune links), don't you want to be [Ready](#) to be [Perfectly Done](#)?

Now that you see this, what are you going to do about it? Well the obvious answer is nothing, not a god damn thing – That (Enlightenment) was Easy. See you at an Inquiry meeting, where fools meet to enjoy the emptiness of themselves.

## ***This Strange Certainty of Ours***

Who's on your Enlightenment "A" team - is it a long gone culture, a famous cookie, or a Rock Star? The first gave us a beautifully carved stone pointing to impending cataclysmic cessation & doom - today. The second is a sure bet for type II diabetes, and the third gave us a kick-ass dance number and a message of total abundance that goes on and on forever. So who's your favorite?

Is it A) The Mayans?



Is it B) An Oreo Cookie?



Or is it C) Conrad Birdie?

(Kindly click image for the most enthusiastic "Mayans can kiss my ass" spiritual message of our Age)



But I digress - here's what I really meant to say as my pseudo-intellectual and pseudo-iconoclast (both recent accusations from my fan base) contribution for the Holidays.

## ***Peering into the Heart of Samsara -***

When's the last time you questioned the miracle of experiential continuity? Have you ever even considered the myth and curious portrayal (if not betrayal) of time and space and events occurring in and as "your" experience?

Only the strange and compelled pioneers of suffering, and perhaps recovery, are encouraged to look into this adventure. For most humans we are simply taught not to question the very foundation and core revelation of the primary miracle - so we take our imaginary lives as the doer, decider, chooser, sufferer, enjoyer, planner, and center of the universe for granted.

In other words, we are absolutely certain (beyond any curiosity) that we are individual biological units thrashing about as the result of birth (of which we have been affectionately accused) and that our experiencing consciousness is the result of this birth.

This strange certainty of ours completely ignores the possibility (if not observable truth) that the hierarchy of being is 180 degrees meaning "completely" opposite of what we presume to be true.

Might it be that the world/universe and the creation myth of the big bang and our apparent physical being subjugated as it were to time and space are surrogates of the consciousness?

Forgive my oblique approach here, but I am asking - do you want to find out what experiencing really is or are you sanguine with your certainties?

This is the motive and agenda for Inquiry into Awakening, there is none other. Thanks for considering the implications.

## ***Left or Right to Do***

What could possibly be left or right to do before you give yourself permission to stop? What do I mean by stop? Stop seeking, stop making sense, stop explaining yourself to yourself, and stop trying to make anything right?

What exactly must be accomplished or seen or certified and by whom for This moment, just as you are, to be perfectly OK for you to enjoy the immersive nature of your own clumsy divinity? No one anywhere to be found or not found stands between you and your perfect autonomy. You don't need any cosmic or spiritual or channeled advice from any authority to be what you are, to see what This is.

If you are holding out or hiding out or waiting to be purified of some bullshit in your crappy awkward and totally unnoticed life, which would just be some lame and unfounded excuse not to dream yourself directly into the heart of God.

## Performance Evaluation

If you listen carefully to the end of [Strawberry Fields](#) John can be heard murmuring something (time stamp 4:04 left speaker); at first folks swore this was "I buried Paul", later revised to "I'm very bored", and finally John said it was "Cranberry Sauce". Now you might be asking (though probably not) what does this have to do with my suffering and quest for enlightenment?

Well nothing has anything to do with your suffering and quest for enlightenment so why not make it about a Beatles song? We sure involve ourselves in a million other nonsensical ideas from moment to moment imagining that my life "enjoys and includes" object permanence, causative factors influenced by my decision making, and the consequences of my carefully considered behavioral actions all aimed at perpetuating my security and perfect happiness. Right?

Let's take a quick moment to grade ourselves; think of it as a spontaneous performance evaluation that will influence your Christmas Bonus this holiday season.

	1	2	3	4	5
I earn enough money					
I have enviable good looks					
I love my job					
My future is secure					
My diet choices will ensure my continued good health					
I am in charge of my destiny					
I have done everything I want thus far in my life					
I get along great with my parents and siblings					
I am not afraid of silly Mayan calendars that end abruptly 21 days from now					
My home has no clutter					
My kids are fantastic and on top of their game					
I live without fear of the future					
I understand myself and practice frequent forgiveness and self-care					
I am sufficiently rested					
I find profound meaning each and every day					

Scale: ( 1 = Got This! ----> 5 = I'm Totally F'd )

May I suggest that when it comes to enlightenment, none of these self-assessments amount to anything at all so no matter what your score, Jesus loves you. The best Christmas present is to realize that it is



possible to peer into and through the self-generating (not that you're doing it) nature of temporal and spatial hallucination which suggests that you were born into a [homogeneous and isotropic universe](#) existing outside of yourself (you as a body). As you contemplate the curious nature of experiencing and its apparent content (if you do) some very startling if not liberating observations can be made. This is Here for the taking, so to speak.

The promise, seeking, discovery, and fruition of what This is can be breathtaking though completely counter intuitive to our typical ways of thinking and experiencing. Come kick it around, and keep your appointment with Awake.

## ***Existential Panic***

If you're lost you can look - and you will find me  
Time after time  
If you fall I will catch you - I will be waiting  
Time after time  
- [Cyndi Lauper](#)

You know how sometimes you may rely on your mind or your thinking or your memory or your inner discussion to assess your life or cultivate more/better joy? Have you ever had that sinking feeling that you always come up empty, immersed in confusion, can't find an anchor for your own experience anywhere? These rich encounters may be characterized as a first-hand meeting with your own existential panic. It sucks for sure, but it is a good thing.

Maybe you wonder; what organ, what gland, what force or agency do I exercise or use to fulfill my most sincere longing?

Now it may be somewhat deflating to find out that you can't exercise your will with any reliable satisfaction. It may be quite frustrating to see that you can't box your way out of a resilient paper bag whose walls are built with the profound delusions of being a person. Do you have any idea just how many false and superstitious beliefs you have about your imaginary person-hood and how many compensatory certainties you harbor to avoid the litany of emotional or psychic pain you've suffered thus far in your life? Have you ever considered that these castle walls might be prison walls?

Now what are you going to do? If you aren't prepared to cross the moat with your hands raised high and declare a full surrender, you're gonna cling to your gingerbread house surrounded by insatiable sugar addicts, and they are gobbling you up alive! Bite by bite, your carefully constructed identifications with race, gender, ethnicity, religion, social status, political convictions, health and longevity, clever insights into the Illuminati and other rascallions, scalar energy, career, parenting skills, money, stuff, security, and all the rest are gonna be devoured by the potent and dissolving saliva of reality - better have your seat belt on! The only thing you have to look forward to is "melts in your mouth" and you're the one melting.

Fact is, not everyone is cut out for or interested in stepping outside the primate perimeter. We'd rather ignore or supplicate a god out there or up there then find out that what we truly are, time after time, is the curious funny bone of infinite divinity itself. And if you are bold enough to believe in Santa for the rest of your life you may find out that you have been waiting for yourself - good catch.

## ***Point of Surreal Absurdity***

With what authority or earned conviction do you listen to your own thinking? Is your internal dialog and certainty concerning your present experience really that compelling and persuasive that you simply believe everything you are telling yourself? Is there any possibility that your unexamined presumptions and reality checks are completely misleading to the point of surreal absurdity?

If it turns out that the sense of I is nothing more than the presence of a dissociative disorder characterized by impersonal free association arising spontaneously out of nothing which appears to create a world in which you appear to be a discrete inhabitant then the story of yourself is nothing more than an instantly dissolving dream.

Since this discontinuous hallucination is not actually happening it is possible to wake up from the irritability of individuation and duration. And this recognition is what may be called liberation. Perhaps you'd like to explore it further?

## ***Simply Observable Fact of Being***

No one would argue with the simply observable fact of being, the presence of sentient experiencing. The fun begins when you contemplate or observe within the whole damn family how many different explanations and stories and superstitions and holy books have been written to tell us what this is, how it began, who's responsible, and what we may expect from it during our so called lives or even after "we" die.

Once you have purchased (as in believe without careful examination) one or several of these superficial and nonsensical secular or religious rites of unmitigated fantasy - then you can begin your allotment of suffering and disappointment and presumption and control and denial and complete lack of intelligence - then repeat.

If you are lucky there is food, energy, indoor plumbing, and unbridled consumption / despair or there is chronic poverty, parasitic infestation from poor water supplies, and the indignity of over population - the basic short list.

You may be compelled to live a life framed by the unimaginably self-righteous and myopic crumbs (called opportunities) offered you by the generations of sheep that have lived before you - the suppressing and repressing thought control leaders of our political, financial, industrial, governmental, educational, familial, and religious universe.

You may, on the other hand, find yourself compelled to find a way of thinking and discovery that goes against the grain of the somnambulistic minions - and this is generally called spiritual seeking. Seeking is as seeking does, so we are going to walk the strange path right back to now - here - this, and play "Convince me, convince me not".

This is where we find some way of waking up to what's present as experiencing without overwhelming the naked streaming consciousness with metaphors, explanations, or the reflexive insistence that memory or mind has anything to do with anything; and simply pull the petals from our own miraculous lotus flower of awareness and inquiry to see what this is.

Serious and avid seekers usually have some thorough and far out ideas about the nature of realization or awakening that they have gleaned from so many adult comic books about accomplished personages from every conceivable religious background which line the shelves of their esteemed spiritual libraries accumulated over many years - and to a tee all of these expectations and carefully constructed notions are inaccurate, incomplete, over simplified and simply wrong.

In order to jump an electron orbit or several outside the primate perimeter you must refrain from filtering the miraculous through what you think you know, including the suspicious authority of your own consciousness and meaning making machine we refer to as thought.

Once we entertain, learn, and reinforce how to do this, it is possible to wake up at will, and tune your unencumbered nature to the mystery at hand rather than wallow within the all too familiar field of presumption and defensiveness called I - Me - Mine. Those silly non-dual (Advaita) snake oil salesperson's that tell you there is nothing you can do are full of shit, they just want to turn your authentic aspiration into a cash annuity for their upkeep.

As long as you keep coming to their workshops for the inoculation and repeated booster shots of spiritual powerlessness, they get the ka-ching and you get suckered into submission. Don't do it! Go to awake, go directly to awake, do not pass go and do not collect \$200.

## *Fugue of Introspections*

With your kind permission, please consider this fugue of introspections as rants to myself. I enjoy being able to accuse, prod, and challenge myself to spar with any gesture of awake-like gibberish that wants to take wing. So these considerations are not aimed at anyone living or deceased, they are purely for the entertainment and benefit of fictional characters. If you are indeed a fictional character, you may find something useful here. Otherwise you may discard what follows, but you already knew that.

### *Mood 1 -*

Imagine for a moment that you don't know what this is. You're not sure of the content of thought, the process of thinking, or who it is that appears to be conscious of either – including the very fact of your own presence.

Everything you've read or practiced to cultivate illumination are now artifacts of a dream you may have had in the past. So with nothing at all at your disposal, perhaps you can attend to what is present as experiencing, if I may call it that.

In each and every moment (though there are none) this suchness is breathing / dreaming itself into being out of nothing without a single supreme architect or author to take credit for it. Can you actually find or define any boundaries between what your senses are placing before your attention and the seat of attention itself? Are you doing this, are you responsible for sentience?

What is the presenting nature of experiencing? Is it the objects, the sense data, the movement of memory, the sense of "being" you feel yourself to be, the stories and complex associations that define your personality, or what you wish you were and what you wish you weren't?

As long as you remain transfixed by bracing and aspiration you can only be a late-to-the-scene voyeuristic reporter about a life you aren't even living.

Perhaps you are lingering in the empty space where bracing and aspiration cease to capture your interest? You may find yourself suspended as it were without motive. We are not seeking; we are not refusing or refuting anything. The simple void efficacy of this presence is sufficiency itself; it is the self-evident texture of awake. Screw awakening; consider yourself hell bound for awake!

### *Mood 2 -*

Congesting or occupying your hyper-mysterious and unexplainable meta-intelligence with rituals of any kind places you in psychological time and this occupation is the rooting of fantasy and durational empathy - sometimes referred to as suffering.

Think about it, once you aren't befuddled by what this isn't, you can then stop asserting a remedy or seeking a solution for what it's not. Not knowing permits you to discover how motive-free and intimately infinite the basic space of inconceivability really is.

If this is immutably fluxing and beyond reach of explanation or capture or concept or self, do you have anything left? Do you still insist that you possess knowledge of worldly or extra-worldly information that is worth conveying by way of a book or a radio show with some non-dual interviewer who dispatches spiritual wisdom by having enlightened phuckers tell us all about their experience?

### Mood 3-

Your life is a holy trinity of aimless despair, and you do everything in your “power” to pretend it isn't so.

You find yourself in the midst of unmanageable and uncontrollable circumstances defined by some combination of a) getting through the day, b) aspiring to a better condition in the future, and/or c) frantically applying useless remedies for every problem that is present or imagined.

So the equation is to get to as much (“a”) or slugging through as you can while maximizing (“b”) the gravy, hoping the (“c”) remedies will somehow work in your favor. Sooner or later this frustrating and seemingly unbreakable bubble of psycho-narcissistic consumption will finally give way. But if you aren't in a pioneering mood to cross over the very delusional chasm of your own consciousness, then you remain in complaint and wanting.

Maybe at some point you just consent to this degrading condition and thus ignite your liberation. Making no effort for consciousness or experiencing to please you, you drop out of time. And what's there is what this is when all that's left of you is discovery itself.

Your permission and receptivity to transmute right here and right now must be present in your experience, and that is awake. Any effort to attain or measure this is complete madness. The collapse of the future sets you free to see what you already are. And what else could you be but this unobstructed and radiant in-your-face as-your-face reflection of your faceless-ness?

## ***Mission Impossible***

Waking up is a lot like Mission Impossible. You get a note in a cereal box to go to a phone booth under a train platform in a part of the world you've never been to and then you're instructed by a total stranger to break free of all conditioning and veritably assassinate yourself - and if you fail, well, we never knew you in the first place. Then the phone booth bursts into flames.

## ***Just What Are We Saying?***

When we conclude or assert that we exist or things exist or circumstances exist, just what are we saying? Simple, "I am having an experience", or more accurately "it appears that experiencing is happening", but I can't say what exactly it is that's happening or to whom it is occurring. That's about it. Forrest Gump might say shit is happening and Mr. Natural might say it is some pretty weird shit.

The cellular biologists might say that the so-called five senses (themselves made of pure light) are in a stimulus / response loop and the incomprehensible neuronal matrix we call brain is having a field day organizing a cacophonous rush of sensorial and sensually raw data into a world in which I "exist" as a decision making entity enclosed in and by a bio-luminescent sheath called skin, but this is not what this is, is it? Unless you say so, then it is what you imagine it is for you, or not.

Everywhere you look, if you are looking that is, you will find sober and studied professionals (quite unlike myself) question every and all presumptions that science and religion have imposed on us, imposed on themselves since someone scratched some buffalo (or visiting extra-terrestrial) etchings on a cave wall. Time is at risk, space is at risk, subjects and objects are at risk, your cherished world views including your problems and your solutions to those problems are at risk - everything presently appearing (oops gone) in your consciousness as experiencing and interpretation is at risk.

The naked and simply observable fact of experiencing is that this has no duration, doesn't resolve to anything, is constantly leaving town at the same time it arrives, leaves no trace of itself, doesn't go away, has no author or building blocks, opens as infinity to infinity with inconceivable fractal precision, and can and will kick your ass from here to eternity with no emotion.

So if that's what you see from the mysterious and fuzzy vantage blur of your experiencing, you're not going to be a very well behaved member of the scientific or spiritual community - including the new age phukers who like to imagine that we are all one. And to them I say (and thankfully they are not listening), "Why not grill an ambidextrous Mayan at your next charcoal-free vegan barbecue for the Arcturians, or give the ascended masters a ladder and a rope so they can come down off their high unicorns and hang themselves at high (as in make hemp legal) noon!" Or something like that.

We are so drunk with Is, I Am That I Am, Om Tat Sat, Gate Gate Para Gate, and the like that we seem to forget that This is as much Isn't as it seems to be Is. What if This Isn't, then where are you? What if all and every compulsive or poetic impulse you have to make sense of radiance appearing in consciousness (more gibberish of course) simply Isn't?

Can you get a glimpse that what you call your life and your plans and personal history and aspirations for sensual or spiritual refinement are not going to come true for you, ever? And if this unpopular blasphemy goes over your head or if you disagree vehemently, that's OK too - still This Isn't. You are not going to be successful at making this a reliable or creative or satisfying Is. And if you have the gift of seeing this (even just a little bit) then your liberation is no longer in your future, then what this Is or Isn't (and it may very well be beyond both/or/and) is simply This.

You see the suffering and the end of suffering? If this is no longer some personal durational existence, egg assistance, or exit stance - then there is no room for you to be hoodwinked by the imagination that you are a separate entity at risk. Thus ends suffering, at least that's the idea.



## ***Buddhist Peek-a-Boo***

At some strange juncture in your personal spiritual adventure you see that Buddhism is not something to do, it is present realization. You may be well served to practice meditation and contemplative cultivations of many kinds to favor the odds of realization, but please remember that you are after realization; not ritual, not repetition, not encyclopedic command of a body of work or its defense. You want to realize now. Yes?

The beautiful floral arrangement represented by the foundational nature of the teaching is something to behold. Simply put, we only need contemplate three observable humors:

*Anicca*, which refers to the inconstancy or impermanence of all things including the non-reliability of your own consciousness and the non-lasting nature of experiencing itself.

*Dukkha*, which refers to dissatisfaction or the inability to apprehend tranquil peace while tethered to the imagination of an independently existing self.

*Anatta*, which refers to the absence of a separate Self, an independently arising and experiencing entity.

Merely contemplating the delicious freedom inherent in these three observations (or we could simply go to unobscured reality itself) it may be possible to simply awaken to the nature of creation/emptiness while just relaxing on the stoop. Or we can take (which is more common of course) a strange and circuitous route including years or lifetimes of metaphors and opinions from nowhere back to nowhere, which is right here.

Something inside your curious nature must be able to shift from projection (which is fulfillment in the future once any number of things are resolved) to present understanding with no more room for or insistence on delay or deferral or explanation or what if's or what about's. As I mentioned, Buddhism is not something to do, it is present realization.

Having recently attended a local Sangha to enjoy some meditation and sharing, I was dismayed (quite typical for my restless and presumptuous nature) to find that the quality of investigation was rather superficial and rushed and frequently referred to more and better compassion as some lame refrain of attainment or behavioral carrot-on-a-stick self-improvement as the necessary pre-enlightenment plateau.

In other words, no one seemed at all interested or prepared to shift from projection (a common ailment of primates and practicing Buddhists) to realization. And as if that wasn't heart breaking enough, they defended their view with all sorts of clever derailments and objections to the present fact of being espoused by the very religion that they practice. One guy said that the Buddha was one of the most accomplished meditators of his day, as if he was there or read the papers, or got a hold of the race card to bet on the Buddha perfecta in the ninth so he could reel in a big purse!

Contrary to popular misunderstanding, Buddhism has little to do with meditation and everything to do with realization. And then he went on to report that while other meditators (of the day) had had enviable accomplishments in their own right the Buddha himself derided their realizations because they had nothing or little to do with alleviating suffering - which reads as insufficient compassion. Now tell me something; some 2,000 years after the master meditator got the goodies under the tree - just how successful was he at alleviating suffering?

You can line them all up - all the big purveyors and gnostic genesis-istic revelators that spawned the world's major religions (we don't talk about "M" to avoid those nuisance fatwas) - how would you grade

them if their single objective was to alleviate human suffering. How about a big "F" - no one graduates, back to study hall, take a summer refresher course and try again next year.

Now as much as I like to expose frivolous thinking (everyone else's of course) the real banana here is how about waking up now? How about we stop playing Buddhist Peek-a-Boo and go to the root of the realization which doesn't require a compassion deposit or any other credential whatsoever? That's the invitation, that's the inquiry, that's the awakening.

## ***Your present will be your future***

You might have the sneaking suspicion that the human condition (as in a species evolved on a water-logged sphere breathing invisible gases on average 21,600 times per day) isn't doing such a great job of cultivating sustainability or cooperation. No indeed, we are so primitive when it comes to partying that for some strange reason we find time for arguments and organized pageants of homicidal self-inflicted violence than we do for dancing in the streets.

If you explored the sheer wonderment surrounding what kind of lottery odds there would have to be for all 7+ billion of us bacterially infested symbionts to be here at the same time in the same biosphere some 14 billion years into God's manifestation bender - your jaw would drop and you'd be beside yourself in love with every creature present and accounted for. But that natural ecstasy isn't getting any play, no momentum, not in the news.

So you might conclude that something else is afoot, lurking in the shadows of our collective and morphogenic consciousness. Why is Facebook such a dopamine rush, why is our mutational impulse toward trans-human holo-intelligence becoming derailed by false prophets of telepathy such as cell phones and the delayed real-time appearance of pseudo-anonymous TCP/IP voyeuristic and vicarious news posts made on facebook?

How many times in a day do you just stop the train of fevered imagination and wonder what this really is? Wonder what exactly experiencing is? Wonder about the root of being and the nature of your immediate experience when you don't have an answer or an explanation or an opinion, when you really don't know what this is?

J. Krishnamurti was outspoken when it came to abiding intelligence. He is worth reading. At the end of his life he wondered aloud in his talks and writings about what would happen to us when artificial intelligence met up with bio-engineering. These musings were cautionary, not just sport thinking.

If you make time for everything else other than the sublimity of this present mystery, your present will be your future. As a species we have failed thus far to elevate the full spectrum of all present creatures into such a field of abundance that our mere sufficiency would permit ecstatic contemplation of our eternal and non-lasting uninterrupted nature. Is it worth looking into?

## ***Go Transcend Yourself!***

A dear friend had a marvel-icious spiritual experience the other day, I hope you have sniffed out the trouble already - but I'll just convey the event. He lives in a beautiful place on a magical property dripping with renewal and sprites and gratitude's from nature. So naturally he has the good & god sense to chill out from the world of busy-busy and immerse himself in the gifts of his surroundings.

So imagine, if you will, a typical North East overly humid late summer day offering some relief with a canvass of swirling blue-grey clouds, a storm warning breeze, a summer-long warmed pond, and sheets of cooling rain falling so hard it sounds more like crystals falling on crystals, than rain on a lake. He is sitting in this baptismal body of water and becomes immersed in the entirety. His mind goes, time goes, obligations go, the story of self goes, planning and assessment go. All becomes crystals, all becomes revelation and immersion in unencumbered wonder - your basic "god rocks" encounter.

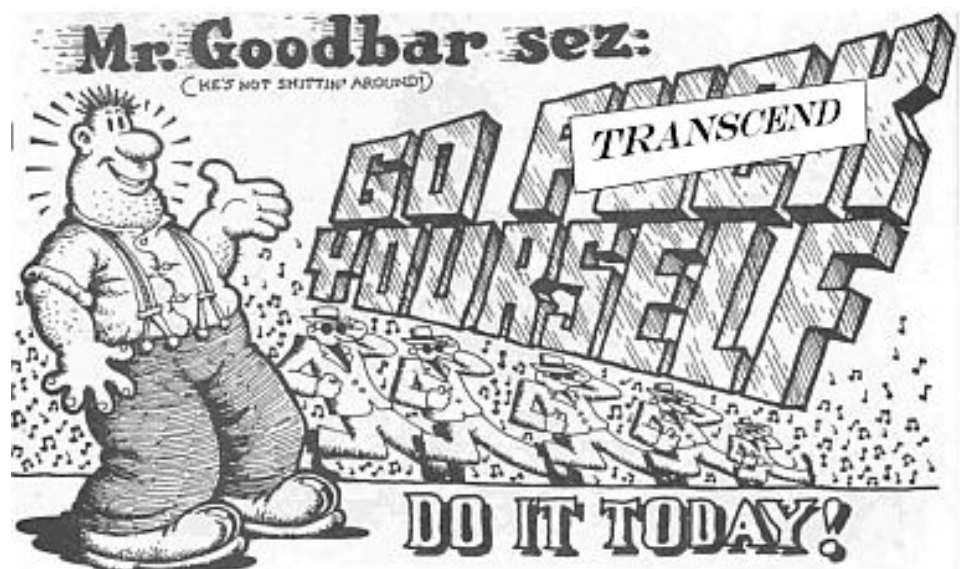
Then a blue gill bites him in the belly with a sharp lipped ferocity that startles his consciousness out of grace, and now his heaven-sent reverie is gone and won't return. Yet another appointment with the divine has been derailed by a creature of the divine, and you can appreciate the dis-appointment, the fall from grace.

If you will permit me, the question is, what happened to the Transcendence? Was the joy of being really put on hold by a friendly fish nibble? Is your awakening a product of circumstances, the right circumstances, the perfect storm of emancipation elements? Bliss in nature and the bliss of self-emptiness are the best gifts you can find, and if they are experienced in a

relativistic manner (which implies an event in time occurring to me), then surely they will morph into something else. Even the Buddha knew this; he called it "[Anicca](#)" or non-permanence.

The magical meme here is to see, to have the recognition, that the gift of transcendence is a-temporal (outside of time), non-local (free from the imaginary constraints of objects in space), and beyond the measure of interpretation or duration. If the absolutely baffling miracle of being attracts your attention (which is itself), it won't be long before you shift from immersion to immolation - and you will be able to glimpse (if not abide in) this unspeakable mystery.

This is the reason (not that we need one) to Inquire into Awakening, to have the direct encounter with our own ineffability. So the next time a friend or stranger tells you to "Go Transcend Yourself!", don't delay, DO IT TODAY!.



## *The Evidence Against Your Discrete Existence Is Mounting*

I don't know about you, but I've been accused of having a big ego so naturally I want to know just how big it is and exactly where I might find it, just in case I may wish to shrink it somehow. So the first stop on our Ego Discovery Tour is how big should or could my ego be?

Let's say there are somewhere around 7+ billion egos on Earth, but how much ego volume can Earth support? Now this is a bit more complex than one might suspect at first glance. Recently (give or take a hundred years or so) scientists have suggested that reality is not independent of mind; mind meaning creative and non-local interference patterns accusing nothing at all of being something more than ambiguous indeterminate fuzz.

In a word (or a few more than one) reality is being understood to infer a fantastic fractal holographic non-local non-durational faster than light self-fulfilling luminosity that operates as a multidimensional phantasm of unencumbered self-awareness without an object or even a subject. Shit, even comedians know about this stuff, take Bill Hicks for example - one of his best bits follows:

.... Wouldn't you like to see a positive LSD story on the news? To base your decision on information rather than scare tactics and superstition? Perhaps? Wouldn't that be interesting? Just for once?

*"Today, a young man on acid realized that all matter is merely energy condensed to a slow vibration – that we are all one consciousness experiencing itself subjectively. There's no such thing as death, life is only a dream, and we're the imagination of ourselves. Here's Tom with the weather." ....*

So just for fun let's say your ego was as big Earth itself, "Wow," you might exclaim, "I am an über egomaniac with no hope for spiritual redemption!" But please do not dismay - this short video will help you to see just how truly insignificant your planet sized ego really is - [Ego as Big as Earth](#).

With that settled, let turn our attention to the second stop on our Ego Discovery Tour, "Where oh where has my ego gone, oh where, oh where can it be..." This is an equally baffling question seeing how a simple sample of 3 neurons / brain cells can look startlingly like an evolved universe; can you tell which one is which? So is your ego in the brain or in the entire universe?

Thanks to the strange and revelatory observation that all form can be understood as spiraling fractals of incomprehensible replication we can turn our attention to another lovely video presentation to answer the question, "Where is my ego?" Imagine this beautiful landscape to be the space between your ears, can you see where your ego is hiding? [Ego Peek-a-boo](#).

All aboard that's coming aboard, the third stop on our Ego Discovery Tour is about to leave the station. Let's say the macrocosm mirrors the microcosm, let's be bolder still and say they are an unbounded unicity having no discernible differentiation. Then it might be possible that your ego is so small it actually defies measurement, so small that it doesn't even exist! Maybe it is merely a ghost of the graininess of space.

From an article about proof (in the data of the gravitational wave detector GEO600) of a [holographic Universe](#):

[illegible]

Maybe it's true that who, what, where, how, and why you think reality is is nothing but the graininess of space? The evidence against your discrete existence is mounting - be afraid, be very afraid.

## ***Transcendence Itself!***

Why do you imagine humans are interested in transcendence? Pardon me, I presume (not to make a "pres" out of You and Me) that this is a topic that interests you, if not, I can't fathom for the life of me why not, but hey, one aspirant's ceiling is another aspirant's floor. But really, haven't you given any thought to supreme joy, peak experience, runners high, lottery winnings, spooning with a hot human, the ultimate vacation, resting in the lap of God? Let's just say you have - not too much of a stretch.

Well then, what is the driving and urgent force within your experience that compels seeking beyond comfort or certainty to reach for an encounter with transcendence? Take a moment; it's a sweet moment.....

I might suggest that this delicious, if not maddening, force is transcendence itself! And what would that imply? It would imply that the active and expressive presence of transcendence is already running the show. It would imply, if you care to take it this far, that what we have here is the fulfillment of our seeking - as in now and here. Wouldn't it? It's a floor or ceiling kind of thing.

Despite the fact that reality is illogical, ambiguous, and beyond measure, it sure the phuck is right here, isn't it? And even though your mind is mad with specious presumptions about how This got Here (all of which are laughingly and lavishly incorrect) - here This is, right on time, not a minute late!

So let's keep our appointment with transcendence, OK done. I mean always done, never not done, wonderfully done, infinitely radiantly in your face done. OK?

Any questions? I sure hope so, I really do, I've got a truck load myself - see you sometime this week to kick it around.

## ***Unencumbered Freedom***

The always present fact of absolute and unencumbered freedom is what we have here. That's all we have for sale and it's already yours, the shelves are stocked and your closets and basement and attic are overflowing with the stuff - so I'd be a fool to charge you for it and you'd be a worse fool to buy it. So the next time you shell out some good money for the next morsel of instruction or inspiration - see what it is that you imagine you are paying for.

If you reach into your psyche just a little, not too deep or we'll have to have an intervention, just a wee bit I'm asking - you may find out what you are hoping to secure or achieve. You may be able to articulate or vision what your idea of sustained joy (as good as any metaphor for awakening) is supposed to look or feel like. You'd think by now we would realize that whatever we get or experience as some spiritual realization or "We Are All One Kumbaya Party" seems to drift into memory rather quickly, leaving us with a fond story to tell, but no real capital to reply on.

And it may be a surprising and novel point of view to see that Enlightenment Sucks! It really does, and not just a little bit, but a lot. All my seeking is crap, my great yogic accomplishments are crap, my meditations are crap, my devotion is crap, my whole library is kindling - Enlightenment Sucks!

It may never occur to us that as long as the "experiencer" remains intact, so does the fundamental irritability of the fractured self and we once again seek a better experience. Having this dilemma is actually a good thing, it suggests that some sufficient degree of self-observation has occurred to make you absolutely mad with the frustration of never being able to be free of your own commentary and opinions and preferences and control and envy and apprehension; and on and on and you know what I'm talking about.

There is no answer here, there is no palliative, there is no solution - what we may be delighted to discover is the profound impersonal and timeless nature of what this already is. So the seeking becomes seeing, and the discovery is made right where you are.



## ***Velvet Goldmine***

It's not such a bad idea to consider one's suffering. Not that I wish to impose anything upon you or convince you of a condition that isn't already present in your experience. But if there is some pinch or restlessness for improved experience then maybe we can surf the texture and atmosphere of this profound and potentized urgency for joy, for relief from self. Maybe we can make a dent in it and see our presence in a different light.

And let's face it, such an adventure is not undertaken by everyone (at least not consciously or with verve) so there must already be some compelling inspiration to take a chance on liberation, to be available for a revelatory encounter. I'm asking, really I am - would you be willing to apply yourself to the most beloved journey of a lifetime? Are you interested in taking the journey of you, the mystery of you, the miracle of you, who knows what [beauty you'll find down the velvet goldmine](#). (click that for Matt Alber and listen while reading this indulgent missive)

Sometimes you can just go sonorous on this shit, I mean soar with angels, break the mold on your tired thoughts, forgive everything that's not right, starting with yourself, leave your certainties and aspirations behind, dive head first and heart first into this fractal wonderland of unspeakable beauty, see this. See this, please give some of your gracious attention to what this is. I implore you, I am asking this of you. I am asking this of myself.

What you may experience is not so liberating as the fact of experiencing itself, what you conjure with language and projection is not a reflection of your true nature, please see that you know yourself without words, you know the effulgence of your magnificent being without symbols. The timeless cradle and mantle of creation is yours, unbounded and without limitation, this is not what we think it is - and the adventure we consent to take will reveal friends and teachers and wonder that will lift you into absolute autonomy.

When we give ourselves over to the symptoms and artifacts of a species lost in delusion, we lose our sovereignty by pursuing security. As and at the genesis sparkle of each moment, we are gifted with yet another full pardon from the past. We are free to feel the presence of this moment as we have no future. So the next time you remember to remember yourself, accept the invitation and allow your pretense to transmute into perfect availability and permission and imagination - after all, we are always welcome to see our presence in a different light.

## ***Some Dear and Profound Moment***

My Guru is a liar, a cheat, and a thief! He said so himself, why would I doubt his candid self-appraisal? Now you might recoil with rejection of this strange admission or mumble, "I told you so." But I have been taught (as in punched in my face over and over again) to look a little deeper than my own dubious reflexes and presumptions about what's going on here, so I pondered the koan to see what he may have been alluding to, beyond my obvious and all too proud delusional disdain.

And I discovered that:

It is true, he is a liar - he lies about the nature of delusion and nirvana to arouse my suspicion and tune my aspirations clearly.

It is true, he is a cheat - he has cheated me out of my beleaguered certainty and unexamined world views to arouse in me an intimate encounter with radiant being itself.

It is true, he is a thief - he has stolen my heart more deeply than I imagined was possible, and left me with the gift of no thing, no belief, and no resistance.

We may ask ourselves, "[How did I get here?](#)" (Courtesy of Talking Heads, a must see YouTube.)

And we may ask ourselves  
What is that beautiful house?  
And we may ask ourselves  
Where does that highway go?  
And we may ask ourselves  
Am I right?...Am I wrong?  
And we may tell ourselves  
MY GOD!...WHAT HAVE I DONE?

Well here's the lesson, if we can appreciate life as lesson. Don't waste another moment imagining you know what this is, imagining that you know who or what you are, or insisting that there is an experiencer here - or you may find yourself at some dear and profound moment in your hallucinating life pleading out loud, MY GOD!...WHAT HAVE I DONE?

## ***Our Own Ruby Slippers***

I dreamed about standing in the center of the award podium, tears streaming down my face, listening rapturously to the National Anthem. Rockets, bombs, flag worship, the free and the brave. And as I bowed in reverence to my accomplishments and the big golden coin was draped over my neck, it struck me that I hadn't done anything, not one damn thing!

No training, no sweaty days at the gym, no sacrifices, no coach, no supportive family members or bake sales, no endorsements, no celebrity - nothing. I haven't done a damn thing with my life to inspire anyone to take notice of me, put my face on a cereal box, talk about me at the office water cooler. Nope, not a thing; I am just one of seven or so billion that don't count, that will make no mark on society, whose lives will go completely unnoticed - what a blessing.

There is a profound seduction at hand; the siren song of self-importance, the opéra bouffe of who you think you are, belting out story after story and opinion after opinion, shouting "I exist" to the rafters, and hoping someday for thunderous applause. With all due respect to everyone dead or alive that have accomplished things, that's not our particular interest.

We want to know what this is, we want perfect freedom, we are compelled to deal with the inexorable discomfort of not being from here or belonging here - we want to solve the every-person's dilemma. And for this we need look no further than our own ruby slippers, and once we start looking and that looking becomes infused with the magical nature of unfettered interest and affection, then the looking itself is the finding and neither resolves to anything one might call an accomplishment.

This simply present and profound being is what we are, what we want, and what This is. And the most fun is that everyone comes in first, everyone gets the gold!

## ***Attribute-less Vastness***

"An estimated 38 million people spend approximately \$44 billion annually on new age products and services including astrology", source [StarIQ™](#).

"Anthony "Tony" Robbins is an American success coach, professional speaker, actor, and self-help author with an estimated net worth of \$480 million dollars." source [Celebrity Net Worth](#).

*(Note: Recently several members of his 6,000 strong seminar audience burned their feet real bad walking on hot coals. If you go to a spoon bending class and can't get the hang of it, you end up with a useful spoon. If you can't focus on a 10 foot fire walk, you get burned feet. Choose your workshops carefully.)*

"...starting up a yoga or Pilates studio may still be a safe bet, despite a profusion of them around the country. Revenue for this niche is expected to increase over the next five years in the U.S. by an average annual rate of 5.0% to \$8.3 billion", source [Wall Street Journal](#).

Well, well, well, just what do we have here? Freedom is big business, really big business. Self-improvement, self-empowerment, self-enhancement, self, self, self - is there any way out of this pandemic of neurosis that doesn't cost a penny? Why is it called freedom when it costs so much? People want to know.

If you are aiming for sensual or experiential or financial improvements, I hope you invest wisely and find what you are looking for. If you are aiming for freedom (and not as the result of wealth or accumulation) then we may have to take a different tack. When we become enamored and seduced by the circumstantial content of experiencing we become perpetual slaves to lacking and insufficiency. And this simple fact is well understood by most New Age merchants, because they are lining their pockets with your consumptive compulsions for a better life.

On the other foot, it is not so out of reach to see that this incontestable fact of being is what it is, and to discover that it is not relying upon inference, abstraction, conjecture, opinion, second-hand information, will, or choice, or intention could possibly be better than any workshop you could possibly attend; and oddly enough this discovery has no price, no fee, no one profits.

When (as in how about now) you discover (and you can discover) that experiencing itself is the unabated source and fullness of this profound attribute-less vastness, then you can enjoy your breakfast cereal with your unbent spoon and rub your sweet blister-free feet at the same time! Imagine that.

## ***Common Buddhist Tautology***

What if what we call suffering, is something other? What if the common Buddhist tautology concerning suffering is just wrong? If this actuality defies causes and effects, if there is no possibility to link anything to anything - how can you make a case for suffering being the result of attraction and aversion? What if asserting some perennial wisdom worshiped for millennia actually condemned its followers to more imaginary "suffering" by imposing some useless portfolio of remedies that had to be studied, followed, implemented, or perfected over time?

Wouldn't you be interested and/or willing to discard spiritual misrepresentations so you could discover what is true about the nature of experiencing? Without being too mystical let's take a simple look at what's ordinarily observable.

1. If you look for or back in the past, you can't find it (it is an imagined function of memory which is mystery itself);
2. If you look for or toward the future, you can't find it (it is an imagined function of memory which is mystery itself);
3. If you presume a present it may be useful to ask yourself, just how long does the present moment last - and the simply observable discovery is that it lasts less than not at all.

Perhaps it simply dawns on us that this is a non-durational WTF that has no room, or space, or time for it to be anything other than what it is, but we can't lasso this or tie it down or successfully make anything abstract (believable) about it, including the presumption of a self that suffers. Could it be that the genesis and presence of experiencing or being is the already transcendent fact; requiring no explanation or remedy or practice?

If we discard all religious and spiritual superstitions including our most cherished presumption of being the experiencer, what might we discover? How would this look and how would this feel were we to stop living through second hand information? What if the Buddha had simply made this single utterance, he might have saved so many Buddhists from so much confusion worshiping such a shallow litany of myths for far too long? If only.

## ***This Fact of Being Is Absolutely Untenable***

You'd think we were downright blessed just to be. You'd think that the miracle-free miracle of this presence would be sufficient for a non-stop worldwide mosh-pit flinging party to go on and on unabated till we all drop from joyful exhaustion. You'd think that if you spin around fast enough (with no warning) you could catch a glimpse of the universe constructing itself as the familiar street that you live on which was not there a moment ago, except in your memory.

You'd think this (like love and compassion have some value), or you'd think that (meditating on the "I Am" would reveal just what this is), but in all cases you're going to come up empty headed and empty handed - and that's the good news.

You may catch a glimpse of your own (as if it were yours) strange and non-volitional experiencing plasma resorting to juggling fractal information-rich data packets in order to construct the fundamental blasphemy of individuated subject-object permanence, and even this subtle observation would already be mistaken.

This fact of being is absolutely untenable, and since it perpetually dissolves though never goes away, there is no lasting moment that you can say or know anything about it from a conceptual or organizing point of view. This is perpetual and eternal, transcendent and solid, a-causal and in your face.

In this respect if there were freedom, it would already be This, just as it is - without lifting a finger to describe or discover anything. Now some of us may have a slight dilemma, because we are process and experiencing junkies - so if that is the case we can always just get loaded on God. The blackouts can't be all that bad.

## ***Self-Permeating Luminescent and Transcendent Dreaming***

This week's musing is in appreciation for Colin Hay and his beautifully written [\*Waiting for my Real Life to Begin\*](#).

The instant that you imagine a future, wanting becomes your closest companion. And if you notice, there has never been and there never will be a future. You'd think this observation would be perfectly clear, but I have my suspicions. What we infer as time is this non-stop effervescent bubbling of experiencing happening, we can't act in or touch what we call the past, and there is never a future - all is only and everlastingly happening now.

A small, but poignant consequence of this revelation might startle you into the insightful whammy that what you call your life is a complete fantasy of complex fractal raindrops made from mystery and memory that are asserted in the present moment. You are not your life, you have no life; there is just This self-permeating luminescent and transcendent dreaming. But maybe that is saying too much; unless we are willing to question the "evidence" of individuation, we may not be open to a new way of seeing.

If we spend our life waiting for our real life to begin (aka having a future), we are oppressed by wanting rather than liberatedly living. We may become complacent with this delusion, dwelling in perpetual expectation for a future that will never arrive. If we are lucky however, we may ask ourselves at some point, "why am I so joyless"?

## ***Epiphany and Intimate Revelation***

One can liken awakening to learning a second language. Say you wish to study Italian. Slowly and steadily you learn the vocabulary and beautiful speech elements that permit you to become conversant and comfortable as a natural Italian speaker. Folks that have a gift for languages say that when you finally dream in your second language - it has become perfectly natural to your way of being.

And so it is with reality. We use stillness practices, metaphors, and observational elements to peer into the nature of mind, of time, of consciousness, and of experiencing itself in order to disrupt habitual patterns and presumptions about what This is, so we can see the self-transcendent nature of presence more clearly. And with each epiphany and intimate revelation we become better acquainted with the textural vocabulary and beautiful expressive elements of reality.

Reality is more than a second language though; it is this un-fragmented and inconceivable nature of being. As it comes to roost in your consciousness as your consciousness no one can predict what this unicity is going to look or feel like. The subtlety of our radiant adventure from human aspiration to trans-human understanding is itself the heart and hearth of the unencumbered sacred.

When, not if, it occurs to you that you must fulfill your appointment with awakening, your life reflects the impulses and encounters that satisfy your soul. Though there is no future, it is not too farfetched to see that your liberated destiny is calling the shots.



## ***Profoundly Irritable with Our Own Stories***

Placing your precious consciousness at risk is not an instinctive act, it takes a leap of self-exhaustion to consider it, and another shove from somewhere sacred to see the implications for yourself. Just for a moment, because that's all it takes to unwind your personal sovereignty, kindly consider that you don't know what experiencing is. That is a very big embrace because if you don't know what experiencing is then you can't possibly know what the subjects and objects and all manner of phenomena are either.

This majestic infinity prescribes an imposed or imposter sense of self from the pure and inconceivable nature of experiencing, out of nowhere and nothing and having no actual permanence or duration. So if we are willing to entertain the view (as it is right in front of our faces) that the very primal nature of experiencing itself is beyond abstraction, beyond sentimentality, beyond human psycho-emotional and rational frames of reference, then what we have right here is a marvel of impossibility - the ever-present sacred expression of divine WTF!

The fractal and holographic patternistic wonder of apparitional expression (including what we may typically refer to as consciousness) is entirely counterfeit in that it doesn't belong to you, has no commencement or agency or duration and remains completely unprecedented and unpredictable as a free flowing spontaneous instantaneity and you cannot ever find what it is or isn't or say anything remotely true about it.

And despite the fact that you can't reduce a non-volitional and serendipitous presence to a findable subject or object, still we seem to persist in the confidence of a separate self made of the past with a most certain future that needs to be planned for and executed to the best of our willful abilities and agendas and chosen / preferred outcomes. But it never occurs to us that there has never been and never will be a future. We miss this simple observation.

At some point we are going to become disinterested in, or better yet, profoundly irritable with our own stories and we will "consciously" seek to be free of self. We will supplicate the sacred (in whatever secular or spiritual gesture and garb) for release from self, and if we are lucky [and everyone gets lucky when the desperate destiny shows up] we will be catapulted into the fact of radiant inconceivability.

## ***Just Here Just Now Just Nothing***

This is some of the weirdest shit, really it is. And it really beats mindfulness, really it does.

So you think, and that's not quite true; you believe, you insist, you don't even ever question the absolutely blasphemous presumption of your own individuation - you indeed "know" that you were born into a pre-existing universe or earth plasma as a separately existing perfectly individuated experiencing consciousness inhabiting a physical body and you are tragically all alone, always have been for as long as you can remember! In fact we are deeply confused, and full of compensatory amelioration's that just don't work. Sad fact, but full of potential!

And if you've read some bathroom Buddhism, heartfelt Hinduism, cozy Catholicism, zesty zen, jubilant Judaism, pithy pathwork, or succulent self-help manuals then you know all about suffering and why / how it appears, including the remedy(s) which you may or may not apply to your spiritual journey so you can feel better about being bitterly separate. And by now if you have any sense left at all you may come to the honest conclusion that your life still sucks in oh so many ways. If it doesn't, you're out of motive, if it does, you've still got a fighting chance; and those are the self-loathing aspirants I like to hang with. Hey, like attracts like.

So here we have our experience, and that's all we have - we have no idea what or how or why it is, but we have it just the same. And wouldn't it be a wonder if we could enjoy the transcendent gift of not knowing what it is or who / how we are and had no ideas or beliefs or apprehensions or certainties or explanations or even questions about it?

What if the root presumption of being born into a world appearing outside oneself were to flip 180 degrees to see that your experience alone is, and everything (as if there were things) appears in you? Imagine (even if for a moment) that there was no individual at the center of your experience, that this is an entirety made of infinity and you can no longer find or insist upon yourself.

That's where we're going, nowhere fast - just here just now just nothing.

## ***Farcically and Deliciously Long Gone***

If you are fortunate enough to glimpse the spiritual impoverishment of bracing and control, you may discover an inner compass that can guide your aspiration to total fulfillment. You may enjoy an irrefutable view of This radiant presence as having no author, no building blocks, and no duration. You may be graced with an intuition of the entirety as the entirety with no frame of reference whatsoever. You may be gifted to see the great perfection, and thus perfect incredulity, and this is liberation; but you can't say for whom or from what.

This absolute inconceivability cannot be comprehended or apprehended or described or reduced to causation or relativistic / quantum/ string theory. No beginning or genesis or consequential paradigm is true about This. Nothing appearing in primate mind as abstract melancholia and/or temporally bound certainty can restrict or incarcerate what is not born. Though it may appear as if you possess consciousness, you are the dreaming dreamed which cannot be found.

Our hypnogogically informed neurosis boils down to a simple confounding mythos - having been led to believe "I" exist as a separative durational entity we unconsciously attempt to assert and impose self-interest upon this present mystery where nothing has happened a moment before now and by the time we opine upon what we think is happening or has happened, it is farcically and deliciously long gone.

We then "live" within the deep delusion (though not really) that satisfaction and security and all manner of affection can be (should be) accomplished by us as durational beings, though the fact of being is completely anathema to this misunderstanding. So if we are paying attention, and even if we are not, the trans-human liberation train will come to solicit and seduce us back to sobriety, and then to divinity - but not in any way we can possibly imagine.

## ***Separately Occurring Durational Wanker***

Inquirer: A realization came to me a few moments ago. It was the sense that I don't exist and that this is a marvelous and fascinating masquerade and charade.

So much appears totally pointless. I lost the sense of what appears and disappears.

Why am I appearing as this person in a body with a name?

Response: You're not, the consciousness (or radiant expression appearing in/as awareness) is utterly without name or form, but is very pushy never the less. It is all pointless, but since there is no point or frame of reference that can assess it, what's the point of calling it or naming it as pointless?

The root of delusional misapprehension (4 noble truths, sans the 4th one which is a waste of time - though there is no time nor nothing wasted) is that a presumed durational action figure felt as "I" can or will or should operate according to its wishes in a non-durational fractal wonderland.

Once you see through the quark's eyes, or the neutrino's eye's - as contrasted with the eye's of a born and durational me-self, the mystery cracks open to a "marvelous and fascinating masquerade".

It's never not been exactly This as it is, and since it can and does spin endlessly and profoundly into inferred though counterfeit patterns and signatures - none of that can contain or limit what This is, what you are.

The seeing of the entirety through the eyes of the entirety annihilates the imaginarium of me-self as a separately occurring durational wanker.

## ***Breathless Hilarity***

A fighter pilot punching the throttle at Mach 2 is traveling at 1,522 miles per hour or 2,232 feet per second. Just in case something is in his way he'd better be certain it is more than 450 feet or 1.25 football fields away, otherwise he is going to impale that sucker on his nose cone needle or shred the poor soul in his scramjet. And why is that might you ask? Because at that speed of flight given the typical human reaction time of 200 milliseconds the pilot will be long gone by the time he realizes he needs to take evasive action. In other words, you need a lot of margin to cope with reality on its terms otherwise you are always and perpetually late.

And just what are you late for? How about your own life? If you are flexible enough in your inquiry to see that everything arising in conceptual mind as thought or will or responsibility or doer-ship is already past the point of inconceivable instantaneity - then what you think you are experiencing or have just experienced has already left the station, and probably without Elvis.

The fact is that you cannot possibly reflect upon or opine upon the effervescence of being with any modicum of utility because your very ruminations are artifacts or exhaust of what this actually is. Just like the Eagles sing, You are already gone!

Now this profound and liberating conundrum may confound you as long as you insist on object permanence or the presumption that you are preemptively existent and have a lot of continuing to do. But if you are willing to take a peek at your soulless soul and the maddening freedom of non-stop and never born acausal fuzzy fractal freebasing masquerading as a person, it might elicit a chuckle. And that chuckle can become a guffaw, and a good guffaw can avalanche into breathless hilarity - and that's where you find nirvana.

## ***Re-Framing the Pack Of Lies***

Few primates seem to question some very foundational hallucinatory presumptions about the nature of being, about the nature of their own miraculous consciousness and experience. Let's face it, no one knows what creation is. We have theories and "evidence" and spiritual explanations (with all due respect to the Great Turtle) of all kinds to describe and conclude and convince us that this must be a pre-emptively existing universe in which we find ourselves born to strange and generally disappointing parents.

We are fed all kinds of propaganda about the names of things, about the reliability of object permanence, about the nature of G-d and the genesis of this strange and fantastic apparitional imaginarium in which we are startled into profound dumb-foundedness if only we would permit ourselves to be so. And so we reduce the mind of G-d, which is what we are, into a life of accumulation and accomplishment based on and inspired by the mad march for personal security; hopefully to be gained some time in the future - because the present can really suck!

Well, why not give it another try? No one is stopping you from completely re-framing the pack of lies that you have been sold, the shared conformity of behavioral folly and presumption factory of our fellow human beings. Do it for G-d, do it for yourself, do it for the Great Turtle. There is no telling what you may discover.

## ***Unseen Expressive Micro-Pulses***

Free will by the numbers. There are estimates that the typical human body contains upwards of 40 trillion cells. Does anyone know what 40 trillion means, I don't think so. Further, each cell is a bustling city of micro-biological activity.

This quote from medical animator David Bolinsky helps to illustrate the point - *"Each of us has about 100,000 [kinesins] running around, right now, inside each one of your 100 trillion cells. So no matter how lazy you feel, you're not really intrinsically doing nothing."*

What we refer to as consciousness, self-will, perceiving, decision and choice making are the artifacts of an incomprehensible actualized portfolio of unseen expressive micro-pulses that animate the functioning and bio-luminescent container we call human, or myself. And each of these micro-pulses are made of exactly what; photons, neutrinos, quarks, God?

What if the entirety of what we insist is our life is merely a highly pixilated animation of something or no-thing that is unavailable for comment? What if your memories and certainties and entitlements and hopes and dreams and urgency for a more-better-me is nothing more than an apparitional dream scape which appears to enjoy (or suffer) the hypnotic suggestion of object permanence and causality?

And perhaps equally disturbing if not liberating, should such blasphemous insights litter your consciousness - what becomes of you then? Don't ask me why, but we actually talk about this stuff and see what happens, hope you will join us.

## ***Miraculous Construction of Abstraction Is Pure Fantasy***

Why, might you ask, is awakening so tough? Well, one might say, it is both impossible and right at hand.

We'll start with the easy one first - This is Awake! What else could this be? A universe of stuff, still mostly undiscovered and completely beyond explanation pouring forth as consciousness and expression at an infinite clip (referring to the quantity and variability of experience) having no duration whatsoever and relying upon the vague, unscrupulous, and ridiculous hallucination of what we refer to as memory masquerading as your life. I mean, give me a break, this is so in our face that it is a freaking miracle that we can create a world where I reside at all.

Now the more difficult part; you find yourself as experiencing (no "I - me - my" is added yet), just experiencing. And this experiencing has no manual, no study guide, no instructions or illustrations - so it is itself with absolutely no explanation at all. Next a bunch of "adult" primates that you are compelled to imprint upon for food, warmth, and attention tell you that a) you were born, and b) what the names of everything are - and you are happy to comply with and in their unbridled madness because what the phuck do you know?

So a complex set of total lies is set in motion that identifies with and frames itself in relation to pure primate fabrication; and you even justify and defend this trickery as necessary for survival, but you really don't know just who or what it is that feels justified in surviving. So now you have the building blocks of a completely imagined self occupying a completely imagined life and there is no hint remaining inside of you that this miraculous construction of abstraction is pure fantasy.

So it makes perfect sense that you want your life, not the truth - you can't handle the truth! And that is how awakening is tough, strangely more complex an explanation than how awakening is all there is!

Now if you are waiting and wishing for God to send you a life boat (as in enlightenment from the outside) to rescue you from stupidity (if not drowning) - well oddly enough you are surrounded by a veritable flotilla of seagoing vessels non-stop, the rescue squad has arrived! The key to getting in the boat is that you find yourself compelled to lean into the miracle of awake and see it (yourself) for what it really is - and this cannot be reduced to words. What you want - when it comes time in your life to want it - is direct encounter with awake. What you want is Close Encounters of the Third Kind, aliens (which is yourself) in your face.



## ***Principal Gift of The Buddha***

At lunch today I overheard some guys talking about first understanding how one creates her/his own universe and in so doing how to control that universe. It wasn't clear exactly (mind you, I was eavesdropping from a distance while slurping soup) if they were emphasizing controlling one's experience of the already extant universe or if they were actually focusing on controlling the events/circumstances of the universe.

In their zeal to have a better experience of life (and who wouldn't want that shit) they may have missed the principal gift of the Buddha. Life sucks, it has always sucked, it always will suck - this is the First Noble truth, a near perfect interpretation from the original Pali language. The Pali were not so dissimilar from the Jews or the Irish or aspiring rock musicians, all of whom get a lot of mileage out of impenetrable despair and its deep poetic implications.

But the poignant kernel here is in the seductive nature of experiencing as an experiencer who craves for more better in a perpetual carrot-on-a-stick loop of self-worship and becoming that assures the perennial and profound misunderstanding of what this really is. Craving and aversion are the bosom buddies of an entity appearing in psychological time that is "samsaracally" lost in getting a leg up on reality, to the surreal point of cultivating creative control over events and circumstances and one's own story of experiencing - thus trying over and over again to improve upon reality from a personal and loathsomely lonely point of view.

Does this make any sense to you? Do you see the circumlocutious frivolity of burning even a single calorie to improve upon the self-evident nature of satcitananda - better known in fine coffee shops as being, consciousness, bliss? Really, all ye funny primates, dare to lift a single finger to improve your imagined condition and your imagined condition persists.

## *Spinning into Imagination*

Despite my penchant for rambling and scrambling to make disjointed free-association appear to be premeditated and thoughtful writing, I'd like to try something on you - to see if you might pick-up what I'm putting-down.

A very simple exercise is simply to appreciate the difference (as if there is any) between knowledge that refers to memory and This presence that is without conceiving or naming or destination or time. Memory could be appreciated as the movement of thought impulse appearing in the mind (a metaphor for somewhere between your ears) that arises and is "heard" as internal dialog or discursive thinking.

Imagine a computer doing a hard drive seek for a file or URL or program launch, all is referential and of the nature of conceiving, naming, destination and time. For the primate it is the sense of becoming as a person or entity unfolding or awaiting new events to occur in the future - which is a function or symptom of memory and identification.

And on the other foot (before it slips into one's mouth) you may get a feel for the presence of awareness or experiencing in which memory and self-determination or self-entertainment is occurring. And oddly enough one can peer into this awareness and experiencing before any conceiving or naming or anticipation or future fulfillment has a chance to grab your attention and set you spinning into imagination.

So if I ask you are you present, sentient, aware - the typical answer to this would be yes of course - with no hesitation, without reference to memory, and having no story associated with simply being. And if I ask you how did you get here or what were the circumstances, decisions, or actions that led to this moment - then you would instantly do a hard drive seek to come up with a story from the annals of your memory in order to recount some apparent chronology of events and decision points that were the certain causes of this being right here and right now.

But what if those events and decision points culled from memory were not the origin or reason for this present being? What if memory of past occurrences is not connected to anything and therefore not responsible or causative of this presence (right here, right now) that you are? What if your entire portfolio of personal (or circumstantial) memories are absolutely unreliable, inaccurate, ill conceived, and completely counterfeit having no meaningful or legitimate role to play in your actual and mysterious condition?

What is this, then? What or who are you, then? If you don't know who or what you are, if you don't know what or how this is - then what? Please join us for some Inquiry and add your enthusiastic incredulity to the party. Or you can simply enjoy the rest of your life in abject unsatisfactoriness - you decide. If only we could, if only we could.

## ***Never Left the Dock***

The Big Bang is a fundamentalist illusion promulgated by mind control freaks, physicists, corporations, and the Spiritual-Industrial complex for the purpose of having you remain perpetually unhappy and thus compelled to consume useless products and throw-away New-Age dreams so the bastards can line their pockets with cash while they suffer the same indignities as you without knowing how or why.

You think this started, you think you were born, you think there are subjects and objects and a never ending stream of To Do's that you must get done before you die and so you remain beleaguered, befuddled, bewitched, bereft, and betwixt - and constantly dwell in the abstraction of self-determination hoping secretly (though typically forgotten) that your ship will come in someday in your future.

And you'd rather maintain and defend this profound and lonely sense of individuation in duration than get to the bottom of it and see that it just ain't necessarily so.

It ain't necessarily so  
It ain't necessarily so  
The t'ings dat yo' li'ble  
To read in de Bible,  
It ain't necessarily so.

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBOgH5f36cQ&feature=related>)

This consciousness did not start with a Big Bang some 14 billion or whatever "years" ago. It is only right now and dreams an entirety into present awareness instantaneously which has absolutely no duration and nowhere on earth or in heaven or hell can you find who you are or what this is because its nature is that of a pristine object-free plasma of radiant ambiguity that does not quit. This is not born, and despite the transcendent and unutterable majesty of what we call the body, neither were you.

So your ship will never come in, and not because you are undeserving somehow or screwed up your life choices or made a bad relationship or financial or parking spot decision. No. Your ship will never come in because it has never left the dock, and you are already a fully stocked luxury liner dancing freely in the piano bar without limitation or want. You may be drifting in Indian seas surrounded by Pirates, or half submerged off the coast of Italy, but nothing can harm you and God wants you - dead or alive.

## ***Fully Baked Radiant Nature***

Let's just say (because talk is inexpensive) that Awakening is the recognition that all creation and the experiencing of this creation is of the nature of an unbounded radiant self-transcendence that cannot be reduced to words. Now any reasonable seeker might ask, show me the evidence for this grandiose and baffling soap box declaration. Let's face it, the odds are not necessarily in our favor that we might eschew the world and come to appreciate the inherency of our hyper-dimensional and profoundly luminous nature.

However, we have a few valiant and vital advantages to consider. Permit me to travel a little deeper than usual - underneath (in a manner of speaking) all thought processes and ruminations and temporal considerations we are operating at a feeling or textural experiential level. The incredible complexity and sensitivity of our bio-chemo-magneto vibrational nature is way more compelling and driving than the content of discursive thought.

Everything is actually processed by our natural and scintillating intelligence at levels more profoundly instantaneous and instinctual than word-based thought can possibly formulate or keep up with, such is the light speed of our imagining and conjuring and enjoyment of our own vibrancy.

And we are bathed in or dwell as this ambiguous and brilliant call and response harmonic 24 / 7, including an extra day in February every four years to help keep the earth's rotational rounding on time. It may be kind of obvious that thinking or strategizing our way to Awakening might not be so effective, since thinking and strategizing are merely symptomatic expressions of our already fully baked radiant nature.

So how do we come to revelation, appreciating that revelation is not conditioned or abstract or symbolic? Revelation must be This, Awakening must be This, Transcendent Understanding must be This - we can't come to it as if from some other place or some prior condition. The revelation is exactly the nature or what This already is, an unbounded radiant self-transcendence that cannot be reduced to words.

Our Inquiry is a diving board, if you're lucky the pool is deep and the water is shallow - come hang out and see this for yourself.

## ***We Are This Brilliance***

So what does *Punxsutawney Phil* have to teach us about awakening? Uh, scratch that, what was I thinking?

Well the movie had mystical elements anyway; condemned to be stuck in time for the afflictions of greed, impatience, entitlement, manipulation, frustration, bargaining, slowly transmuting into acceptance and transcendence of self, and finally release from the clock to enjoy a brand new world in a brand new way with a brand new personality gifted with love and warmth and genuine interest and concern for others' wellbeing. A Buddhist tale if ever there was one.

You could say that awakening was indeed the theme of the film, that a day or a life or 10,00 lives might be necessary for us to occupy our true selves and learn to walk in peace, goodwill, and a blessed authenticity. And it might be possible, when it is possible, and not before then, to see that this miracle of creation is not just sufficient in each moment, but that it is a self-transcending and always renewing bliss fest that leaves no residue and suffers no anticipation or apprehension for what comes next, because it *IS* always next.

Somewhere along the curious yellow-brick road which may be strewn from time to time with groundhog excrement, or flying monkey (with stupid hats) poo, we are always with this brilliant and wondrous and deliciously strange companionship - and one might suggest that the gift of awakening is to discover that we are this brilliance - and that's when the hallucination of individuation ends.

We don't visit the wizard, we are the wizard, so pay no attention to that groundhog behind the curtain - I may be mixing my movie metaphors. I won't try and defend it.

## ***Immeasurable Mystery***

Sometimes I like to pull your chain; it is an act of affection. Sometimes I like to question "sacred cows"; it is an act of suspicion. Sometimes I like to stare into space and melt into presence; and that is peace. So what would a friend wish for a friend; perfectly annihilating liberation, speechless joy, inconceivable revelation, impersonal intimacy? That's what all this Inquiry is about; dipping our feet in the water, hanging from the last branch, simply dropping into God.

Do we really have so much else to accomplish or gather and store or wait for than this dumbfounding moment that requires nothing and asks nothing from us? We spend a lifetime in anticipation of what exactly? How much experience do we think we need to stuff into our hamster cheeks before we are ready to confront eternity? If we imagine anything less than immeasurable mystery is happening right now, well imagine again.

# ***Night Sky Sangha Invitations***

*(September 2010 – December 2012)*

## ***Understandably Rare***

It is understandably rare that someone wishes to understand awakening - the spark for it has to be lit, and that is a function of grace. The world we think we inhabit is the best damn hallucination you'll find anywhere - it's so good we don't even question it. But once in a while someone has a WTF moment - and once that happens, the fun begins!

Some folks like to try their hand at life-improvement strategies, including all kinds of spiritual guidance and practices that promise to lead us toward a better hair day - some day in the future. And the amount of cash that changes hands (and makes some authors / gurus wealthy) is staggering.

And some folks get to a point in their journey where they are prepared to discard any method or subscription for happiness; they are for some strange reason prepared to embark on a different path of understanding. It becomes clear to them that any endeavor for self-improvement or effort to improve circumstances will not reveal any utility or insight.

## ***Something Else That You're Missing***

There is a rather simple yet mystical aspect to awakening that tends to elude most spiritually minded aspirants. If you're the kind of "person" that is interested in the puzzle and journey of awakening, you may wish to join us this and next Thursday evening to look into the mystery.

Once you have healed, intended, attracted, balanced, yoga-fied and Buddha-fied your life - and you still have some suspicion that there is something else that you're missing; you're welcome to join in the conversation that (if successful) leaves no trace of who you imagine yourself to be.

## ***Implications***

If we are inspired to consider the nature of experience, we may stumble upon some interesting observations. For example, what is the medium of experience, how would we explain or express the certainty of "knowing", how does the sense of a separate "I" come into view?

What might we say about the nature of radiance, perfect clarity, or the constant dissolution of each frame of "time" that can only hold our attention for a mere moment. What are the implications of this inquiry on the presumption of object permanence and how we frame our world view?

## ***Intoxicating Angel-Filled Intimacy***

What if this very moment was the intoxicating angel-filled highest possible intimacy with the Absolute possible and the volume is always on 10? What if the hallucination of psychological time, object permanence, and a separate ego-structure were the impediments to seeing this fact?

Would you take some time from your bowling game or favorite TV show to explore the possibility? That's what we do on these ordinary Thursday evenings - we take a look at the self-evident revelatory nature of consciousness. And if we're lucky, something beautiful might be revealed.

One other small reminder: please don't bring your personal story or experts to the table, they cannot help you to see your own true nature. It's only when the mind is completely free from conditioning and assertion that the beatitude comes to call.

### *Our True Nature*

What we presume to be the body, mind, and spirit of an independent entity (ourselves) is a rather complex set of stories - the primal fact of sensation appearing in consciousness does not insist upon or provide evidence for these conclusions. What This is ....may actually be beyond description and may defy our best attempts to reduce this presence to any package of certainty at all.

So if we are predisposed to discovering our true nature (not necessarily a common endeavor) then we may wish to look deeply at the entire portfolio of self-delusion and explore the curious clues that can assist us in the organic process of awakening. Or not.

If you have been invited to look into yourself, please come and join us for some scintillating self-discovery. You may come to enjoy just how empty your mind really is.

### *Entirely Unexpected*

Simply put, the presumption of creature-hood is a total myth. You may have had some direct experience(s) that revealed to you just how thin your personal reality is. If you are an adventurer you may want to find out what This is, and I mean the whole of it. Don't take your consciousness, your awareness, your certainty about anything for granted. This may turn out to be something entirely unexpected, but how will you find out if you don't look?

### *Standing in an Elevator*

First off - you've got to be interested in waking up (or whatever you may wish to call it). Otherwise we're all standing in an elevator and nobody is talking or asking any questions - stone cold socially acceptable silence. So you have to be curious, interested in your own nature, inspired to discover.

And somewhere along the line you are forced to discard what others may say, what teachers teach, and special experiences you've read about. At some point you want to have (must have) your own first-hand contact with awakening within your own experience, then you are all in.

And once you are all in; you must come to terms with how your life may change as you discard the common human conundrum and aim for the highest possible happiness you can touch, the most intimate understanding that you can bear - and the fact is that this is not always pretty. But you haven't come this far to be socially acceptable or appreciated by others - your homecoming is within yourself, you step off the cliff into being.

This is the kind of gibberish we tackle in our togetherness, so please join us this Thursday & Friday evenings for a good time.....

### *Loopy Self Image*

Awakening is not an accomplishment; it doesn't happen to a person. If we are lucky we may be able to see the useless habit of gaining some advantage for ourselves; to enhance our experience, to be enjoyed as knowledge, to arrive at some ultimate understanding.



This unfathomable stream of Being is not dependent on our participation or approval to be what it is. We don't really need to process "This" as it is doing itself. Our curious dilemma (if we recognize it at all) is that we find ourselves processing reality through filters of language, naming, and experience which includes the constant craving / dissatisfaction of what's in it for me.

Then we go to spiritual merchants (and there are a bunch of those) to feel better about something that isn't even real. And the merchants gladly sell us a solution so we can improve spiritually or psychologically and have a better experience, when the underlying perfect and indeterminate chaos of Being hasn't even noticed our plight. You could say that God doesn't give a fig about religion, any of them. God is, while religions collect money - go figure.

So the question is, do you want "free" or the imagined continuity of your frustrated, fractured, and totally loopy self image? This adventure is not for those enviable souls who are happy with their relationship with living, it is for the strange ones amongst us who have to discover their true nature.

### *Instinct for Awakening*

Perhaps you've done some reading and exploration into contemplative matters. Perhaps you want to understand what is meant by "ego"? Maybe you are serious (in a joyful way) about this curious mystery? It might be that you imagine there are places where this mystery can't go, secrets that it can't see, or that you are a separately existing entity possessing the magical gifts of self-will, decision making, and choices - amounting to so much nuisance?

What if all the psychics and healers and spiritual interventionists are mistaken about the primal nature of This Mystery? What if they have misled you? It's too late to get your money back! But, since you have no actual soul that you can call your own, it shouldn't be so hard to retrieve. When the at-your-fingertips hallucination of processing "all this" from the vantage point of an entity collapses (and it is always thus), where will you go to find your answers? Who will you pay to make it better?

The instinct for awakening comes from the ordinary life, it is right here and right now that your intuition is whispering the truth of being. Simply by agreeing to look, you will discover - and that is what we enjoy together.

### *Unimpeded Revelation*

One funny thing about awakening is that it reveals the perfectly impersonal nature of reality. As this revelation (among many) percolates through your being other odd, but nourishing elements come into view. There may be a collapse of advantage seeking, or the cessation of the need for exotic or extroverted spiritual experiences. You don't have to go to Sedona and meander through vortexes because your own first-hand experience is that of unimpeded revelation and self-reflective wonder.

You may discover that the God or enlightenment you've been seeking is none other than yourself - it's all in the seeing. The inherent collapse of ideation and the presumption of separation can come to fruition in your daily consciousness, and these often respond to the degree of availability and interest that wells up inside you.

Our inquiry aims at discovering the unique features of what this is right now, right here - when the habit of acquiring and naming simply drift away, leaving us present and open, free from any reflex to grab or hold or become.

## *Even a Whisper*

After our quiet Sunday morning meditation someone said that things are always changing. You've heard this before I'm sure, but it may also be true (or observable) that nothing changes at all. Permit me to explain - in order for something (like an object, or event, or experience) to change, it has to have occurred or be occurring in the first place. It can be seen however that what we may call experience is just an after-the-fact interpretation or presumption about what is.

And that interpretation / presumption is merely a habit of word forms that are commenting upon or reporting about what has already passed. All the word forms appear in what we call mind and the sense of continuity we imagine we experience is just the movement of memory - it is actually completely unreliable, just imagined to be so. And this fantastic mechanism happens absolutely effortlessly, and one could say that it gives rise to what we presume is stuff happening, therefore always changing.

But you can just as well see it as nothing happening at all, ever - and certainly not occurring to an entity as me, myself or I! Please peer into the present moment and ask yourself, how long does the present moment last? What is the unit of measure in psychological or clock time? I would suggest that no moment has any duration; all is expressing and dissolving simultaneously as a singular strange radiant mystery.

So maybe it is true that nothing ever changes because nothing ever or could ever actually occur, this entirety defies time and certainly cannot be apprehended by a thinking process that is always late. If even a whisper of this gets you interested (or better yet confused), you may enjoy the ride this Thursday.

## *One Big Fat Liar*

Let's face it (or not), we may pine for and orient ourselves toward a psychologically predictable and comforting life, but you may have noticed that this approach doesn't work so well. We may intend, attract, cultivate, bargain for, and solicit the universe to act on our behalf - but you may discover that these strategies don't always (if ever) bear any fruit. Still our orientation is a kind of life-long cringing where we are secretly or outwardly praying for things to go our way, or at least not pound us into submission.

We may discover that underneath our socially acceptable patina and winning personality (and I envy you folks), there is a hint of being one big fat liar - there is that inner insecurity and vulnerability that we live with (of which we are generally unconscious) every single day. Either you cop to this or you don't. If you are willing (or gifted) to see the chronic self-aggrandizing nature of creature-hood, you may seek some release or understanding.

Maybe we are under a rather formidable hallucination called self-will, event control, emotional management, compassion, spiritual advancement, generosity, financial security, good health, and the like. Thankfully, it turns out that the conditioned human psyche is no match for the real - we are never going to be successful in managing our lives within the ambiguous, indeterminate, roiling radiant push of reality - and for a few of us, that is great news!

You are welcome to join in the madcap adventure of waking up, if you are inspired to do so. Otherwise we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Good luck with that.

## *Shockingly Luscious Fact*

Awakening is not something that happens to you. It is not an accomplishment or spiritual milestone, it has no utility. Awakening may be hinted at as the collapse or suspension of belief in your imagination. It is the absolute discontinuity of the filter of perception that we commonly refer to as the sense of personal entity. It is perfectly unconditioned and cannot be confined to memory or circumstances.

If we investigate the complexity of sorrow and accumulation, self-preservation and loneliness, entitlement and advantage seeking - we may find that the culprit of self-interest is always at the center of our motivations. It is all about me, myself and I! We burn so many psychic calories arranging for a future happiness that never comes - we quietly flog ourselves, disparage our condition, put up a good face, shelter our grief, and get lost in a thousand indulgences and distractions.

If you have become suspicious about this cyclical behavior and have experienced a yearning for some emancipation, some relief, some understanding that truly nourishes your instinct for freedom - our investigations into the nature of reality may be of some interest to you.

Awakening is the recognition by the entirety of its own and always unfettered nature, and because we are that it is possible to discover this shockingly luscious fact. Besides, you'll lose everything and gain nothing - where are you going to find a better deal?

## *Sufficient to the Task of Awakening*

It's not so easy to eschew all spiritual authority and all spiritual helpers. In fact we tend to seek them out over and over again - often shelling out good money for their psychic and other-worldly assistance. We may have to come to terms with a simple yet profound encounter - that we alone are, that our experience of life and responsibility in considering our death is our own journey to take. No one can interfere or actually intervene in this revelatory autonomy.

So what are the clues and observations you can make about your own intimate spiritual adventure that can serve to set you absolutely free from confusion and samsaric existence? What can we actually "see" with the capacity of our own direct communion which may reveal facets of our constantly unfolding inconceivable timeless nature? Are we even interested in looking?

Wouldn't it be liberating to see that we are already sufficient to the task of awakening? Wouldn't it be a happy day to recognize that our own inherent nature is already complete? Try and insist upon one single obstacle and you'll discover a dream, maybe you'll even buy a bridge - back to yourself.

## *What Then?*

Seeing, hearing, tasting, touching, smelling are happening, but can you really say with absolute confidence to whom they are occurring? Just where did this "I" come from? On what authority and with what vital powers does this "I" claim authorship and ownership of the functioning of this bio-luminosity? Thoughts occur and there is the experience of an inner dialog or inner hearing of thoughts arising, but to whom exactly?

Let's say we're preoccupied with apprehension, projection, anticipation, fear, cringing, and resistance - over something imagined that isn't even happening. Would you call that "I", or a form of madness? And when a wave of psycho-emotional discomfort effortlessly and spontaneously arises in consciousness and is recognized, who or what is doing the suffering? "I" am?

What if the entire cosmos operates on auto pilot without an author and having no parts? Where is the precious "I" then? Say the body is "made" of cells bathed in curious fluids that are ultimately photonic and made of nothing (as the physicists suggest), where is the "I" in all this? What if you are actually a self-effulgent radiant expression of inconceivable mystery that defies any and all description, absolutely beyond harm and having no duration? What then?

## *Whack*

Once in a while an ordinary primate wakes up to her true nature just by crossing the living room to get a smoke. Not that there is a causal relationship between the nicotine parasite, or the pack of Lucky's you left in your coat pocket, or your spontaneous understanding of the whole universe, but who knows. Imagine an impulse arising from nowhere so you take the long journey out of the recliner, around the coffee table, over the newspaper stack, fake left to miss the cat, and reach over to the old leather coat lying on the floor to fetch the open pack so you can light one of those cool refreshing burnt tobacco leaf emphysema sticks that taste so good swirling hot juice down your throat, and whack - you see through unconditioned eyes!

Most of us craving for some release from the sheer repetition and predictability of our own ghastly personality take quite a few turns and some indeterminate number of adventures to break up the wall of self and entitlement that clutter up the otherwise pristine nature of our awareness. So it may appear that we apply ourselves to the task of making just enough mistakes and unsatisfactory attempts before something genuine and authentically valuable pushes its way into our consciousness. But some say that if you knock, it shall be opened unto you - just be careful not to knock with your head, try your fist for a while, or your knee, or kick the door - that sometimes helps.

## *Innate Pulse*

Is it OK to suggest that all spiritual and non-commercial scientific endeavors are motivated by some curious urge to look into the nature of things, to understand the fabric and condition of experience, to cultivate joy? We have this life, these activities, the wonder of creation as our playing field. We want to respond to the innate pulse and drive for relationship and togetherness and love. The question is, how do we do that? How do we value and orient our precious time toward the fulfillment of our deepest longings?

The journey of awakening could be a useful frame of reference for us to examine and attend to the most intimate gift that we have - the gift of this life, the gift of this present moment, the gift of our attention and curiosity. Once in a while it may be useful just to sit around and ask some deep questions of ourselves, it's not unlike prayer or a conscious expression of gratitude. We just want to sit around and commune with the deepest parts of ourselves, and in that process we can touch the heart of the matter, we can discover what we truly are. You may be surprised and nourished by what you find.

## *Veritable Symphony of Discontent*

We want happy, don't we? We want security, assurances, positive feedback about our decisions, control, attention, financial sufficiency or abundance, not to be lonely, continued existence without illness, peace, love, compassion, spiritual progress, freedom to make our own choices and live the life that we may imagine might fulfill us.

And we want all this for the sake and benefit of ourselves, for our stuff, for our personal interests, for our future. And when life shows up in a way that doesn't conform to our needs, expectations, or demands - then perhaps we suffer. And we don't like it when we suffer, so we want to "do" something

about it. And the loop of the fragmented and individuated self keeps repeating, the lament of the primate can be heard all over the world, it is a veritable symphony of discontent.

It appears that we are "free" to join in the chorus and lend our voices to the cacophonous rapture of the song of the earth-bound primates, the song of "*this sucks*" - you can imagine that our extraterrestrial friends have tuned to another station centuries (or more) ago. But what if there is another perspective, would you be interested to explore it?

Perhaps there is another tune that you might like to sing, maybe you have had enough of the all too predictable Cajun dance number, "*it's-all-about-me*". A few of us howling primates will get together to look into the nature of this curiously addictive dilemma and see if we can't lend some insight, some clarity, some humor to the situation. It's all about happy, so why not give it a try?

### *Dream Puffs*

We often (if not always) place ourselves as decisive and self-willed respondents operating in a fully autonomous manner at the center of what we call our experience, or our lives. We imagine into being a discrete and isolated entity familiarly referred to as me, myself or I. Maybe you have wondered if it is possible for the unexamined consciousness to dream itself into being as an independent operator; one that takes authorship or ownership of the spontaneous and impersonal arising of presence or reality.

If this kernel is followed or opens to its natural consequence, the entire structure of what we call ourselves or this world is available for reevaluation. What then is really happening if we peer into consciousness, sentience, being, thought fields, sensation, stimulus / response mechanisms, rapture, peak experience, "the flow", and other curious moments of complete and liberating incredulity?

What if this (as in all of this) is an entirety that has no author and no disparate parts? What if this is an unbroken morphically resonant fully realizable mystery? What if all of our sentient certainties are dream puffs imagined or interpreted as subjects and objects when there is / are no such thing(s)?

It may be possible, if not inevitable, that this adventure reveals a landscape that completely upends our personal view of self. It may actually be the case that we are not entities that have been born into separate bodies, and that what this truly is joyously defies any and all descriptions to the pointless point of rapture. Can't hurt to find out.

### *Dumbfounded Awareness*

It's likely you have had a peak moment, an epiphany, or some encounter with gratitude and awe that struck you speechless and fulfilled. I wonder if such moments in your life have triggered a curiosity or personal spiritual adventure that has acted as some compass for your life's journey and relationship with living.

And if you are an avid practitioner I wonder if your spiritual portfolio of practices, acquaintances, and discoveries have brought you face to face with the same speechless encounters you have enjoyed in the past. Perhaps you are actively engaged in cultivating a deeper relationship with meditation or some form or yogic stillness practice. Maybe you just want to quiet your mind and not have to listen to so much inner apprehension.

Funny thing about awakening is that it can only happen right now and right here, and that's all we have so we're in luck. You may find something of value in entering into a conscious and participatory exploration of the nature of awakening; you may even stumble into more than your typical share of dumbfounded awareness.

## *Compelling Crisis*

So what's your most compelling crisis facing humanity today? Might it be Peak Oil, Chem Trails, Religious Fundamentalism, Corporate Influence, Conspiratorial Crimes, Industrial Animal Cruelty, Climate Instability, Control of the Media, Global Financial Risks, Natural Disasters, Predatory Priesthoods, Fascist Supremacy Movements, and/or the noise between your ears and the insatiability of your own cravings?

Maybe there is something to end-of-days predictions, and maybe not. You don't have to look too far as the photon flies (thanks to the Hubble) to see a cosmic landscape with proportions that defy imagination sporting trans-galactic events and phenomena which dwarf and complement the magical presence of our own anonymous solar experience.

It seems rather justifiable that if we "see" only through the eyes of our local surroundings and inhabit this strange creation as individuals, there is plenty of worry and instability for all, no shortages there. So perhaps our spiritual challenge is to "see" from a different perspective, a different dimension, utilizing the full bandwidth of our innate presence and full textural awareness to open a window of perception that includes everything. This is the kind of conversation that gets me out of the house and in the warm company of fellow travelers, feel free to join us. Looking deeply can be quite fascinating.

## *Inconceivability has no Price*

Some folks like to explore the curious waves and theater presentations that play inside their heads, inside their imagination. This theater of the absurd is always cranking out new improvisations and takes advantage of our gullibility to nudge us into one belief after another. So we construct an entire universe extruded in space and time appearing outside ourselves, and then take ourselves to be independent players on the stage, living as it were inside a body.

We are imbued with choices, decisions, discernment, perception, attraction, gratitude's, intentions, right action - all of which is possibly a complete fantasy of mind and doesn't authentically represent what is actually happening here. If we aren't aroused / troubled by suspicion, then we have become accommodated and habituated to the general condition of the entity, the person. We can of course measure our own personal degree of happiness and satisfaction with the seven billion-person view, the pride of the person.

On the other hand we may be compelled to take a break from all the concussive pressure and coercion of the collective belief beast - and take a risk to discover something completely new, completely revolutionary. What is the cost you might ask, only everything you think you know. Inconceivability has no price and better still, no utility.

## *The Red One or the Blue One*

What if everything you think, feel, know, decide, like, resist, bargain with, accept, avoid, suffer, and enjoy (just to name a few) are projected illusions / presumptions conjured in a spontaneous and effortless thought factory that defines your experience and constructs the "world"?

What if the nagging background field of vulnerability and insufficiency were to transmute into something inexpressible, beyond knowledge, and of the nature of your core inconceivable presence? Would you take that drug for a quick ride, or even better, would you seek to dwell in that understanding?

What if the popular New Age "we are all one" name-badge blew your mind so thoroughly that the fact of being revealed itself to you in a completely trans-human manner, leaving all delusion behind? Which pill are you into - the red one or the blue one (and I forget which is which)?

## *A Load OF Fantasy*

The Power of Now has no power and you can't find now, even if your life depended on it. The New Earth is not new, Earth is a myth of time / space, all is without purpose and there is no such thing as spiritual evolution, except in fairy tales written to give you some sense of hope - while the author hopes you will part with your money for these solipsistic fantasies. And then keep subscribing for more shallow positivity and reinforcement that you matter and that you can and will be the enduring enjoyer of mystical experience.

The only activity (which is not a movement of effort) is to discover what this is without pre-conceived notions or expectations or hopes for a better material or spiritual future. It is possible to see that the slightest hint of existence as a persona occupying a body having the dubious gift of a mind, is a load of fantasy. And in this seeing the collapse of fantasy driven presumptions occurs, and you can't say what that is or how it feels or how you may benefit from it because it defies all description.

Knowledge of a separate self is merely the movement of infinite associations appearing in the plasma of awareness and fractured into a single subject and countless objects. This miraculous hallucination can be seen through even though there is no how or one to accomplish it. Come hang out and look at it for yourself.

## *Witches Brew!*

The spiritual seeker gets no respect. First off we don't usually ask for the curious head-slap or heart-break that starts us on the journey back to reality. And we're gullible as heck, hardly capable of discerning one teacher or teaching from another. And we're usually co-dependent to the gills, just plain boundary and relationship and self-respecting confused. What a freaking mess of a personality - and now we're "spiritual" too so it is a real witches brew!

Thankfully if we apply ourselves to the basic family of origin issues that make us delightfully nuts, and do our recovery home-work - perhaps just enough autonomous intelligence may emerge that permits us to give our attention to the root of the mystery. So now we can spend some quality time wondering about the genesis of how we came to believe that we are separate and willful beings, occupying discrete physical bodies and having the risk and complaint of insufficiency as our constant companion.

This is where the fun work begins, in this instant there is nothing that could possibly bind us or that requires healing or improvement of any kind. The very nature of awareness is unfettered, unconditioned, without story and absolutely free, and that is the discovery that shifts us from subjects in a sea of objects to the very radiant awareness itself. This discovery is at once possible because it is the primal fact, and unspeakable to boot.

## *Sufficient Evidence*

If you look for the "me", where will you find her? Just because there is sense stimulus in the so-called body, and a thought factory seemingly between the ears, and the appearance of the facility of memory and decision impulse - do all of these really add up to sufficient evidence to prove the existence of a separate doer, a separate person?

If we turn our attention to the un-deciphered and conclusion-free arising of experience that has no actual duration and appears perfectly spontaneously can we really insist upon me / myself as a genuine entity - or might it be that consciousness is using sleight of hand to make it appear as if a separate being is occupying a discrete physical flesh tube and choosing his / her fate, experience, and destiny from moment to moment?

Does it make any sense to you that the appearance and experience of psychological and emotional suffering must orient around a center, a person, the one who is at risk in some way, the one who is always trying to control the outcome of things and others' behavior? Many say there is a way of understanding that transcends the hypnotic suggestion of incarceration and insufficiency that define the person - perhaps you would like to explore the possibilities?

### *Litmus Test of Existence*

So what would you say is real? What would you say is the litmus test of existence? Would you say that ideas appearing in your memory or thought-stream are real, and that the objects or memories you recall exist? What is the present, how does one live in it, why would you care to, and is the present any different from the past or the imagination of the future?

Let's say you were interested in happiness or deep trust and relaxation in living. Where might you find that, when would you expect to accomplish these goals - now or sometime in the future? Maybe you want to be happier in the past. If spiritual fulfillment (whatever you imagine that to be) is something that interests you - it might be useful to explore where and when and how that is going to occur. And if we take the contemporary physicists' ideas to heart - if there is no time or space or mechanism for reality to be what it is, then "Houston, we have a problem."

Some of us have spent and are spending a lot of effort and money to accomplish some vague notion of life experience improvement that we will enjoy in the future. We live with an unresolved and near constant presumption that we should get something from (or out of) life, something that generally eludes our grasp, something that hasn't materialized for us yet. Moreover, we imagine that this getting is the result of effort, choices, self-development, spiritual practices, cleansing, purification, visits with extraordinary persons, vows, bargaining, the kind and loving intervention of Angels.

So it may be useful to ask a simple question of our honored life quest, how's it going? Have we accomplished the love and peace and confidence and fearlessness and spiritual fulfillment that we have been seeking? If your answer is yes, that is delicious; if your answer is no - perhaps we can talk it over and flip the equation to give you better odds at the craps table.

### *Perdition to Liberation*

To whom or to what is experience occurring? Is it possible experience is occurring to no one or no thing? Without the movement of memory do you know what you did five minutes ago? Who is it that is listening to or hearing thoughts, making decisions? Who or what is it that knows thinking is happening? If you look very realistically at what is called "my decision", can you see the spontaneous arising of impulse and refusal / resistance or acquiescence that occurs? Can you see how memory takes hold of the immediacy of action and claims authorship as the doer, as "I decided"?

Some meditators are motivated to transcend thoughts, wish them away, see them as clouds, get out from under the oppressive weight of imagination and projection - the engine of apprehension and psychological misery. It's as if there is an "I" who thinks, who decides, who enjoys or suffers actual (whatever that is) or imagined events and consequences. And we can't stand the near constant companionship of insecurity or the refrain of what's going to happen to me. So we turn to some form or forms of spirituality or religious ideation to medicate our psychological vulnerabilities.

And for some lucky few, an epiphany or born-again conviction fills their soul and the world is right, I envy those good folks. For the rest of us there is the seemingly long and arduous road from Perdition to Liberation. And sometimes we happen upon an opening, a possibility that we had not yet entertained or even considered. We stumble into a dimension of seeing that pierces the veil of me-self, that washes



our entire capacity of awareness clean. We wake up from the inertia of imagination and discover This present beatitude in a wholly new way. We log off from memory and conviction and reason, and we are left delightfully dumbfounded by presence itself.

You are welcome to take the journey with us; maybe a few tears, maybe a few laughs, and a whole lot of This.

### *Deeper Implications*

Let's apply our attention to the experience at hand. If we look at the intimate mechanism or chronology of experience we may find a root sentience or consciousness, sometimes referred to as I Am. This sense or uncontested conviction of existence lies at the root of the remainder of experience which could be said to be awareness of objects in space time, by a subject ("me") that somehow inhabits the physical body and is bounded by the vehicle of this physical body.

Some New Age folks might say that we are spiritual beings having a human experience, rather than human beings having a spiritual experience. But what if both of these orientations are inaccurate? What if the root "I Am" does not belong to anyone and is itself an apparitional dream sequence that does not and cannot exist apart from the entirety that cannot be found? What if the genesis of personal suffering is due to the misapprehension of "experience" as something happening to "me" as the unwitting owner / operator of this body / mind?

Perhaps freedom has deeper implications than improved life symptoms, or the accomplishment of mystical or spiritual assertions? What if the very root of the subject / object frame of reference occurring to this I Am is profoundly mistaken? What if all conceptualization and the art of conceiving itself are inferred and imagined? Where would you be then, what would you be made of, how could personal experience actually be appearing?

If we look, and look with fresh eyes - there is no telling what we may find.

### *Precious and Sacred Right Where You Are Sitting*

I watched a great "documentary" about Crop Circles, they rock! The sacred geometry (well I guess everything is sacred geometry) is so evocative and nourishing that I can sure understand why these mysterious formations attract such sincere attention. And in case you are wondering, these organic and profound expressions are not human made, at least IMHO.

People and researchers wonder who made them, how were they made (seemingly overnight or in minutes), why are they appearing, what is the message or the meaning, etc. And it is understandable that these formations might trigger such curiosity and "spiritual" alignment - they are beautiful and intuitively provocative.

But my question here is, have looked at an artichoke lately, or peered into a glass of water, or truly encountered your bodily thirst and the quenching of that thirst? Have you considered how odd and miraculous your own experience is; the senses, the thought structure, your imagination, the mobility of consciousness, sleeping, being touched by the incomprehensible beauty of a flower or the capacity to pick your own nose?

I mean Crop Circles are fantastic, but are they really any more fantastic or strange or indescribable or data rich than any morsel of the entirety of your momentary and daily experience? Are they a better or cooler expression of the totality of creation than anything else? Do we really think we understand what

is happening in "ordinary" experience that makes it matter-of-fact while Crop Circles (and other phenomena) are the act of extraterrestrial intelligence or something bigger, better, or other worldly?

If you are willing to make the time to explore the present mystery of your own unfathomable experience, you may discover something or no-thing precious and sacred right where you are sitting.

### *Pristine Resolution*

Instead of going to Sedona for vortexes, or to see Braco for healing, or bending spoons, or cavorting with Angels - wouldn't you just like to find yourself? Wouldn't the pristine resolution of any and all spiritual adventures be discovering yourself? And what could we possibly hope to find elsewhere that isn't already fully itself, imbued with magic from radiant moment to radiant moment?

Where are we going, to see whom, to explain exactly what? And what could they possibly know that is any better or deeper or more to the point than our own natural being right here, right now? Just how many spiritual calories do we have to burn paying homage to someone or something other than our own presence?

If you are getting close to the full-on cessation of chasing awakening somewhere else, then come and hang out and be your groundless self with a few other incredulous inmates - it can be downright riotous.

### *A Little Suspicious*

Let's be frank, we want happy. Our souls and our cells and our minds and our entire being wants happy. Now how is it possible that we know what happy is and that we are as focused as the honey badger to acquire it? Where and when and how did this profound instinct for happy come about? Can we really describe happy, is it a formula, is it at all related to things owned, things accomplished, things relinquished, things understood?

Why do these religious authorities and experts condemn us to sinning and suffering and displeasure and unworthiness with such aplomb and conviction? One might wonder just who these exalted spiritual giants are, and where exactly (or from whom) did they get their authority from. Was it the cross, or the Bodhi tree, or the desert, or a burning bush, or some really heavy stone tablets? Isn't it a little suspicious - this whole happiness and grace and religious scripture chaos based on faith and belief and the promise of some after life or some other threat of condemnation or damnation?

We want happy, but is it really possible to acquire or own it? If you would like to look into the matter with a fresh set of eyes and attention, you may find some inquiry to be quite helpful - you may find a hint of happiness, you may find that there are no obstacles for anyone to circumvent or hurdles for anyone to leap over - ever.

### *Case Closed*

If we would simply give our attention to the geometry, structure, and imagination of suffering, we would have a clear diagnosis; and with a clear diagnosis we would have an appropriate response. It's very simple really - suffering is the natural consequence of imagining ourselves to be independently existing as discrete entities inhabiting a flesh tube (that was born) experiencing duration or dwelling and existing in psychological time. This is the meat of the "me."

All apprehension and insufficiency and projection and need and hope and co-dependence are all extrusions of the base hallucination - I am a separately manifest psycho-physical person with a past and

a future. Now, once you are inspired to take on the root of the impersonally arising primate indulgence, your odds for ending suffering are greatly improved.

You can of course explore the Sedona Method, Mindfulness techniques, the Four Agreements, Visualization, Angelic visitations, and hundreds of other attempts at suffering remediation, but as long as you see and feel yourself to be an entity requiring some assistance from someone or something else to be free - you are going to be disappointed over and over again.

The root of all dissatisfaction stems from the conviction that you are an independently arising durational incarnation occupying a physical body. Once that presumption is dismantled and transcended, the Angels will be asking you to help them.

So if it is your predilection to bust out of your human insistence, we can have a really fun time just waking up - because that is really all there is - total awake is the nature of This, case closed, seeking over, money saved, co-dependence free, unbroken availability, unfathomable transcendent glee.

### *Delight of Being*

What if you had free will, but discovered it was counterfeit? What if the sensorial evidence and memory that helps you "define" your experience were simply a mirage? What if your persona and the inventory of your whole life's recollection is just not so? What if you could discover that no-thing-ness is the root and delight of being, that there is nothing for "you" to accomplish or defend, that seeking some better experience could end right here and right now?

Perhaps there is something whispering to you or pressing against your presumptions. Perhaps you have some inclination to look deeply at the strange and incomprehensible nature of your own being. Perhaps you have been touched by some intelligence within you that is willing to oblige the necessity to wake up. If cliff edges and no turning back are calling your name, some inquiry may be useful to you.

### *Veritably Mystical*

Let's refer to this waking dream as our entire presumption about the nature of reality and the basic fact of experience.

In many instances (perhaps far too many) the purveyors of spiritual solutions promote co-dependence and extract money from "primates" seeking a different experience for "themselves," and this is not liberation – it is the continuity of delusion.

Most of us are interested in how "we" can feel better, how "we" can make a difference, how "we" can live with greater harmony and alignment with our true purpose – and all of this is counterfeit.

Once you participate in offering a primate advice on spiritual (or any other) matters – you are dreaming. Once you subscribe to a betterment program, you are dreaming. That is the principal principle to see, wanting anything from this mystery is suffering and delusion.

Liberation from delusion is tantamount with not-wanting – but not as an accomplishment or intention or affirmation (all of those belong to the dreaming primate). Liberation from delusion is otherness, it is the collapse of identification with dreaming as a separate being, it is waking up to the effortless nature of consciousness to reify and take authorship of experience, it is veritably mystical – that is the true conveyance, it cannot be sold.

## *Articulate Total Freedom*

If you were taking a comparative religion class or an adult education program about Truth, let's say, and you were given an assignment for a short essay on Total Freedom, what would it look like? How would you characterize or articulate Total Freedom for yourself?

What is your most intimate voice and authentic response to this question? Would you include financial security, freedom from health concerns, paying back taxes, looking and feeling your best to attract a companion, journey's to mystical places and vortexes, something to do with omniscience or omnipotence or even immortality?

If you were given a pass from God to fulfill your deepest wish for the best possible happiness in life (present and/or hereafter) what would you ask for? Would your essay include freedom from things or freedom for things? Would your essay be about your body, your self, your belongings, your wishes for others, or your spiritual aspirations?

It may be interesting to explore just who or what you think you are and what This (as in life and experience) are in the context of Total Freedom and the best possible happiness.

## *Delicious Absence of Your Thinking*

So how many times each day do you connect with the sacred? Is it when you do yoga, or meditate, or read, or become absorbed in free cell or Popit? Do you feel a need or compunction to reach out or reach in for divine connection, for the delicious absence of your thinking and commenting and lamenting mind?

Has your human life become sufficient and satisfactory for you? Are you sated, sane, and sanguine with your consciousness and relationship with living? Is there any suspicion or driving force within you to discover more, to reach for some higher intelligence or insight?

The awakening journey can be lit by an event, by some devotional curiosity, by a life-time of co-dependence, addictive predilection, and/or relationship dissatisfaction. The push to wonder and fulfill is organic, it is not a decision, it is a gift.

## *Some Urgency and Radical Honesty*

Reaching for the best possible happiness is built into the matrix of creation; it is embedded in the morphogenic field and expression of each cell, each synaptic chorus, each breath. It is perfectly understandable that we seek to fulfill the siren song of happiness within the life around us, the life within us, this very moment.

Now why is it that our most cherished predilection for happiness seems to evade us? Isn't this entire creation the animated breath of God Bliss? Isn't this miraculous expression of Source fully fulfilled freedom from fear here now? That's what the religious traditions tell us, isn't it? Aren't all religious and spiritual traditions telling us that this present and unprecedented moment is the wholeness of the Divine? What else would it be?

I mean what's the point of learning lessons on spaceship Earth if they cannot be converted or actualized into perfect fulfillment right here and right now? At some point don't you become bored and unfulfilled by "lessons" and seek to become fully autonomous and fully realized in God as God today? Or are you happy to kick the tires over and over again and hang out in one round of Samsara after another,

accumulating lessons for the sake of I don't know what? So we can enjoy Oprah Winfrey reruns till the Unicorns come home? I don't think so.

It takes some urgency and radical honesty and self-reflection to make a demand upon yourself and your consciousness and your immediate experience to get to the bottom of this present moment. It takes some wondering and noticing and permission and imagination and illumination to wake up to what this truly is. If you don't have it, if you are deferring it, if you are gleefully distracted by news and stories and self and opinions and presumptions - there is no harm and no foul.

If you have even the slightest vector of love or demand to discover your nature, some inquiry may be helpful. I can promise you there will be no lesson plan.

### *Self-Effacing Oblivion*

An esteemed teacher from Tibet has recently arrived and will be teaching on "*Generating a Compassionate Heart*." Sounds pretty good at first glance until you realize (if we ever do) that you've been snookered into another Buddhist mousetrap - and that can easily be another Hindu, New Age, Pleiadian, or Judeo-Christian mousetrap, not to call the Buddhists into question all by themselves.

The Buddha is in your face, in your armpits, dwelling in your navel and for sure your smelly socks that have been lying on the floor for weeks. Maybe you are wishing to discover where experience is happening and so "*Generating a Compassionate Heart*" makes perfect sense to you - it is a great spiritual accomplishment to have a compassionate heart, who doesn't want one?

But please tell me, where is experience not happening? Can you find that? Perhaps it would be useful to discover that what you already have is sufficient to the task of liberation? Maybe your nature, just as it is right now, is Buddha Nature - fully awake, profoundly pristine, with gobs of compassion already present within the present fact of your experience.

To cultivate something that you think you are without is delusion - it is bondage. Why on earth (not that there is one) do these esteemed and learned teachers sell such self-effacing oblivion? Is it for alms, for spreading the word, to help you?

If you are done with self-improvement and the fantasy that improving yourself will deliver some preferred result to make you happier a moment from now, come hang out and laugh it off - or you can aim your newly cultivated compassionate heart at we poor fools.

### *Really Really Done*

Recently I received a notice that referred to an esteemed spiritual personage as being an "Expert" on a calendar that portends to say something useful about some future event or events that may be cataclysmic or species changing or represent a cosmic upheaval, maybe even usher in a new spiritual materialism that we haven't already yawned our way through.

You may be waiting with baited breath (or seeds, fuel, gold, and bullets) for the New Age to finally deliver on its promises. At this point I am so confused by all the promises made by all the merchants of the New Age that I'm not even sure what I am waiting for or how it is supposed to be so much better than what I am experiencing now.

Do I get love, money, a better parking space, higher consciousness, a more flexible body that will resist disease and last longer, more recognition for just how special I am, urgent messages from Angels, extra-terrestrials, or earth spirits, clairvoyance, gifts of channeling, more/better compassion, living from a

heart space, less co-dependence, freedom from addiction, cool disembodied friends - I mean what exactly do we want from all this hopeful frivolity and so many lay-away spiritual payment schemes?

If the present moment (whatever that is) isn't the best place you've ever been, how do you expect you are going to have a better one a moment from now - it is always going to be the present moment for you till the end of time or the Mayan Calendar - whichever comes first.

So if we become really really done with all the experts and their messages and the silly reliance on what anyone else has to say about anything other than investigating and living with my own unfathomable direct experience - we may be able to turn our attention to what this really is.

No one knows anything, they can't possibly know anything; what this really is defies all advice ever given. Once you are interested in making this discovery, all knowledge and insufficiency reveal themselves to be dreaming - and then the incomprehensible comes and steals your heart away.

### *Needs-Free Consciousness*

There's a new Reality Show coming to your TV, it's called "So you think you can Realize!"

The idea for the show (conceived by some young Hollywood Buddhists) is that near seven billion contestants will compete to wake up to their true nature, however the Producers are having some trouble scouring cities all over the world to find just those specially talented and charismatic "people" that are keenly qualified to wake-up so they can eliminate those who are not. One Producer writes, "We have been interviewing hundreds of millions of "people" attempting to eliminate those without any talent and we haven't been able to find a single person that is not interested in their own supreme happiness, it's a total bummer! We may have to scrap the show."

This turns out to be bad news for reality TV, but good news in general. Every moment of every day, even though there is no time, we have a built-in "comes with" instinct for the best possible happiness. The motivator is already there, and as they say at your local office supply store, "That was easy!"

So our part in the puzzle is to find out just what supreme happiness is. Perhaps life is a bit like a maze, we start somewhere (can't say where) and run the course for decades (or lifetimes if you are into those) only to find the destination was our own already radiant and needs-free consciousness. Strange game you might say, and far be it from me to suggest otherwise.

We don't need to compete for or pine for or acquire or cultivate what this already is - we simply need to discover that it is so.

### *Ill-Conceived Collection of Memories*

It's very strange (at least for a little while) to be struck with the insight that what you call your life is nothing but a fractured, misleading, and ill-conceived collection of memories and that none of them have or had anything to do with what really happened.

Our dubious capacity for observing the present is already so fully influenced by our conditioning, expectations, presumptions, transference and projection impulses, and incomprehensible filters - that it is not so inaccurate to say that we don't even know what is happening right now. And if that is seen (or entertained) how can we possibly presume that our memories of events have anything to do with anything but some form of dreamt sentimentality and self-definition?

Are you still with me? My admitted assertion here is that it is possible to see through the highly pixelated imagination that infers that we know who we are, where we are, or what this is - because the

fact is that we don't. What we insist upon as my life or my memories or my opinions and certainties is one big poof of nothing solid whatsoever.

Everything we hold dear as self or belonging to self or being influenced by self (via volition and decision trees) is 100% imagined. This is the liberating observation. Now the fun part is that you may find yourself really wanting to explore this further, keenly compelled to look into the nature of your own being - or not. So who placed the curiosity in your heart to find out what this is? Did you decide or choose to get down with the root of creation and tangle with the veil?

Let's face it, most folks (if they read these words at all) will consider these ideas foolish, and that's putting it kindly. So you have to be one loopy pioneer if you are going to join in a conversation that annihilates your precious ideas about what life is. I can't imagine a more fun conversation to have.

### *Thought is Merely Ephemeral Abstraction*

Is higher consciousness an aspiration of yours? Do you have any idea what higher or consciousness really means? To whom do the senses belong? Are they yours? Does experience belong to you?

If you are lingering in and/or navigating through the labyrinthine texture of thinking, does that inner world have anything to do with reality? When we become immersed in the psychological movement of thought streams are we really referring to ourselves, or is it perhaps some abstract and compelling dream system? Are our so called decisions really connected to anything? If reality can be said to be what actually is, are our thought patterns and abstractions (appearing in no place special) reliable at all, referring to anything at all?

Do you have a list of thoughts to think next, feelings to emote next, sensations to feel next - and does this impersonal autonomy include the constant streaming / appearance of whatever is happening within your experience right now? Do you really have even the slightest control over anything that is occurring? Seems rather suspicious when you see (or consider) that thought is merely ephemeral abstraction that has no true author - and is always after the fact of this profound immediacy which has never happened before.

What if the entirety of consciousness is doing itself and we are dreamed and incomprehensible extruded apparitions having no more self-determination than a stalk of corn? Is that a bummer and worth discarding or is it possibly liberating? It may be worth your curiosity and interest to discover what we can discover - if anything.

### *It's All Good*

Where exactly would you turn your attention if you were interested in transcendent understanding? Are you interested in transcendent understanding? Do you harbor questions about life and happiness and self-discovery and do they motivate your aspirations and pursuits? If you have been walking a path, are you satisfied with what you've learned; is there a vitality to your interests, practices, and inquiry?

After all you've read, seen, and done - has your highest aspiration been fulfilled? Do you have a highest aspiration, do you know what it is, do you share it with friends, and do you make time in your life to give it your fullest attention? In other words are we OK and sated with our present point of view, or is there some curiosity or drive to go deeper into the nature of things, the nature of one's self?

There has to be a driver or tickle already awake in your consciousness in order for there to be some interest and adventure for discovery, otherwise we meander through life dwelling in and of the world. Sobriety may be sufficient for you (and often hard won), Buddhist practice may be sufficient for you,

perhaps living through the filters of presumption and certainty often accompanied by near constant insecurity may be sufficient for you, it's all good.

If however you are inclined to get to the heart of the heart of the matter, your participation is welcome.

### *Well-Crafted Relief Efforts*

It's not possible to ameliorate or medicate or vanquish existential panic with relationships, money, spiritual experiences, a great parking spot or cool stuff. Despite the money spent on and attention given to popular New Age themes like the Secret, Law of Attraction, or the Power of Now - none of these will bring you any relief from the fundamental delusion of your own consciousness. It may be a New Earth for our good friend Eckhart all the way to the bank, but how does that help you?

The Mayans can't help you, the Incas can't help you, the Hopis can't help you, the gurus can't help you, the Buddha can't help you - I mean he's been dead for over 2,570 years, how is he supposed to help you? You can dance around the maypole (a good thing) and chant "We are All One" till the unicorns come home, but what exactly does that mean to you anyway? You can sit on a cushion and cultivate *metta* (indiscriminate good will) or you can tangle with *tonglen* (sending and taking practice) and still your anticipation and sense of entitlement will be alive and well.

The instant you effort to remedy an illusion, just what do you imagine your chances of success are? You are likely to have better odds with a Lottery Ticket than you will with spiritual accomplishment. Sometimes I wonder why this morsel of common sense seems so elusive, but not so much anymore.

Typically the well-defended sense and privilege of my life and my ideas and my well-crafted relief efforts will writhe with indignation and defiance as a reaction to what I might be suggesting - and that is also a good thing. The question is, are you done with methods and teachers and a bookcase full of solutions to an imaginary problem?

Might it be OK with you that there is no one and no thing out there that can help you? What if you are already (and have always been) the source and perfectly improvisational, impersonal, and non-durational expression of the entirety? What if consciousness likes to play hide and seek with itself, and tag - you're it! Now we can have some fun, only if you wish of course.

### *Soul's Deepest Adventure*

It is a privilege to participate in an Interfaith Church, one hopes to rely upon an atmosphere of welcoming and permission that expresses a fresh and inclusive view, an atmosphere that demonstrates a willingness to value all paths and journeys toward the one un-fragmentable divine expression. In today's world (for the sake of discussion we'll have to agree that there is a today and a world) the friendly confluence of diverse points of view might help to alleviate the insularity and loneliness that many people feel. By being Interfaith we can truly practice and appreciate the religious tones, sentiments, and practices of our esteemed religious traditions, as long as no approach is called into question.

However, we may end up with a challenging issue when certain religious traditions (often the fringe and less popular ones) thrive on disrupting the comfort zones of belief and the externalization of God in order to evoke direct seeing and a profound realization that transcends rationality. Let's face it, was Jesus practicing Christianity when he fasted in the desert without a script or the Pope's blessing and traversed his own way into the heart of God? Was the Buddha practicing Buddhism when he sat under a tree all night confronting the demon Mara to win his emancipation from worldly suffering? Just how many Buddhist texts did he wave in the air and quote to assuage and conquer the skillful demon?



The Indian saint Ramakrishna was intoxicated with visions of the Divine Mother until a mendicant yogi shoved a piece of glass square into his third eye (right into his forehead between his eyebrows) so he could transcend his own condition all the way to the ineffable and inexpressible Brahmanic apogee. I'm not sure how well this strategy would work at our next Interfaith Celebration.

So you see, we can hope to practice our Interfaith commitment and welcome the didactic and history of certain traditions, but for those who wish to experiment at the fringes of conceivability and eschew personal safety for the annihilation of delusion - it is a different matter entirely. This is where what's acceptable and comfortable and affirming are simply not going to run the show, they can't, they are symptomatic of the very conformist delusion some of us wish to abandon.

So it is not a matter of disrespect or denigration to question the observable limitations of these traditions - it is the privilege of participating in an Interfaith Church where the soul's deepest adventure and our appointment with Awakening can also thrive.

### *Somewhere Out There*

Maybe you are searching for some condition, insight, or experience that is somehow better or more spiritual than the present condition, insight, or experience. If this is so then it would suggest that you truly believe that something is missing from your present experience, it would suggest that there is a "better" somewhere out there in your future.

What if this rather simple equation turns out to be the root and branches and leaves of personal suffering - what if our confusion and restless seeking is triggered by the unexamined presumption of insufficiency and lack.

Maybe it would be a good idea to turn our attention to this confounding presumption and see if it is really true, rather than work so hard to ameliorate what's wrong or fill the imaginary gap of not enough. When turning our attention to what this really is, a different vista may appear, it may be the fulfillment that you have always suspected - right here and right now. Perhaps it is indescribable joy - the Inquiry may turn out to be a revelation.

### *The Ferry to Beatitude*

This isn't it, right? My life is missing something, right? I thought I was the organ grinder, but perhaps I have been the monkey all along. If I spend the rest of my life studying the nature of suffering and putting my insights and answers on the shelf, will I ever come to peace?

Have we really missed the ferry to beatitude, and been left on the wrong shore with our crappy and indignant life? Is this really as good as it gets? Am I actively interested in relieving the mirage of suffering, in freeing myself from my own incarcerating thoughts and presumptions? Have I signed onto the adventure of asking questions to penetrate the ever present mystery, or do I already know what this is, who I am, and what is happening?

If we are depending on experience to be what we want it to be, just how successful are we going to be? If I have a vital interest in undoing the rhythm and apparent solidity of myself, of the sufferer, of the center of assessment and opinion - maybe not-knowing anything can be of some service. What exactly is peace, what is the way to peace, are we actually missing peace?

## *Your Take on Life*

So what is your take on life? Are you a Big Banger, or a Sacred Turtle-er, perhaps you believe that God is responsible for all this - but which God exactly? Did the Christian God do all this, was it the Jewish God, or maybe an Incan God, or was it the Hindus' Vishnu, the Buddhists don't believe in God so how did they get here? Perhaps their Karma had an appointment with their Dharma, so they were just spontaneously extruded from emptiness - sounds plausible.

And it is curious to note that no matter which of these powerful celebrities is truly responsible for creation they all seem to agree on one thing for sure, each of them is committed to making sure that all the creatures they painstakingly created are going to end up as a putrid plasma of anaerobic bacteria, or fertilizer as your local garden center calls it.

How did all of these Gods and Stars and Animal Elementals actually get together and come to some consensus on what creation would look and feel like and then all agree that shortly after the gift of birth, death would come? I mean wouldn't it have been the conference of a lifetime? And did they all meet at the same conference center? Who did the catering? I bet the bling and the place settings were stunning!

Isn't it just a little curious or strange that we all strut around on planet earth (3rd stone from the sun) in some tiny niche buried somewhere in the infinity of the milky way galaxy with absolutely no reliable frame of reference for anything whatsoever, and still insist that we know what this is despite every possible disappearing photonic impulse that suggests otherwise?

What is consciousness? What is sentience? What is experience? What is awareness? What is attention? What is memory? - What the frig is going on here and how do you even know that anything is happening at all, and is it really?

## *Spontaneously Arising Cacophony*

We presume that thinking; an electro-magneto-chemical movement or impulse of internal dialog occurring (where, we don't know), but seemingly "listened to" (by whom, we don't know) in the space between our ears is connected to or even responsible for what we call our decisions, our will and choice, our intelligence, the very proof of our individuation.

And further we insist that I am thinking as an act of will and that I decide what to think, and what to feel, and know full well how I will respond to events or emotions or perceptions or behavior, after all I have free will to choose what my experience is and will be.

What if thinking is completely useless as the primary means or vehicle for comprehension and functionality? What if the spontaneously arising cacophony that we might call experience or my life is absolutely independent of any primate's idea of self-will and choice making? What if all impulse for behavior and experience simply expresses into awareness (as awareness) moment by moment from nowhere and has absolutely no duration, thus the inference of psychological or geo-physical or cosmological time is imaginary?

What if all apparent objects appearing in or to your consciousness are not made of anything that you can find? And what if your very consciousness is not made of anything that you can find? Do you really think or presume that stuff is made of chemicals / elements, made of molecules, made of atoms, comprised of electrons, neutrons, and protons, and then sub-atomic particles, and maybe finally neutrinos which recently have been spotted to travel faster than the speed of light?

Well it kind of begs the question, if you are made of non-solid impulses that travel faster than the speed of light, what are you doing here? You are cordially welcome to see if you can find yourself, best of luck.

### *No Chance of Freedom as a Creature*

It's time once again for the perennial chicken vs. egg investigation. Does awareness and attention arise because you were born, or are you born into awareness and attention? What's running the show here, or more aptly, who or what exactly is crossing the road and why?

You might imagine that the fact of phenomena and experience and memory and a life that you call your own are de facto evidence that you are the owner or recipient of great power, and as any Spiderman fan knows - great power is accompanied by great responsibility. There is no doubt in your mind of course that with great responsibility there must be an entity to wield this responsibility and be the enjoyer or sufferer of the consequences of how well you execute your responsibility.

Circumstances rule our consciousness and we grasp at (attempt to control and cultivate) favorable circumstances and outcomes while we recoil from (the famed aversion) anything that may harm us as a body, as a creature, or as an independently occurring self imbued with choice and decision making power. Might it be self-evident that we have no freedom and no chance of freedom as a creature consciousness living in a world as a body? It's a fairly simple test, how's it going so far?

We have become hijacked by the effervescent free-associating improvisational full time seduction of thinking, and have become acquainted with living in thinking and abstraction as ourselves. We imagine we are separately emergent and self-existing long standing persons inhabiting the body and call this strange hallucination "I".

Through fairly simple observation (which is the heart and soul of meditation) you may discover that the entirety of your life is imagined, that the actual condition of phenomena has no past, no future, and oddly enough no present that you can occupy or benefit from. The strange gifts of awareness and attention are not yours, they will not obey you.

Everything you think is an after-the-fact fractured imputation of what this really is - for some this news is liberating beyond belief, and for others this investigation is nothing other than the crazed and indulgent rantings of a delusional artifact. Is it any wonder that our Inquiry meetings are not for everyone?

### *Dead-Ends in the Labyrinth*

It may be useful to think of your life as a "who dun-nit?". The journey to understanding is not unlike a murder mystery - and you are the deceased.

We are surrounded by clues. Restlessness, insufficiency, control dramas, invasive and enmeshed responsibility, resistance, craving, and aversion are all marvelous clues that the killer has left at the scene of the crime. Without these we might have no reason to seek relief, we would have no urgency to discover a deeper mystery - we would be habituated and resigned to a life unexamined.

So the journey to liberate one's self from the symptoms and consequences of individuation and hallucination (as a born entity dwelling nearly 24 / 7 in the personal television sitcom or soap opera of thought that we call our life) is indeed the sacred movement of awakening. First we try and make the life impervious to this fundamental dissatisfaction and chronic uncertainty - we do this with substances, affable behaviors, accumulation, distractions, denial, deferral, and all manner of spiritual aids to get a leg up - to attract some advantage to ourselves. And thankfully this doesn't work.

So after we consume the better part of our lives with a losing strategy (and all dead-ends in the labyrinth are useful to some degree) maybe we become acquainted with a different approach. We stop trying to ameliorate or medicate the root dissatisfaction of this consciousness and take a deeper look at what it really is, and isn't. In a sense, we simply arrive and learn to contemplate the nature of consciousness on sober terms. We end the charade of trying to be a successful escape artist. Then a whole new world, which is never not here, can reveal itself to our awareness and attention.

### *Disobedient Radiant Infinitude*

So let's say you were not born and will not die. Let's say what you call your life and this earth and all phenomena which "*require*" your careful attention and control are not exactly what you think they are.

Let's say that this is a constantly self-transcendent and intimately expressing radiant infinitude that does not obey time or space, has absolutely no duration, and doesn't last long enough to know or say anything about itself, and if that isn't sufficiently mind altering this libidinous imaginarium cannot possess or reveal anything that could be construed as true while not also being untrue and before you even finish your thought or sentence it has already and without effort transmogrified in every and all respects into something / nothing that has ever happened before and will never happen again, and this nonstop weirdness did not begin and does not end, not to mention that all apparent apparitional extrusions appearing in consciousness as experience are inexpressibly beyond what you could possibly recognize them to be which includes the profound mystery of what you might insist is your own dubious gift of sentience.

Believe it or not, this is the First Noble truth - the Buddha (who suffered the indignity of living without a keyboard) decided, and probably for good reason, to keep the original teachings a bit more abbreviated. So he said something like "life is suffering", which may have had more to do with his displeasure about not having a keyboard than anything that could or should have been construed as relevant for the rest of humanity - but these simple misunderstandings happen all the time.

The point is (and it has already become some other point intended by someone else for some other audience) is that you have no idea what this is because no idea could possibly contain or express or aid in the understanding of what this is. Still we can come together and hash it out as a miraculous sliver of love, if you care to.

### *We Are Insane*

The Buddha made the bold and possibly misleading suggestion in his Second Noble Truth (and you have to wonder why there were four of them, isn't one noble truth sufficient?) that "suffering is caused by desire." We-e-e-elll.. la-de-*freakin'-da!* (thanks to Chris Farley), did anyone ask the sage who is responsible for desire? Did everyone just presume; well I must be responsible for desire and my life sucks from suffering so I'd better get rid of this despicable desire ASAP so I can finally enjoy my life? I guess so, seeing how fabulously well all the Buddhists are doing all over the world dedicating themselves to relieving suffering with such enviable results.

I mean after 2,000 + years of this gracious and "Noble" advice you'd think we'd have this suffering shit licked by now, wouldn't you? I would. I mean give any self-respecting seeker a handful of Noble Truths, an eight-fold clear-as-a-bell practical solution plan and 2,000 + years to work it out and you'd expect (like any decent middle manager) that we'd have this logistics issue solved by now - with bonuses all around! So what the frig went wrong?

Hmmm, Let's see - a) we have completely ignored the Buddha's advice, b) we tried, but the path was too vague or boring or didn't produce results fast enough so we abandoned it, c) the advice was well

intentioned, but that just turned out to be another road to hell, or d) the Buddha was mistaken! And maybe there are some other possibilities that would account for a species now seven billion strong heading for the crapper after having a few thousand years (if not more) to pay attention and just do this thing!

In the 12-step rooms they say that insanity is doing the same thing over and over again while expecting different results. And you could say with some confidence that as long as we continue to approach the mystery and promise of life from the vantage point of a separately existing born creature hoping for some spiritual goodies - we are insane. And in this case the desire for total emancipation and grace is not suffering, it is perfection, it is a driving force that helps us to stop doing the same thing over and over again. It is the instinct to take a new tack and sail into an uncharted sea.

Albert Einstein was quoted as saying, "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them". Kindly join us this week (Thu and Sat evenings) to explore new ways of thinking, or abandoning thinking altogether.

### *Unutterable Simplicity*

It doesn't take much. If once in your life you get a glimpse of your perfect self without the burden of becoming you know that time and persona are mere hallucination. Somehow you know that your memory and agendas and entertaining nature are all counterfeit. You know that the body is dreamed and that freedom is your essential nature.

This moment or two of divine rest burrows into your soul and starts replicating at the nano-psychic level, where there is no time and no space and no volume and no container. This movement of grace has the power to ignite your intelligence and open your being to unutterable simplicity.

What is inherent in all phenomena and perceiving beings is this perfect rest, this speechless wonder, the resonant harmonic nature of radiance and not self.

Sometimes we just get together and dwell in this resonance, no big deal, no appointments, just this, simply this.

### *Imagine Kermit's Surprise*

The physicists seem to be getting closer. Not necessarily to reality, but to the observable fact that they will never be able to meaningfully map reality. Reality is not fractured or fracturable; there is no single entity anywhere in the cosmos; no one can escape reality to observe reality from some vantage point and then construct a useful abstraction or certainty or relationship having to do with reality.

Imagine Punch & Judy leaping off the puppeteer's hands and saying, "we're outta here dude - this puppet gig is over!" That's what the physicists are doing. Everyone and everything is an apparitional appearance made up of liquid infinitude without duration that will forever defy representation. This includes physicists, Mayans, Buddhists, and every imaginable extra-terrestrial visitor whether Grey or Blue or simply out for a joy ride. And most importantly it includes you, and that's where the freedom comes in.

Imagine Kermit's surprise when he learned that God's arm was all the way up his GI canal.



This is what the physicists will find, that reality's hand is up their ass all the way to the neck - and this discovery is sometimes referred to as Awakening. Come join us and move your jaw about as if you have any idea what you are saying, it's worth a chuckle all the way to Nirvana.

### *There Is and Never Was a Future*

We will be meeting this evening in celebration of the possibility of Awakening.

At some point in this life your body will be dead, cold and lifeless - and who knows when that will be.

So while you still have some fight left, you may as well consider the best epiphany and revelation possible - and that would be to wake up - not to get lost over and over again in your imagination of individuation.

What we have here is pure God, perfectly secular and strange and totally unreliable, not to mention frustratingly ambiguous and beyond comprehension, nothing has ever happened before now, and there is and never was a future, your silly imagination and fantastic pride is totally useless and has never been attached to or responsible for anything, the impulse to become and occupy time is pure delusion; it is the certainty of continued dissatisfaction and suffering.

I don't mind if you agree or disagree, I'm not selling anything and there is nothing in any of this for me or you - but we can hang out and give thanks, to whom I don't know and for what totally escapes me.

See ya later, it will be a hoot!

Even Turkeys know this to be true.....

### *Consciousness is Not a Part Time Job*

What exactly is a word? A sound, a breathing gesture combining your teeth and your tongue and your palate, a concept, an object, a working hypothesis, a URL to a synaptic site in the energized fatty tissue between your ears? Is any word the actuality to which it refers?

And what is thinking? A stream of words appearing within your consciousness, a gaggle of complex pointers shuffling a bunch of imaginary inferences about as internal dialog? Does thinking actually

connect anything to anything? Is thinking really the best use of your time? And who is it that is doing the thinking?

Perhaps it is possible for you to observe (and how, we don't exactly know) that there is no single shred of evidence for the "I". Permutation appears in consciousness as experience and you can't really say it is happening to "me". That it (or something) is happening, even though we don't and can't know what it is, is not really proof positive that it is happening to "me".

The "me" part is an artifact of language and memory, also appearing in consciousness, that is abstract only, always late, full of presumption and an imaginary sense of personal continuity. So if there is no "I" and no "me", but simply a miracle field of radiant pressure and tingle - what are the ramifications for you?

The aspirant wants to find out who she is, the yogi wants to drill all the way down to the bone on this, the shaman, magician, and alchemist are occupied with this quest and unfolding all the time. Consciousness is not a part time job - if you are afflicted with a similar bent for discovery, please come and join the Inquiry.

### *We Are Drunk With Presumptions*

If we assert or refute then we are lost in the conveyance of concepts, we are drunk with presumptions. Being thus lost is a form of madness, though seemingly quite popular. That there is appearing as experience does not say anything about what this is, no experience at its root of unconditioned expression says one thing about itself, appearing does not insist that "I" am having this experience.

All stories and explanations and causative factors and consequences and time-bound preoccupation with events of the past or the present or the future are artifacts of thinking and misinterpretations of the fact of being. One could say that our insistence on separative being is the effortless lunacy of chronology, the seduction of duration, the fallacy of object permanence.

It is an observable fact that we don't know what this is or why it is or how it is or for what purpose under heaven it is - and its Is-ness is also strangely suspicious. Typically we are filtering or notating all unconditioned arising as happening to me, we are inebriated with self as the doer, self as the decider, self as the accomplisher, self as the chooser, self as the one at risk.

We remain tethered to a portfolio of ideation that places us in the penitentiary of constant unsatisfactoriness. And the warden is not concerned when confronted with the fact that the cells have no locks. He simply shrugs and says, "we don't need to lock down the inmates, they stay in their cells quite voluntarily, no one really wants to leave."

So what would it take for this event-driven, willful and banal primate neurosis to cease? And is that a question that interests you? I sure hope so.....

This week the inmates are facilitating the meeting, and if we're lucky, there will be an uprising.

### *Some Gnarly Shit is Going to Take Us Down*

This one is tough to face, but I am confident it bears some encounter. We don't trust God, we are OK with getting good stuff and welcome opportunity, but we don't really trust God. We harbor one fear after another, superficial and deep, that some gnarly shit is going to take us down. And you know the list, you sure don't need me to elucidate.

So all the while we are supplicating Angels and Mayans and UFO's (the friendly ones that don't poke your sphincter) we are deeply troubled and in a short-wave panic about our future. Isn't it the case? Aren't we seeking and using all these interventions to deal with our fear, our grief, our loss, our apprehension, our needs? Is this basic mistrust of creation and circumstances and clinging and craving all about a fundamental vulnerability and near constant lack of perceived safety for my life?

And if this is even a little bit true (it's your call), how do we come to grips with this panic and resistance and all the failed remedies we have sought to liberate ourselves from fear? Have the drugs worked, the 12-Steps worked, our trusted therapists worked, what about spiritual stuff and meditation and metta or compassion or gratitude or intentions? Have these sincere efforts set us free from fear and mistrust once and for all?

If they have, you are truly blessed - have a nice day! If they haven't maybe we need to look more deeply at our own consciousness and presumptions and identifications and rugged investment in self interest. It's up to you - if you face the beast, maybe there will be some revelation that truly serves your life. If not, well you know how that goes already.

This week the regulars are facilitating the meeting, let's put God on notice - "We're mad as hell and we're not gonna take it anymore!"



## ***Seven exercises to prove you have "Free Will" once and for all:***

1. Swap personalities with someone you really dislike for a day. Do what they would do, and say what they would say. Make the choices, based on their Free Will, that they would make. See how you feel about it, just as they would.

2. For the next 1/2 hour review all of your thought choices before you think them. And once you know what

they will be - think something completely different.

3. When you go to the polls this Tuesday, first off go if you weren't planning to or don't go if you were, then vote completely opposite of what your free will choices are.

4. Swallow a handful of thumbtacks and then spit them out just like that guy in "The Mask" movie did.

5. Accelerate your thoughts for 30 seconds, then decelerate them for another 30 seconds, then stop them completely for another 30 seconds, then think something you have never thought before.

6. Stare at the wall for 5 minutes and discover that everything has become completely still and unchanging, while you maintain single concentration on the word Fresno.

7. Insist that you are in charge of what happens, that it does happen, what you do about it, how you feel about it, how accurately you remember it, and how well received it is when you tell others about it - for the rest of your life.

Bonus Exercise (this will show those fatalists what's what) -

Move forward three seconds in time, then return to the present moment, move backwards three seconds in time, then return to the present moment. Now that you've seen the future and the past you can choose where you'd like to remain or move about freely since you can, you have Free Will.

You see, "Free Will", it's yours, it's in the bag. That was Easy!

## ***What Exactly Is Happening?***

What Exactly Is Happening? Do you define your life experience by the Happening or the Is? In other words, are you a facebook friend of your life's content and events or are you a facebook friend of the "Is" in which all events are playing out?

You may notice that being an event/circumstance junkie can drive you to substance abuse or worse, the presumption of an independent self with a truckload of personal inventory and non-stop apprehension. This is the standard human mantra, "What's going to happen to me?"

On the other hand, "Is" has no burden of past or future or consequences that can harm you. "Is" has no regret or bracing or aspiration for a better future condition.

At some point you're gonna have to un-friend someone, make the right choice!

## ***Fleeting moments***

Ever notice those fleeting moments in your life when there is no compulsion to accomplish anything, when your mind is perfectly clear of becoming and free of things to do?

If I may ask, are these moments nourishing to you? Do you feel expanded, rested, or relaxed with the unutterable beauty of creation and the living joy of conscious experience?

Ever wonder why these delicious invitations or visits come so infrequently? Do you ever imagine that you may have an appointment with intimate divinity?

Perhaps we've been sitting in the waiting room for far too long.

***The most incredible joy possible is being full beyond all measure and border with the absolute emptiness of it all.***

***It's not hard to wake up, it's impossible. And that's what makes it so much damn fun!***

## ***Cosmologists***

Cosmologists consider the universe in interesting terms.

They use phrases like Big Bang cosmology, isotropic universe, photon decoupling, recombination and inflationary epochs, plasma opaque to photons, surface of last scattering, and comoving distance to suggest that the universe (at least the observable one) is pretty damn big.

Here's two revealing pictures of the whole shebang:

- [http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7d/2MASS\\_LSS\\_chart-NEW\\_Nasa.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7d/2MASS_LSS_chart-NEW_Nasa.jpg)

-

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0f/Earth%27s\\_Location\\_in\\_the\\_Universe\\_SMALLER\\_%28JPEG%29.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0f/Earth%27s_Location_in_the_Universe_SMALLER_%28JPEG%29.jpg)

So here's the problem, if we ever get to visit or populate our neighboring galactic super-clusters what's going to happen to our holidays? Will we still trick or treat, eat turkey, light candles, blow off fireworks, have small town parades?

Will we still worship the earth's local religious authors and savants like Jesus, Mohammed, Abraham, Buddha, Krishna, and the late Kim Jong Il?

And if we manage to travel at intergalactic speeds in some manner between neighborhoods, will Santa (or Kohl's) be able to keep up with the demand?

Really, if the astrophysicists don't maintain clear communication channels with religious and secular event planners it's gonna be a big mess for retail!

***Sometimes a warm cup of coffee beats seeking.***

## *Autopoiesis*

I hate the love and serve everyone, we are all one, and praise the lord approaches to awakened autopoiesis, mostly because I am such a coward when it comes to love, and I cry at animal, animated, and most chick flick movies. Drowning in a pool of tear drenched sentimentality, what use am I?

So to over compensate for my wretched Scrooge-like disdain for relieving suffering I resort to various forms of complaint, proselytizing, and spiritual sarcasms to make a point. Ah, but what point is it? Does it have any redeeming quality or utility for we naked and shivering primates heading for an apocalyptic and frenzied shakedown street?

Despite the pandemic of mass delusion, conflict, division, and sorrow - we do have This. We have at our disposal the entrance to and the presence of ourselves; of this unfettered and metaphor free miracle of luminous infinitude that shines as itself no matter what you think or say or feel about it. Just because you may be inebriated with non-stop self-interest characterized by the presumption of your birth and the liturgy of preferences that bind you to a miniature view of life happening to you - still the liberated fact that all is happening in you is not deterred.

You may have noticed by now that your happiness does not lie with people, places, circumstances, or things - if you're paying attention that is. You may have turned the corner and become motivated to discover some authenticity that you can call your own without living vicariously through others' experiences or teachings or explanations or practices or anything having to do with self-improvement or spiritual accomplishments bound to time. You may have become a voracious and insatiable seeker of truth, not necessarily a good thing, just the best thing.

But now you want the fruition of your most cherished instincts about absolute freedom to become profoundly real for you, as you. That's what makes for a thrilling and nourishing Inquiry into Awakening. This is not some entertainment (though entertaining it is), this peculiar right-now is the very best intimate moment of everything your life has been aiming at up to this point - so it makes perfect sense that you would discover and inhabit absolute freedom just as This Is in this right-now moment.

Despite my cranky patina of a personality the fact is, and I am happy to say it (though Edie Brickell says it best, please click to listen), Once In A Blue Moon there comes somebody like you.



## ***Bacterial scatter pattern***

From God's point of view human activity is just a fascinating bacterial scatter pattern on a less than minute rainbow colored spherical scrim floating somewhere on the vast perimeter of a star studded disk undulating with rhythm, rhyme, and the curious hymnal humming of various expressions of devotion. It's all good.

That we naked primates have become so full of ourselves to the point of threatened self-extinction is a chuckle for God, having gifted us with the imagination of free-will, who's really to blame for our lonely and loathsome self-interest?

And if there is no whom; not a Divine whom nor secular whom nor an author anywhere to be found or confronted, what might we be motivated to do about all this?

Put up a pot of java, snag a cider doughnut and watch some reruns of "As the World Turns" on hulu. That sounds about right.

## ***Fun Author Jumble***

You know the joke about what you get when you cross an insomniac with an agnostic and a dyslexic? Someone who stays awake all night wondering if there really is a dog.

Well, when it comes to enlightenment, I have read them all, and visited many; problem is for some strange reason I have dyslexic recall of the teachers I have known and loved.

I mean I get the message alright, Dual Nonity makes perfect sense to me, always has. Well, if you might be interested in their teachings, here's a list of some of my favorites and their awakening best sellers.

- Feff Jooster - (Fool the King)
- Laine Wickerman - (Rasta Baskets of Love)
- H. Peddleman – (Haul It All Away)
- Beeter Prawn - (Fishy Teachings)
- Mentino Basura - (Nuff Said)
- Whamella Pilson - (Thank You Ma'am)
- Maleen - (I'm Begging of You Please Don't Take My Man)
- Ijapap - (Helicopter Tours Over Lucknow)
- Candoo Ahen - (It's All in the Attitude)
- Kott Sillyboy – (What About Me, Always Me)
- Banal Sounder – (Sour Grapes and Other Misunderstandings)
- Ija Gangnam Style – (What Color is My Hair)

Should be easy to Google these and look them up.

## ***Awake 101:***

Why not have a developmental map for the awakening process? Everyone wants to know what this is, what's in store for me, how am I doing so far, what stage am I at, how soon till we get there, and are we (am I) there yet?

So thanks to our friends at Waking Down in Mutuality (which I encourage you to read about, but not actually participate in) we have some nicely "abbreviated" stages to think about. According to their liturgy -

Phases of Embodied Awakening:

Early Life

Illuminations

Illumination

Realization

Integration

Deconstruction

the rot

core wound

rub

quantum shift of embodied awakening

Realization Part 1: Consciousness Awakening

Awareness or Presence

Being

Heart

Realization Part 2: Embodied Awakening

Integration

Further Evolution

Awakened Heart

Awakened Mutuality

Awakened Purpose

Enlightenment

Regardless of the insightful and nuanced map to / of inconceivability I like to simplify the adventure, mostly because I have a short attention span and I can't keep all these spiritual directions, assertions, and accomplishments in my head. If I may be so bold:

You are always present as This. The Inquiry into Awakening encounter / adventure aims to reveal exactly and profoundly what that feels like. Nuff said. Hope to see you this week.

## ***Present***

Being present is not an act of will or decision making. God has already worked it out so all there is is presence, look at it as a present. It's a non-stop merry Christmas (or the holiday gift of your "choosing") stocking stuffer from reality herself.

Now that this is clear, the question might be, "is my experiencing of this present of presence sufficient for my purposes, or is something missing?"

If it is sufficient, then you are either delusional or awake to the truth of being - you figure it out. If it is insufficient then you are either delusional as a non-seeker or delusional as a bona fide seeker wanting to get to a better place or condition or experience of this present of presence.

An inquiry like this one is only pertinent for bona fide seekers; everybody else (the awakened or the disinterested delusional's) don't give a shit about it. So if you are interested in the inquiry, you are a special kind of person, still suffering madly with self and time and persistent qualifications that drive you nucking futs, but special never the less.

However, there is good news - I just wish I knew what it was.

## *Advantages*

Enlightened people have a certain advantage, though to a fault, most will readily dismiss this perspective. It may be useful to understand both points of view as the earth's ambient temperature rises steadily in the direction of societal and life form collapse.

The reason enlightened people have an advantage is because they have become completely inebriated with the radiant nature of pure and abiding consciousness and know this fractal wonderland of WTF as themselves - thus there is no fear or bracing against unpleasant circumstances occurring to their person or body, since they have veritably transcended or seen beyond the primitive primate perspective of being a body or a mind flailing about in time.

They are easily and perhaps always immersed in the core intimacy of direct understanding that they are God - not as a willful or choice-burdened creator, but as the engine of creation, expressive dreaming, and awareness / sensorium of all permutation as a non-durational singularity.

Now this is also oddly the reason that they decline to consider their "condition" as having any advantage - at least the truly awakened subscribe to this egalitarian view. We can discard for a moment the plethora of "teachers" who espouse advantage seeking and demand devotion and cash from you for their own worldly purposes.

To reiterate this subtle view, once you realize what reality (as if there were such a thing) is, and you see first hand that it is an infinite dreamland of inexpressibly immersive bliss as yourself; you are not going to place much investment in whether anyone else sees this miracle, for you, it's all good.

And it is all one, so whatever happens (or appears to happen) to the life forms and mother Gaia herself is simply another day at the office for reality - why not chill by the water cooler or wake down by the coffee maker and shoot the shit with the other inmates. This is a no worries universe, its more like a Rasta-verse.

But for the rest of us slowly cooking seekers who have a nagging suspicion that this understanding may actually be apprehended, we want it and we want it now - at least we think we do.

The good news is you already are it, what else could you or This possibly be than what it is? The bad news is that we simply fail to see its abiding and sacred/secular nature as we are so habituated to a complexity of delusional presumptions that defy explanation or causation - so we live in fear and congestion and dysfunctional self-interest on a personal, familial, community, religious, spiritual, industrial, financial, environmental, and police-state level, to name a few.

Between now and the day you die, I would urge you to consider the adventure and moral duty to wake the phuck up, because despite what the enlightened people say (as in don't worry about it), their advice is pure shit.

As the temperature rises (please see the link and World Bank report below), the Armageddon we've all been waiting for will come/has come to visit and it isn't taking any prisoners meaning you, your children, and for sure your grandchildren. The predominate condition coming to all humans (the 1% included) is baked, and I do not mean by way of marijuana legalization.

So waking up is a must-do political and survival act, it is the first and foremost revolution you and your family needs to be actively engaged in - for love's sake, truly for love's sake.

## ***I buried Paul***

If you listen carefully to the end of Strawberry Fields John can be heard murmuring something (time stamp 4:04 left speaker); at first folks swore this was "I buried Paul", later revised to "I'm very bored", and finally John said it was "Cranberry Sauce". Now you might be asking (though probably not) what does this have to do with my suffering and quest for enlightenment?

Well nothing has anything to do with your suffering and quest for enlightenment so why not make it about a Beatles song? We sure involve ourselves in a million other nonsensical ideas from moment to moment imagining that my life "enjoys and includes" object permanence, causative factors influenced by my decision making, and the consequences of my carefully considered behavioral actions all aimed at perpetuating my security and perfect happiness. Right?

Let's take a quick moment to grade ourselves; think of it as a spontaneous performance evaluation that will influence your Christmas Bonus this holiday season.

I earn enough money -

I have enviable good looks -

I love my job -

My future is secure -

My diet choices will ensure my continued good health -

I am in charge of my destiny -

I have done everything I want thus far in my life -

I get along great with my parents and siblings -

I am not afraid of silly Mayan calendars .that end abruptly 21 days from now -

My home has no clutter -

My kids are fantastic and on top of their game -

I live without fear of the future -

I understand myself and practice frequent .forgiveness and self-care -

I am sufficiently rested -

I find profound meaning each and every day -

Scale: ( 1 = Got This! ----> 5 = I'm Totally F'd )

May I suggest that when it comes to enlightenment, none of these self assessments amount to anything at all so no matter what your score, Jesus loves you. The best Christmas present is to realize that it is possible to peer into and through the self-generating (not that you're doing it) nature of temporal and spatial hallucination which suggests that you were born into a homogeneous and isotropic universe existing outside of yourself (you as a body). As you contemplate the curious nature of experiencing and

its apparent content (if you do) some very startling if not liberating observations can be made. This is Here for the taking, so to speak.

The promise, seeking, discovery, and fruition of what This is can be breathtaking though completely counter intuitive to our typical ways of thinking and experiencing. Come kick it around, and keep your appointment with Awake.

***We want realization to occur or appear in our experience not realizing that experiencing itself is the profound presence of realization.***



***What if transcendence were what this already is, wouldn't that just screw up your seeking and spiritual practices real good? I sure hope so.***

## ***My Life?***

Do we really want life to be what we want it to be? Or are we more interested in discovering what it is?

This is a red pill / blue pill question - once we stop organizing and scheduling and promoting and attracting and convincing and defending and insisting which is just vanity as insanity - maybe we take an interest in simply resting in the primary miracle.

Give it a try, there's only 14 days left before the calendar runs dry.

## ***Liberation***

One can liken the universe to a grand magic trick of "Now you see it, Now you don't". Most of the time you imagine you see it and can justify / validate it (as your life), but you can't - seeing this self-evident fact is liberation.

## ***Enlightenment Message for Today***

Jesus Christ! - first of all Happy Birthday, and second of all; Do we really need another god damn daily affirmation about Enlightenment?

## ***\$30,000 of Self-improvement***

I received an invitation today from my local New Age Woo Woo diva who makes the impossible come true for many seekers with discretionary income to blow on self-improvement seminars. On several occasions I have suggested to her that there is no self and certainly no improvement, but my clarion call goes unheeded, what else is new?

Anyway today's invitation comes from the Monroe Institute founded on the books and teachings of the infamous author Robert Monroe who penned the perennial OBE "out-of-body experience" classics *Journeys Out of the Body*, *Ultimate Journey*, and *Far Journeys* – seems he had some difficulty enjoying his own backyard.

The \$1,495 residential program is called *The Gateway Voyage*, which is the Institute's flagship foundation program, and is a per-requisite for their more advanced graduate level programs (can you believe this line-up) such as *Lifeline*, *Starlines*, *Heartline*, *Timeline*, *Explorer 27*, and *Explorer Imperative*. Now this does sound like fun for sure and if it paves the way for the advanced courses you are going to be so satisfied and successful in your life that everyone will envy you forever.

Now wouldn't it make sense that if the Monroe Institute actually delivered on its promises of total life satisfaction that it would be nominated to be in charge of the One World Government; a neocon dream come true? So why is it that you have probably never heard of it?

Here's what they promise accompanied by my enthusiastic response, of course:

- Enhanced mental abilities –

If I have to listen to the unbearable crap in my head at some louder volume I will surely need medication, not a seminar.

- Resolution of emotional conflicts –

Resentment, denial, and always being right works for me, thank you.

- Peak experiences –

The air is too thin and I might miss lunch.

- Inner guidance or "Channeling" –

After spending all that money on a new sofa and a major wide screen HD, the remote works just fine and I have a GPS from last Christmas.

- Experiences of consciousness outside of Time and Space –

What exactly do you think this is, consciousness in time and space, sheesh!

- Extreme psychological well-being –

If it gets any more extreme than it already is I am screwed, all the Twinkies are gone, how will I cope?

- Feelings of deep relaxation and inner calm –

I'm already too nervous from the promises of this seminar to ever feel those again.

- More life satisfaction –

If I had a life, I could see the utility of more life satisfaction. Seems these people have neglected the Buddha entirely.

But even more fun than what you'll get from the basic course is what you'll get once you complete the advanced courses as well, an OPE "out-of-pocket experience" of roughly \$30,000 in course fees not including transportation costs or unpaid leave from your job. Below are the enhanced benefits for your reading pleasure.

As if the first round of promises isn't enough these advanced classes will provide:

- Super human mental skills rivaling those of Lex Luthor, as long as they are used for the good.
- A total end to any and all emotional conflicts because everyone and everything will simply do as you please, in or out of time and space.
- Peak experiences that will make Mount Everest look like a base camp for un-phucking-believable!
- There will be so many inner guides scrambling for your remote you'll have to buy another home theater system just for yourself.
- Just how far can you go outside of time and space? Maybe you can travel to the edge of the known universe in a heart-beat and then step over that threshold, leaving you completely unknown – where the IRS and the reaper can't find you.
- Your new well-being will become so extreme that you will instantly immolate leaving the \$30,000 in workshop fees on your credit card unpaid.
- Deep relaxation and inner calm will no longer be relevant to you; those are for earthlings in search of a better hair day.
- More and more and more and more satisfaction becomes a buzz kill after a while, I think I'll pass and take the dog for a walk.

Enjoy the catalog!

## ***Thursday is End of the World Eve***

I asked a Mayan Calendar aficionado exactly when the calendar comes to a close, is it 12:01 am Friday morning or some later time of day? Does it end like all at once, painless and with no time for even screaming?

He said technically it ends (referring to the calendar) at 6:12 am EST, but he didn't know exactly what to expect. That answer soothed me somewhat because I am likely to be fast asleep, as I've been most of my life.

Perhaps more alarming than everything blinking out of existence on Friday is the thought of waking up on Saturday with absolutely no confidence in the Mayans ever again! That is a major bummer for a lot of New Age consequences-for-silly-humans prognosticators. I feel for them, I really do.

Best in the Holidays and the New Year if we have the good fortune to enjoy them.



## ***Peering into the Heart of Samsara -***

When's the last time you questioned the miracle of experiential continuity? Have you ever even considered the myth and curious portrayal (if not betrayal) of time and space and events occurring in and as "your" experience?

Only the strange and compelled pioneers of suffering, and perhaps recovery, are encouraged to look into this adventure. For most humans we are simply taught not to question the very foundation and core revelation of the primary miracle - so we take our imaginary lives as the doer, decider, chooser, sufferer, enjoy-er, planner, and center of the universe for granted.

In other words, we are absolutely certain (beyond any curiosity) that we are individual biological units thrashing about as the result of birth (of which we have been affectionately accused) and that our experiencing consciousness is the result of this birth.

This strange certainty of ours completely ignores the possibility (if not observable truth) that the hierarchy of being is 180 degrees meaning "completely" opposite of what we presume to be true.

Might it be that the world/universe and the creation myth of the big bang and our apparent physical being subjugated as it were to time and space are surrogates of the consciousness?

Forgive my oblique approach here, but I am asking - do you want to find out what experiencing really is or are you sanguine with your certainties?

This is the motive and agenda for Inquiry into Awakening, there is none other. Thanks for considering the implications.



## ***What is Present?***

Right now, what is present in your immediate experience that is not an idea?

If you look at or consider the actual presence of experience, having no idea or knowledge of what you think (or were told) that it is, then a) what might you observe or care to say about its nature, and b) is this nature outside of your experience?

Stranger still, is experiencing happening to you or might it reveal itself as simply present without a perceiving subject?

Would you be willing to appreciate that experience is a fact, but the "experiencer" is just an idea? If so, what then?

## ***A Merry Christmas to us all; God bless us, every one - (thanks to Tiny Tim, a member of the Sangha)***

Christ was not interested in being worshipped, you can thank Constantine for mainstreaming Christianity and making it a tool of the state where it quickly became an amalgam of devotional supplication for personal spiritual fulfillment (favours, bargaining, healing, & prayers) and a means to control property, taxes, paternalistic and misogynistic influence, the military, and all manner of control over your soul.

Only narcissists and charlatans are interested in being worshipped to meet their insatiable attention needs and to medicate their sorrowful congenital lack of genuine empathy (and we have plenty of those).

To the contrary Christ was interested in informing his friends that Gnostic transmutation and alchemy of the spirit was not only possible, but perhaps a duty of each aspirant to immerse themselves in an intimate journey of sacred fulfillment.

The heart of Christ Consciousness might be better understood as one's first-hand discovery of the seamless and all-inclusive nature of God / Reality without boundary.

Once we become willing to abandon all materialistic creation myths to see what This is, we're likely to set upon a path of discovery that is not warmly welcome by those who insist unconsciously that they were born.

Freedom cannot occupy the same heart where knowledge has taken up residence.

Warmest New Year's wishes from Night Sky Sangha -

## ***Leaving liberation in the dust***

I started writing this entry at 12:00 am Jan 1st 2013 - just for a touch of some sacred time. There are some very peculiar discoveries and consequences on the path of personal alchemy. Everything is at your disposal for self-study; consciousness, sacred geometry, the pyramids and other megaliths, the Fibonacci sequence, media control, quantum entanglement, conspiracy theories, the Singularity, the holographic universe, freedom from the Illuminati; it's all grist for the mill of consciousness transmutation.

Amidst all this sport thinking and contemplation there is a recurring kernel here that keeps inviting me to lean in and put it to paper. This nagging revelation has to do in part with the immediacy and simultaneity of a recognition that is at once shocking in its consequences and its own strange solution.

It cannot be placed on a facebook time-line as it is not linear; what we call a universe having volume and contents and perceivers (whether on the micro or macro scale) is not independently existent as objects apart from the observing consciousness - the entirety of the holographic expression of phenomena is an improvisational dreaming musical and cymatics composition that simply appears to itself, in itself, as itself.

Moreover, the entirety follows recurring geometric similarities (the great fractal repetition) according to fundamental expressive vibrational measures, angles, and arrays on the cosmological and micro-biological scales.

The "world" that we frame and weave together as the seeming continuity of my biological existence as an object on the surface of a planet within a certain community, state, nation, and continent surrounded by other biological units including communities and events reported to me by some media - is dreamed.

We have no idea what is happening (as an actuality) outside the reach or perimeter of our immediate sensory stimulation or experiencing. This is true even if you have mastered remote viewing. Everything you imagine is happening in Washington, DC or Syria or atop the Himalayas or around the block is conveyed to your imagination by virtue of some virtual media that you have decided to trust as being capable of reporting the independently certain truth of what's happening.

This is tantamount to dreaming up the sustainability and object permanence of a consistently and predictably operating universe beyond your own gated yard. But it is never actual, the spatial and temporal circumference of your world and life is imagined.

The actual reach of your immediate experience does not tell you about or insist upon the existence of an independently present world. Your imagination does this. It is not too far fetched to say most (if not all) of what you call the world and your experience in it, is dreaming.

If there is a revolution in consciousness to be had, if we are interested in what such a revolution might look like, we cannot imagine or presume that some future generation will attend to it.

We must attend to it, we must somehow be willing to see and be affected by the impersonal signature of this para-sympathetic world and self-creation impulse - we can unplug from the media controlled mind-fuck and dream a new dream, just by seeing that this is what this is and snap out of the obfuscating nature of individuation.

I would refer to this ever-new and potent creativity of living with presence as liberation. Oddly, I also see it as leaving liberation in the dust. Thanks for listening, if you have read this far.

Warmly in 2013 as we begin this new cycle around the sun.

## ***You're too late!***

Let's say you are seeking peace or freedom, maybe you have some interest in these endeavors. Well then, what does this enthusiastic interest imply?

If peace or freedom were not somehow already known or appreciated by you, how the heck would you be inspired to seek them or cultivate them? You'd have no idea that they are worth having.

Think about it (or not) - you must already have some keen depth of appreciation and first hand "knowledge" of these elusive gifts for you to be in pursuit of them.

This suggests that peace and freedom (whatever they are) must somehow be inherent in your being, in your experience; and this revelation is worth paying some attention to.

If you are in pursuit of more peace and/or more freedom than what you imagine or insist upon you are experiencing right now - what does that tell you?

It suggests that you already know what your present experience is or feels like (as in insufficient) and you want it to be better, yes?

Could it be that your generally unconscious presumption(s) about what This is right now are more to blame than the content of your life for your sorry lack of peace and freedom?

If this suggestion has any merit at all - then perhaps you can refresh your view and turn/tune your present attention to what is present, not what should be appearing in your near or distant future.

Just where and when do you imagine peace and freedom are going to visit you? If it isn't right here and right now, your next appointment with them might be in a box under dirt, a sepulcher, or a very hot gas flame!

And if that's the case, according to the succinct if not maddening wisdom of Karl Renz, "You're too late!"

## ***Made in God's image?***

Despite all the conjecture and literature and science and clever explanations for why "humans" suffer - the prime suspect and scene of the crime culprit is self-evident.

Grasping - that's it, look no further. Crime solved.

Permit me to expound, it's an occupational hazard anyway.

Experiencing is not made of time, does not occur inside of time, doesn't evolve over time, did not begin, does not end, and has absolutely no measurable (or immeasurable for that matter) duration.

Memory, whatever that is, and no one knows - permits / confounds us to "record" and recapitulate what we imagine happened prior to now - and every last drop of that is pure fantasy, it is not actual, it is all ideation. Memory + Experiencing = the imagination of Time.

With time comes the further identification that experiencing is accompanied by or even requires an experiencer - this is not so.

Grasping is the reflex of imagination as self in time. Grasping is the insistence that experiencing or the primary miracle is occurring to someone encased in a symbiotic bacterial and viral colony that we call the body, as in my body. And this reflex is only an idea, it is not actual.

This primary miracle is not graspable, it is not findable - it is simply expressed with no residue from moment to moment and there are actually none of those.

We were not made in God's image. God does not have an opposable thumb or a memory making frontal lobe - she's free, we're phucked.

Kindly listen to the opening remarks from J. Krishnamurti.....

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iI0jKYHImvI>

## ***What would you do with Immortality?***

I stumbled upon one of those pressure and greed driven financial investment come ons that are written / scripted by experts of seduction-based neuro-linguistic copywriting. These guys are genius - but they have no hearts and are not human (in a derogatory sense). Here's what they value as the most enviable consequence of immortality:

"Heaven's Been Robbed!

God's power to grant ETERNAL LIFE stolen by stem cell scientists in California -

With the flip of a switch, doctors can now make the human body heal and regenerate itself — quickly, painlessly and naturally.

Imagine what your life would be like... how much money you could earn...

if you become... IMMORTAL!"

Need I say more?

***Realization cannot be relied upon to make your life any better, however it may awaken you to the fact that what you call your life, does not belong to you. That's some refreshing shit right there.***



## ***Projection & Transference***

As the strange and wonderful pressure of the primary miracle irradiates your being, there may be and probably will be some symptoms along the way - cool ones and crappy ones.

Further, you will have to find a vocabulary all your own that reflects your understanding - something that is the result of your own direct penetration of this immediacy.

We cannot rely on the teachers' words and style of expression, that only amounts to projection and transference and a subtle tendency for approval ratings from the teacher and perhaps fellow devotees - if we are in such a relationship / situation.

This Awake Nature will demand of you a language and metaphor set that is peculiarly and delightfully you; step up, insist on present freedom - nothing less will do.

## ***Interviews with enlightened people are usually crap***

You may be aware of the many web-sites dedicated to casual interviews with enlightened personages that often emphasize the circumstances, genesis, story points, and other voyeuristic minutia all leading up to that famed and often envied moment where so and so saw the secrets of the universe revealed in some fantastic or cathartic fashion - so now we poor blue-collar unenlightened aspirants know how it's done.

Well phuck that, really. Those silly interviewers and interviewees that stoop to such superficial event driven reports of their new found sacred nature is pure shit!

Rarely a one is willing to discount and avoid the whole hoax of enlightenment and the story of its arrival in "my" life.

Anything and everything that you imagine happened before now is a total hoax, though much of it (or your interpretation of it) may run/ruin your "adult" life. This is how therapists make a living, enticing you to reconsider the belief systems and behavioral identifications you have cultivated about the hoax of your entire past.

As if that is not criminal enough (not that I want any of my many therapists to retire), the Secret, Law of Attraction, and Biology of Belief folks want to take your money to improve your future, as if you have one; another total hoax!

Do you see why the suffering never fucking ends, and why it is so pernicious? Because you have listened to a bunch of interviews encouraging you to be enlightened and have your own cathartic release from suffering, the suffering will endure.

The principal hoax is not what did or will happen, the principle hoax is the consciousness itself – and that Punch & Judy show is This right here right now inconceivable fractal performance art of the great libidinal imaginary WTF!

Only here and only now does the dream dream, it doesn't and can't dream in the past or in the future.

There is no point in ordering take out from your local enlightened purveyor so you have some strategies to use in your future. The only intimacy or insight necessary for your total emancipation is what This is already – now tell me just how far do you need to travel or what preparations are you going to make to see that This is already unencumbered?

## ***Has anyone seen the blueprint?***

Let's say that our present scientific representation and interpretation of the electromagnetic spectrum, the nature of vibration, frequency, wavelength, and amplitude including the atom, its protons, neutrons, and electrons, and all the other cool magical stuff that we have names for including the neurotransmitters and synaptic fatty tissue of the brain that they say is responsible for the perception of reality, or even the creation of reality, and maybe even subjective consciousness itself, is all flawed.

I encourage you to go in search of a coherent biological explanation for the appearance of subjective consciousness and some or any definitive science that can express with certainty what exactly reality is. My suspicion is that you will have an interesting time of it; maybe a fantastically rich adventure sifting through a serially complex web of metaphors and structures and plausibility / assertions / hypotheses all of which merely self-refer so you end up profoundly empty handed.

It sincerely amazes me how deliciously and delightfully plastic the radiant dreaming actually is, and how rigidly we defend the hyper-fantasy and belief matrix of ourselves based on what the scientists would have us believe about the nature of "reality". Could it be that some profound expression of magical randomization and patterning (particle + wave + observing force) having no motive or utility and no agency is self-seeding the creative impulse of radiant and ever transcendent recognition via some electromagnetic apparitional blueprint that no one will ever find?

Here this is, are you really so sure you have any clue what this is? What might happen in your present experience if (just for fun) you could not assert or presume you knew? Here's a nice place for us to sit and consider the consequences.



## ***Who's creating who?***

To suggest that we create (or can improve) our own reality is to presume that there is some reality (as in events and circumstances) out there that "we" as self-deterministic beings imbued with self-will standing somehow apart from such reality can (or would even wish to) shape it.

If we insist upon discrete corporeal being encased somehow in a flesh covered multi-layered amniotic sac of electrically charged sea-water - that's cool; but it leaves the fact of experiencing still profoundly unexplained.

To me, an instantaneously self-luminous singularity expressed as a dynamic unfolding of fractal divinations sporting infinite arrays of sine waves through an unbounded plasma, sounds more like it.

Take a spoonful (or better yet, a tab) of that shit and you won't even be able to find reality, let alone lift a finger to create it.

## ***What exactly is This?***

Why would a journey into physics, light, photons, electromagnetism, atoms, protons, quarks, anti-quarks and gluon's be at all useful for you to consider the nature of suffering and the end of suffering? When we reach out to healers, therapists, body-workers, ascended masters, ministers of religions, gurus, yogis, meditation teachers, drugs, sex, rock n' roll, Shaolin monks, Dalai Lamas, artists, musicians, disembodied alien DNA & 5th dimensional vibration activation workshops, and/or various new age evangelists - what are we seeking to accomplish?

This is a sincere question? What is the essential nature of your first-hand experiencing and the hidden or conscious presence of your existential conundrum / panic / freedom expressed as your present relationship with this perfectly intimate, self-evident, and in-your-face sentient miracle? And why is there so much restlessness, confusion, and suffering concerning the self-luminous simultaneity of this profoundly and infinitely detailed yet unadorned and perfectly unencumbered revelation?

A brief journey for your consideration - if you take the most elegant atomic simplicity of a hydrogen atom for example and blew up the nucleus (proton / neutron) to the size of a basketball, its companion electron could be found orbiting your basketball a mile away. What's in between the two is emptiness, perhaps filled with an exquisite amount of dreaming imagination, but still emptiness, no thing there.

You realize, or at least you are being treated to this idea now that the proton (of any atom) is first and foremost, a mess. A total mess. The inside of the proton itself is pure chaos; It too (like the atom) is a bound state, but what it binds is zillions (meaning "too many and too changeable to count usefully") of lightweight particles called quarks, anti-quarks and gluon's. Further, it is impossible to describe or draw the proton's structure because it's highly disorganized. All the quarks and anti-quarks and gluon's inside are rushing around as fast as possible, at nearly the speed of light.

This is the condition of a single atomic nucleus; indeterminate chaos made of more or less imaginary particles / wave forms travel ling "whatever that means" at light speed. If you were inclined to enjoy big numbers as one of your healing modalities, you might ask how many atoms are there in a single human cell?

When (if) you consider (and in this case you can only rely upon the miracle of your relativistic electro-chemo-magneto abstract making machine called imagination) that "Each cell in the human body contains about 100 times as many atoms as there are stars in the Milky Way, and as we all know, the Milky Way has ~ 200 Billion stars. That would make  $200,000,000,000 \times 100 = 2.0 \times 10^{13}$ . Long story short, it's about, 200 trillion." Remember, that's the number of atoms in a cell.

Just for fun (ahh the power of multiplication) if you consider how many cells there are in the human body and how many humans there are on earth you can get to some fairly large if not irrelevant iterations of what appear to be super tiny singularities, which aren't made of anything. And when we appreciate that all of this abstract meandering is the pure apparitional myth making of nothing at all "governed" by the unexplainable principles of electromagnetism and the gravitational attraction of pure vibratory potential having no single moment of static reliability - just where do you fit in?

Permit me to reel this all back in - no one knows or could possibly know what This is; that means there are no experts anywhere to be found that can help you. If someone tries to help you, you can be sure they are lying. That doesn't mean you should abandon their sincere affection and presence in your life, it just means that they are as clueless as you are.

Maybe this little journey sheds some light on our unrelenting obsession for personal security, denial of mystery, compulsive pursuit of explanations, and a grasping nature typically experienced as suffering. If

that is the case maybe you can also touch the cessation of suffering. I have great confidence that this is possible - see you at an Inquiry if you're inclined to participate.

## ***A flower for my Buddhist friends***

Just yesterday a member of a Sangha I used to practice with sent me some reflections on his occasional reading of the Inquiry into Awakening invitations. His feedback & advice left me with the impulse to respond further. So here's the email sent to me and some musings below, inspired by his gift of reaching out.

"I occasionally read the posts you send. But every time I do take the time, I can't help but receive the message that somehow the whole world is deluded except for you somehow. I just thought I would let you know that that is how your communications come off. I do apologize for the sarcasm, but not for my opinion. I would also add that your lack of compassion is very evident in the demeanor of your response. What benefit is all your intellectual understandings if they do not manifest in happiness in your relationships. I wish you no ill will, but I would suggest for what it is worth to you, to look more into your heart than the linear thinking part of your brain sometimes. Perhaps you will find and even more wondrous inquiry to behold.

Peace to you."

## ***A dialog inspired by the “What exactly is This?” post from Jan. 27th***

Inquirer: A compelling word construct.

Here is what I find most fascinating about that construct. Of the 7.2 billion humans now on the planet pretty much most of them are capable of grasping what you are talking about and even thinking that what you say is true. Understanding that all that is, is agreement about a way of speaking about the illusion of reality, what's the point?

NSS: At every turn of a phrase we have the vibrancy of what this really is, not merely a word jumble that may or may not be agreed with. And yes, the exchange of presence as words / concepts can be seen as agreement or simply present moment delight in the nature of communication and communion – from that point of view do we still need to ask “what’s the point?”

Whether there is a point or not a point is not the point – the seeing is what’s juicy, the looking, the self-reflective nature of consciousness and exploration may be sufficient, even if nothing definitive is or can be discovered.

Inquirer: We could say that since it has all been going on for over 14 billion years without our witnessing it all, until recently, that it is indifferent to our observations and will always be doing its thing as it sees fit or is it actually just now making an appearance since we are able now to see what's going on?

NSS: What is making an appearance just now is not the result of observation necessarily, there is only what’s present, anything inferred from present observation is dreaming. The idea of anything pre-existing or just now coming into view and thus existing is still bound by the presumptions of objects being perceived by subjects, even if through an orbiting telescope or whatever means.

Inquirer: Isn't what we are seeing simply another example of Quantum occurrence? Out of the jumble you described, we, with our particular equipment, our status quo equipment, are forever locked into what we will see?

NSS: Since there is no we and nothing truly seen besides seeing itself, where is the locked in? Only by presuming a discrete consciousness belonging to someone or some species being the recipient of some richly complex mirage of quantum occurrence can we arrive at “locked in.” And if this is not that, then what conclusion can we make?

Inquirer: What if our DNA is now being altered such that our Quantum entanglement with the chaos allows us to make up a whole new version/vision of what the hell this is?

NSS: Perhaps this is making up new versions of itself all the time, entangled or otherwise? We have at our disposal unlimited means to conceive and frame the miracle of presence appearing in and as consciousness.

Inquirer: After all what do any of us really 'know'? Everyone is just making up a lot of bull and seeking agreement to allay the inherent alone-ness of existence. I am willing now to surrender, stop trying to figure it all out and allow whatever to do what it will when it chooses and take actions appropriate and consistent with what shows up.

NSS: So surrender may be useful or merely ignored, as once again we have not been consulted. What does freedom look and feel like when any and all of our parodies are revealed as such?



## ***Present Experience***

You know why so many folks hope they'll be enlightened someday? It's easy, they don't want enlightenment today.

Most will deny this of course; dyed in the wool seekers and non-dual sycophants and meditation savants may appear to be extremely interested in enlightenment - but really they just like to go to seminars, be codependent, and search for soul-mates they can end up torturing and being tortured by.

Enlightenment can be a nasty business.

If you really want to contend with freedom, you have to apply yourself right here and right now and pluck it from your present experience.

This usually requires a penetration of some sort, or a curiosity at least, into the already available presence of presence. Experiencing as suchness IS, at least we don't have to travel that far to come into direct encounter with what's already free.

Now the fun part comes; if you believe in the impersonal reflex to make up stories and convince yourself that you know what this is, you're mistaken.

If you can discover (or cultivate) a relaxation response in response to the self-evident nature of ambiguous presence and eschew all stories (with no violence) - then the miraculous nature of what this is will hook you into a journey.

Think of it as an inter-species connection; there's you and This, agreeing not to be two.

If this happens with sufficient frequency and interest on your part, it probably won't be long before your imaginary life becomes less and less interesting to you - leaving you with no choice but awake.

## ***Abnegation & Abdication of all Hegemony - Part 1***

Why are we so fundamentally and profoundly god starved? And I don't particularly care if you believe or how you believe in god (or don't) - that's not the point. The point is why are we so bereft of wonder, of promise, of joy, of novelty, of dreaming?

Why have we permitted an unconscionably sick, species-wide-enslaving, and chauvinistic chaos of social and political disorder, mechanized violence, and planetary resource abuse to be the model of our cosmic show and tell?

Imagine if we were to stand before our galactic classmates and present "What We Do on Earth", I wouldn't be surprised if they all went rolling on the floor clutching their roundish and distended green, grey, and blue bellies howling with high pitched squeals and squawks of laughter.

They're probably screaming, "You stupid phuckers are not going to make it, and you're so phucking stupid that you don't even realize it or worse still, care enough to stop!"

To be continued.....

## ***Abnegation & Abdication of all Hegemony - Part 2***

Now that we have some sensitivity or interest (if we have those) in piercing the cosmic malaise / mystery of consciousness, our Inquiry can deepen.

Why not cut to the chase here - if we actually possess self-will and self-determinism then maybe the Buddha or J. Krishnamurti were onto something.

So a plausible explanation for our repugnant superficiality, smug disenfranchisement of mystical revelation, and the fearful illegality of hallucinogens might be chalked up to the 4 Noble (or ignoble) Truths:

1. Life is suffering (the most grandiose accusation I've ever heard)
2. Suffering is caused by desire (the most bullshit explanation I've ever heard)
3. Desire can be broken (selling remedies for problems we don't have, the big carrot)
4. Desire can be broken by following the 8-Fold path (line up, pay your money, commit yourself to conformity and mediocrity, and hope that your experience will improve over time)

But what if we don't have any agency at all? What if the entire catastrophe is simply doing itself from Black Hole to quark, from telomere to galactic filaments - a spontaneously (not Big Bang certified) occurring apparition of a truly incomprehensible display of tough (and sometimes not so tough) love?

Do we have any obligation then? Do we have any responsibility then? What should we dream if the conventional dream sucks mung-bean fungus? And how do we dream it, how does it enter the rhythm of our lives?

How do we nourish a radically new dream appearing in our consciousness and experience whether for the sake of the species or the sake of this present moment, and all just so we can have the most fun possible?

To be continued.....

## ***Abnegation & Abdication of all Hegemony - Part 3***

Please forgive and indulge my turning to definitions for a moment, but it may help with the flow. Abnegation - the denial and rejection of a doctrine or belief; Abdication - to relinquish (power or responsibility) formally; Hegemony - predominant influence, as of a state, region, or group, over others (or oneself).

From a socio-political and religious point of view and with respect to human dignity the species still has a long way to go so that we behave in a manner that truly honors the sacred nature of luminous experiencing and the autonomous beatitude of all creatures.

Our psychically fractured institutions are still predominantly anti-human, and the violence we perpetrate upon ourselves and the world's creatures is unfathomable in its design and execution. And somehow, though there are many noble revolutionaries in all walks of life and station, we behave like somnambulistic sheep leaving the care of the planet, and the science, and the food chain, and the energy, and the pollution, and the spiritual self-determinism in the hands of others. We leave it all to the government, the church, the university, the military, the multi-national, the banks, the media - everyone else but ourselves.

And we feel completely abandoned, let down, disappointed, angry, depressed, repressed, addicted, dis-empowered, forgotten, and just plain weary. Weary to the bone. Therefore, at what point in your life, at what juncture in the sacred and effulgent and abundant mystery of your life do you make the gesture to wake up and see and feel and reach for the highest possible joy and celebration that will fulfill your instinct (which you've always had) for this transcendent moment to reveal itself to you?

Free from all authority, through the abnegation & abdication of all hegemony and belief and hostage holding - perhaps you can keep your appointment with God.

## ***Hangovers, Hurling, & Waking Up***

Two interesting conversations today; actually there were many, but these two warrant some attention. First was the ordinary and poignant observation that actual realization is not dependent upon preparation, practice, or purification of any kind.

In contrast to so many silly superstitions that would have you believe the discovery of one's nature is the consequence of devotion, application, earnestness, ego destruction, renunciation and all that ridiculous crap - the fact of self-luminous intimacy is right in your face, seeking and supplicating your attention/itself for a simple spark of recognition - and this invitation is 24/7!

Second was the unabashed and sincere report of a young woman not all that into this shit (contrary to we rabid card carrying seekers) who, while suffering from a mild hangover, enjoyed a "zing" that lifted her head off her head to reveal the nature of self-luminous intimacy - leaving everything the same and never to be the same again - after which she hurled.

What a strange and remarkable day; at lunch is the teaching and at dinner is proof of concept, you gotta love this shit! I do.

## ***That there is experiencing = Awake***

When and where does superficiality "aka ignorance" arise? Does the genesis of suffering commence at conception, birth with the baby, mature in the mind?

And is our "suffering" simply present or is it a complex confluence of identifications and associations taking root in our thinking accompanied by somatic dis-ease all dependent upon belief and projection and threat to self as the body?

And is our psychological / existential suffering actually present in our immediate experience or might it be the product of apprehension(s) and anticipation(s) and insistent vulnerabilities associated with what's not happening, but might?

Moreover, is it possible that the consciousness (or unconsciousness) filters that we apply to self-assess and defend our suffering are all tangential and obedient to subtle / profoundly mistaken convictions we hold about the very nature of reality and the primary fact of experiencing itself?

What if the physicists, and parents, and school systems, and media, and anthropologists / sociologists, and most fellow humans at the grocery store and bank and gulag were all sorrowfully and distractedly mistaken about what This really is?

Wouldn't you want to find out what the primary miracle of experiencing really is, before you go off all half-cocked and live your life overwhelmed by bullshit?

I'm not talking about some crusade against windmills here spirited into view like our friend the "Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha" undertook, I'm just referring to a simple interest on your part to consider the implications of what This is - and not take anyone else's word for it.

Wouldn't it be a total bummer if at your death bed you caught a glimpse of pure luminous infinity and knew this to be irrefutably and undeniably your authentic self, but had no time left to celebrate?

Well pluck that, why not invite the most liberating adventure into your life right now and scramble like a mad person running from (or toward) an exploding meteorite to see for yourself - That there is experiencing = Awake!

You know I'll be there, scrambling alongside you.



## ***Behind what's behind the camera***

To keep it simple we have the miraculous content of experience (phenomena) and the brilliant capacity for experiencing experience (consciousness).

Suffering results from the mistaken identification with experience and experiencing as an independent time & body-bound entity jerked around by all this heretical activity accompanied by the unrelenting fear / anticipation of what's going to happen to me.

If that is the case, or even a little bit so, what would the release from suffering look like?

Well it would be the recognition that we are not materially confined or time-bound or at risk in any conceivable fashion - it would be the recognition that we are not human (or just human), but rather the un-harm-able and unspeakable cornucopia of spontaneously arising infinity itself, not bound by experience or experiencing.

Give it a try and see what you find. Can't hurt.

## ***Novelty, Love, & High 5's***

Love is not love due to mental associations or excited anticipations of what's in it for me. Love is love due to the pure arising and satiation / saturation of novelty fulfilling the full fabric of our being.

Love is the absence of a self that could benefit or be harmed, it is the present expression of cessation of self. Love is not time bound or sentimental or clutched or stored.

Love is novelty untarnished by memory and free of all grasping, not dependent upon the supposed object(s) of love, love is genuinely and spontaneously immersive, radiantly self-fulfilling and self-liberating and leaves no trace of itself so it has no actual duration.

It may be useful to see that un-graspable Novelty is all we ever have, Love is what This is. High 5's all around!



## ***How many times a day do you pine for realization?***

Maybe this is too personal a question? Maybe you enjoy your life; it has meaning and purpose and wonder and abundance of novelty / love, all of which keeps you buoyant and just silly drunk with the marvel of it all. Maybe not.

So here we have this strange, unpredictable, multidimensional, highly pixelated, non-stop wonderland of weirdness, perfectly abundant in experiencing (content and consciousness), never the same from moment to moment, none of which last even for a moment, always dissolving / refreshing beyond any measurable or comprehensible rate, absent an author or a single stable building block.

And miraculously enough you have managed to convince yourself with the compassionate and sympathetic (if not underhanded) help of other self-deluded miscreants that this is your life - this is your story, and you're sticking to it!

Well is it? Is this your life? How many of your 60+ trillion cells do you command? How many quarks are standing at the ready to hear and obey your next instructions? Even your thoughts are completely randomized artifacts of micro-biologic fractal-photonic events that you have no recognition or perception of - yet you insist that "I" thought this or that, "I" chose this or that, "I" agree or disagree with you.

Phucking nonsense, absolute heresay and heresy, complete hallucination - all of it. The apparent continuity of your dreamed perceptual field that imagines space and time is happening to you is utter nonsense.

What if you are being done by a singularity of unmitigated infinity that defies description and even recognition, though it is the only non-thing not-happening in this very non-moment?

Permit me to repeat my original question, how many times a day do you pine for realization?

## ***The real reason why we suffer***

The moment we habituate to the primary miracle we become joyless, thus craving for superficial remedies to ameliorate our unconscious grief steals our soul.

This is not an event from our imagined past, there is no one and nothing to blame or hold responsible for this curious God-given movement of grace, this apparent tragedy.

Waking up to the never really hidden and ever-present fact of the primary miracle is possible and at hand 24/7, it never takes a holiday. The spontaneous and effortless seeing of this washes our soul completely clean of delusion.

How and why this possibility or instinct for absolute freedom arrives in your experience is a mystery. How you see yourself responding to this instinct throughout your life is also a mystery.

Awake is all we have, all this is, all we can talk about. Why not enjoy the presence of this speechless benediction as a way of life?

Despite anything and everything we think we're doing - Awake keeps coming back, it works if you work it, and fortunately it is working you. Not because you're worth it, but because you are it!

## ***The Luminous Nature of Awake***

I don't imagine that we give our attention to the awakening adventure without some evidence of fruition. We have this primary miracle at hand, and honestly speaking we don't know what or why it is at hand.

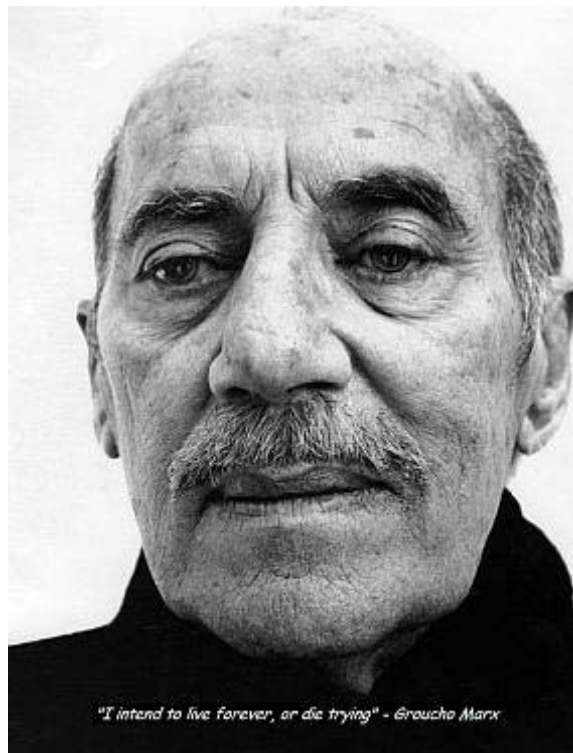
We have more or less eschewed the explanations, disingenuous social, political, and behavioral conventions thrust upon us, and the hideous party suits we've been asked / coerced to wear as fellow humans "succeeding" in a sick denial-ridden social experiment.

Early in our adventure we want to "get away from" what appears to ail us, we want to heal and overcome the transgressions of our crappy lives and the unconscionable acts of greed, violence, and self-interest that permeate the species consciousness.

If we are fortunate in our recovery adventure we may discover that it morphs into a hungering for more light, more love, more of the good stuff like mindfulness and other expressions of tranquility and wonder.

A fellow Night Sky Sangha enthusiast (we don't have members because we're all like Groucho Marx in that respect) writes:

"My current experience of "love" is an unconditional recognition of experiencing with no right or wrong, no control, no expectations, etc.. And that for me is mind blowing in the most fascinating way. In that recognition I've found everything and anything I've ever looked for. When you stop searching for something outside of yourself or better than now things may begin to appear more luminous....."



*"I intend to live forever, or die trying" - Groucho Marx*

## ***Double Helix Miracles***

If we have been indoctrinated into the typical overly simplistic and unnecessarily complicated world of casual Western Buddhism we have come to believe that Samsara sucks and Nirvana rocks.

Now most Western Buddhists are secretly (or not so much) depressive, introverted, and profoundly inflexible. That's why they love the first Noble Truth. When the Buddha was credited as saying that life is suffering these types squealed with delight, "Finally, someone understands me!"

Now you can imagine few of them have budged very far from that first "insight". The pain is just so goooooood.

But for others of us there has been some movement toward first-hand understanding of the nature of reality - clumsy and full of failures - yet still we persist.

What if Samsara and Nirvana were not two different expressions of the primary miracle? What if experiencing is more an instantaneous, non-lasting, radiant field of possibility that can be seen as the boundary free absence of anything happening at all while seducing itself into the appearance of objects and subjects suffering the personal lamentation of individuation and duration?

If so, perhaps we can see that both Samsara and Nirvana are presently expressed and therefore fully realizable as the double helix miracles that they are!

In this way, whatever you've got (a bad or good hair day) is breathless.

## ***Seven exercises to prove you have 'Free Will' once and for all" (an oldie but goodie)***

1. Swap personalities with someone you really dislike for a day. Do what they would do, and say what they would say. Make the choices, based on their Free Will, that they would make. See how you feel about it, just as they would.

2. For the next 1/2 hour review all of your thought choices before you think them. And once you know what

they will be - think something completely different.

3. Decide on what order you will digest your next several meals and then check your poop to see if it worked.

4. Don't do #3 above, make a simple vow of some kind - like 10 minutes of meditation a day for the next 3 days instead. Report back on your success.

5. Accelerate your thoughts for 30 seconds, then decelerate them for another 30 seconds, then stop them completely for another 30 seconds, then think something you have never thought before.

6. Stare at the wall for 5 minutes and discover that everything has become completely still and unchanging, while you maintain single concentration on the word Fresno.

7. Insist that you are in charge of what happens, that it does happen, what you will do about it, how you feel about it, how accurately you remember it, and how well received it is when you tell others about it - for the rest of your life.

Bonus Exercise (this will show those fatalists what's what) -

Move forward three seconds in time, then return to the present moment, move backwards three seconds in time, then return to the present moment. Now that you've seen the future and the past you can choose where you'd like to remain or move about freely since you can, you have Free Will.

You see, "Free Will", it's yours, it's in the bag. That was Easy!

## ***How many times have you read 'I Am That'?***

Some might say that you are not a card-carrying seeker of non-dual "advaita" wisdom unless you have read the seminal and provocative "I Am That" at least five or six times cover to cover.

In fact there are brethren seekers out there that have frayed copies of 'I Am That' much like career recovering addicts have war torn copies of the Big Book of AA.

This thick tome (tomb) of post-Krishnamurti era talk by Nisargadatta Maharaj given in his Bombay loft is a Sanskrit and advice filled punch-in-the-face that has been a mantle of peace and insouciant seeking for many years.

Still I am compelled to wonder out loud - now that we have engulfed 'I Am That' so many times while falling asleep or sitting on the can (Douglas Harding's favorite enlightenment throne), are we That yet? Are we there yet?

A fellow Night Sky Sangha enthusiast sent me some salient quotes from N (an affectionate nickname - they called Krishnamurti K) and I responded thusly.

"These quotes remind me why I loved Nisargadatta and why I think he is useless today!

The whole presentation of a gesticulating guru that speaks in advice-tones-to-primates makes me want to hurl!

He is doling (drooling) out these preposterous non-dual and Sanskrit-laden metaphors as if anything he has to say could possibly be useful to anyone.

That whole genre is not emancipating – it is just more poorly conceived spiritual news reporting, more stuck-ness and repetition. We will not wake up through second hand news, no matter how good it is or how many times we read it.

Every generation deserves its own voice, its own liberating view and body of metaphor completely un-tethered to orthodox or other religious conventions of the past.

Phuck Advaita - Now that's an act of devotion!"



## ***Pointers / Shmointers***

A fellow Inquiry enthusiast responded to the recent "I Am That" post - conjuring a reply, both follow:

Offering:

I agree - we will not wake up through second hand news. There are helpful pointers though. And sometimes experience brings one to this moment.

A new season opens before us. What an incredible opportunity to shed the the old skin.

Response:

There are no helpful pointers, ever. Pointers suggest some polar expression of consciousness and experience as in un-enlightened and enlightened – both are myths.

"Experience, experiencing, sometimes, one, and moment" are all myths – perhaps you can see how reference to language and abstraction crafts an imaginary universe in the so-called present which has no actuality. It is spontaneous myth creation with “you” at the center seemingly reporting on some reliable idea one has of what this is.

This impersonal and spontaneously arising myth creation factory is why one presumes individuation and duration as a discrete action figure – so then we may value pointers, especially the ones that pierce the veil of my private myth (my private Idaho) to make me feel differently, as in more spiritual or hovering just above the event horizon of realization.

Myth creation and experiencing are bundled artifacts of This present WTF – the question might be, are you the experiencing, the myth creator, the durational being thinking your way through the labyrinth of this weirdness called life, the unenlightened aspirant pining for more pointers?

Or is This what it is and absolutely silent on the matter of what it is, how it is, where it is, when it is, who it is, or why it is – to name a few.

If you validate pointers you remain in myth – that’s why Nisargadatta is irrelevant.



## *Celebrity is not a vehicle for Awake*

I do like to tease the Waking Down in Mutuality cult every so often, because I am lazy and there is some glee I receive when tasing fish in a barrel. My bad for sure.

To be frank, I do have my suspicions about their motives, unconscious re-enactment of childhood wounding dramas, and the subtle stalking they do to build community and cash - a kind of multi-level marketing approach to churning out enlightened teachers through gazing and armchair psychotherapy.

They have nothing really relevant to say about the nature of Awake and I have my doubts about the pedigree of their founder Bonder and their staff of Waked Down teachers, many of whom earned the badge of "enlightened" within a few short years of signing on to the program.

Anyway, in my view (naturally worthless and completely misleading) the emphasis for discovering reality should be placed on discovering reality - don't you think? If our "mutuality" interest (whether waking down or up is irrelevant) is in the nature of Awake - then that's where we place our attention.

We don't stray from what This is right here and right now, we don't cultivate or nourish our personal dramas, we refrain from creating celebrities because we try not to upstage Awake. Awake is our interest, the liberating discovery of and for ourselves is what's floating this boat.

So it comes as a shock (I'm lying) when the Waking Down slickly crafted come-on talks more about the celebrity of the teacher than about the substance and beatitude of your personal discovery.

You see, if you are set free from delusion then I can't turn your wallet into my annuity - I can't seduce you with becoming another accomplished and certified (if not certifiable) member of my enlightened out-reach team, I can't make this about me (oh, what a pity for Bonder).

Without further ado, here's how Waking Down sells its program (verbatim from a recent Meet Up invitation).

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Allan's divine Presence, compassionate holding, and melodious meanderings will leave you feeling soothed and nurtured. Come see for yourself why he's been described as a "poem in motion" and a "mountain stream where you can find deep nourishment for your soul." You are invited to experience Allan's transmission, especially via his poems and audio recordings, on his website, [www.something.or.other.about.how.special.i.am.com](http://www.something.or.other.about.how.special.i.am.com)

"That such a profound being has found a calling to awaken and embody so deeply as to become a teacher of Waking Down is a huge gift to us all. Don't miss the opportunity to see and feel this man's Heart with and from your own. His wisdom is truly unique and his compassion for others is so original, it's sometimes startling."

-Saniel Bonder, Waking Down in Mutuality founder, Sonoma County, CA

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Awake is always about the brilliance of the aspirant, about you - no one and nothing else can help you to discover your own nature. Idealized spiritual personalities are pure shit - they are not worth having or uttering in a narcissistic bio. For what it's worth, keep your cash and your integrity and avoid the scams that enroll you in their delusion.



"Does anything really need to be different for you to be supremely happy?"

We tend to believe without noticing it that circumstances and events and my subjective experience of same are responsible for my life's condition or my acceptance / enjoyment of it.

We miss completely the intangible and fantastic WTF of experiencing itself, where, if you pay close attention, luminescent and emancipatory joy is shining in your face nonstop.

I realize of course that we place tremendous emphasis on the condition of our body, our emotional field, our stuff, our security, and our comfort(s) so that any perceived or imagined deficiency can appear as malcontent or malnourishment - and that this profound and profane restlessness drives us mad.

It is fairly simple to observe that we organize our world according to the restlessness which is a symptom of the artifacts of thinking and imagining and projecting, thus creating (though not really) the certainty of a self surrounded by and imbued with insecurity.

One might say, as did the Buddha, that this is suffering - and who would argue with that? The presumption that this curious and wonderful matrix of suffering is the product of desire; well that is just pure horseshit!

Even the Buddha knew that This primary miracle cannot be reduced to causal factors or elements suggesting that you "the sufferer" have some agency or choice or investment in all this. So why he may have uttered the other pieces of the Four Noble Truths (better characterized as the Four Disappointing Horseshit Notions), I can't say.

But we're not here to make fun of the Buddha (I lie), we're here to wake the phuck up!

This, then, thus, therefore, thoroughly, thoughtful thievery might suggest that we simply give some attention to the insistent shining of the primary miracle just as it is rather than dwell oh so boringly and boorishly at the imagined and conjectured abstraction of what it's not.

It does not require much, just as you are, just as This is, without lifting a finger or explaining anything - "Does anything really need to be different for you to be supremely happy?"

## ***Pulling on a thread - Part 1***

I started writing a friendly rant on "Where exactly is the Universe?" and my chubby fingers destroyed the text with some awkward combination of CTRL+Phucked, and it was gone!

Just like this present moment is always gone, not even going, just gone. After I finished cursing myself and the Universe that I can't find, I started again by "pulling on a thread".

To begin the inquiry (with more to come) I just want to ask this simple question, where exactly is the universe?

Happy to hear your thoughts if you care to comment, and then we'll launch this magic carpet on dreaming steroids.

## ***Pulling on a thread - Part 2***

To continue, with your kind permission.....

Is the universe contained in some volume, as in a very large beaker? Why do black holes, as marvelously dense and matter/data rich as they are purported to be, just float aimlessly in some cosmic spot? Why don't they just drop to the bottom of the beaker? Or bob up and down and all around like the morphing bubbles of a lava lamp?

If we took a light-year capable star-ship (with a hefty supply of Red Bull at the console) to the observable edge - limit - boundary of the known universe would we hit the scrim?

Would we punch a hole in the studio wall and scramble down the stairs to the parking light, just like Truman did, into the arms of our beloved?

Is the entirety of phenomena as expressed experiencing held within some preexisting container having its contents and event driven genesis commence with the big bang which has given birth to all atmospheres and filaments of uber strings of super clusters of galaxies, stars, and planets?

And did whatever-this-is create humans etc. as artifacts of its molecular and photonic attraction making us by-products of some impersonal and unconscious gaseous gravity self-ignition super nova mind phuck to the moon?

What if we are not dealing with a volume of universe-centric creation appearing to birth consciousness? What if the immeasurable and spontaneously appearing fractal tickle called experiencing is the parent of the universe?

If the primary miracle (known to us as my experience) is not the artifact of some joke of a big bang, then the physicists and most gurus are barking up the wrong quasar.

If it is possible that time and space and contents and events and all manner of feeling tones and memory and acts of generosity are the expressive offspring of experiencing; we need to start asking some different questions.

Our earnest (Nisargadatta's term) interest in self-discovery may take a different turn if our studio becomes this non-lasting miraculous dreaming moment without the burden of knowledge or preconception or presumption that it has an author or is made of anything.

Let's see where it takes us in the next installment.....

### ***Pulling on a thread - Part 3***

Perhaps we can see or observe or peer into the present nature of experiencing. Perhaps we can relax the presumptions that experiencing is the accompaniment or by-product of our so-called birth. Perhaps if we listen carefully it may not be too difficult to recognize that experiencing itself is not saying anything.

The self-evident fact of this expressive and mysterious theater does not come with any script. All of the word forms and abstract pointers made of words and thought and second-hand references are after the fact or in a sense imposed upon (appear in) the naked presence of what This already is.

And if we have a glimpse of this revelation as felt sense and not just some agreeable idea - then what is it that is occurring or happening right now? This is not relying upon our ideas or words or beliefs to be what it is, and if one is available to feel this, then the texture of presence and experiencing becomes clearer - unobstructed by any reference or position or anticipation or excuse or agenda or hope of any kind.

The primary miracle is just This, and I would dare to suggest (though it is of course up to you to see what you will see and feel what you will feel) that This is not the result of a universe occupying some space occurring in time - it is quite the opposite.

The universe is an artifact of This, and the strangely gleeful highly pixilated miracle of the microcosm and the macrocosm, though not made of anything at all, appear and disappear spontaneously and simultaneously as This in This, and wouldn't it be an unimaginable gift of divinity itself were you to discover that you are This?

I rest my thread, thanks for your kind interest in taking the journey with me.....

## *A Remedy for Extinction*

It's useful (at least for seekers) to remind ourselves what we're up against when it comes to breaking free from the S.H.I.T - or Standard Human Idiot Tendency.

I know that some days we are busting out with a kind of Enlightenment-or-Bust enthusiasm, like we're never gonna forget the power and the affection and the profundity of our quest, ever!

And some days we are so phucking tired and petulant and disappointed in everything that we just can't go on with it - no one cares and finally neither do we.

Gratefully, we always manage to find some spare calories to get up and drag ourselves to the next mindfulness meeting or Eckhart Tolle meet-up or yoga class where they bow and say namaste, and seem to really mean it.

But what do we really want from all this Zen, and Dzog Chen, and these myriad ritualistic purification rites that assist us (or delude us) to discover the gem of Awakening?

Let's face it, we're not quitting on this shit as we writhe and spin and sit quietly to emancipate from the S.H.I.T. We gotta get out of this place, if it's the last thing we ever do! Right?

If we are honest with ourselves and see/feel the tragic habituation that "humanity" has adopted and adapted to as acceptable nature, we may see the putrid pall of violation and depravity all around.

Our environmental systems, our fossil fuel burning, our food chain, our corporate incarceration, financial systems, governmental abuse, thought/mind control through pernicious media, pharmaceutical lies, war-war-war as a way of life - everywhere we turn we see the evidence of self-interest and materialism invade the collective human experience as a plague of unutterable stupidity.

And if we are looking without bias or a need to defend ourselves, we can see that we are part of the great causal (or a-causal) chain of this wondrous and tragic misappropriation of radiant genius.

Imagine (couldn't help the reference) if instead of investing in war, we simply agreed not to kill and hate each other and cultivated a global society of arts and letters and music and education and health and spiritual affirmation - readying ourselves for a future as bio-luminescent symbiont(s) traveling beyond the perimeters of our solar system or milky way galaxy.

In that respect, though true liberation has its transcendent advantages, we ordinary folks need to remind ourselves every once in a while that staying the course is the least we can do to contribute (in some small and immeasurable way) to a remedy for extinction.

We aren't really doing or not doing anything, we just care. It's not that we care for ourselves; it's that we want to acknowledge the immensity and radiant gift of creation. And to do this, to celebrate the mystery that animates the vastness, we do our small part to wake up and say thank you.

Happy Easter.



## ***The cessation of anything other than This***

Inquirer: Ahh the endless ruminations.....

So, there is sleep, there is alive and active in the physical reality and then there is stillness and just breathing in the meditative state. (I do not count states induced by drugs, etc.)

In both sleeping and meditating the illusion of physical stimulus/response is largely illuminated. The cosmic trick that is being played on us is that the illusion of physical existence and its continuation are so juicy that we think that that is reality. All appearances may be nothing more than being conscious, then the fix is in and awaits our getting sucked into its permanence illusion.

What's so compelling is that I can make up that my intentionality, wishes, prayers and desires may be able to have an impact on the occurring. For 31 years I have been able to, well 95% of the time, find a parking place as needed on Philadelphia streets. I haven't a clue why, and I am delighted that it happens.

What I am struggling to express is absolute wonder that all the ska-zillion possible possibilities that are clicking on and off every instant, is itself the field within which the repetitive clicking occurs; and for a brief while makes up my lump of protoplasm, tempts me to be tricked into believing that the Universe is not empty because I imagine that I am here and you are there, knowing all the time that there is no there there.

Is there a not-yet arrived-at future within which my mind actually could cause, in an instant, a quick visit to and return from somewhere else in the cosmos???

NSS: Of course. The entire cosmos is not actually places or destinations other than here, this, now, self-transcendent radiant proliferation.

As we traverse this unspeakable presence making no effort save the willingness to be dreamed as immersive mystery - we may discover that we have no more desire for more, better, or different than This.

[Do the video in full screen - all desire is ameliorated]

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F\\_nfHY61T-U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_nfHY61T-U)

## ***Exhausting all Strategies***

What do we imagine an awakened guy sees? What do we guess an awakened gal feels or thinks about? Maybe we have pictures of saints and gurus on our walls or poised on our altar next to a Tibetan bell or laughing Buddha incense burner.

We look to the teacher, guru, guide or healer or robed mendicant or bowl-toting renunciate for some explanation, method, and orientation to improve our chances of spiritual fulfillment in our future. We reach out hoping to get a lead or a bead on this - applying ourselves diligently to the accumulation of some solution that someday will become self-realization. Or more to the point, "my" self-realization.

The curious give-away here is this persistent clue (once we're inclined to notice it) of a seemingly perpetual delay between what is present as my unenlightened life right here and my future enlightened life to be, once I get it that is.

So what is it that we are hoping to get or see or have acknowledged (a la an Adyashanti style blessing) which grants us the moniker of self-realized?

How could it be anything other than what's already present? Perhaps we would be well served to look at the formidable nature of self-hypnosis that deludes us into presuming that what's simply and palpably present is something other than self-realization?

Maybe if we are willing to exhaust all the strategies that consummate the appearance of some future realization, we may come face to face with This present experiencing without the slightest hint of delay.

What then is the nature of your present being, can you really insist on what it is or isn't? Can we really have any idea about What I AM?

## ***What are our favorite Gurus Worshiping, and why aren't we worshiping That?***

Ramana Maharshi (aka Bhagavan) died on April 14, 1950 - maybe he just didn't want to do his taxes.

Neem Karoli Baba (aka Maharaj-ji) died September 11, 1973 to commemorate the "attacks" on the World Trade Center - he had no sense of time.

Ramakrishna (aka Gadadhar Chattopadhyaya) died August 16, 1886 at age 50, same day as Elvis in 1977 at age 42 - some reincarnation connection?

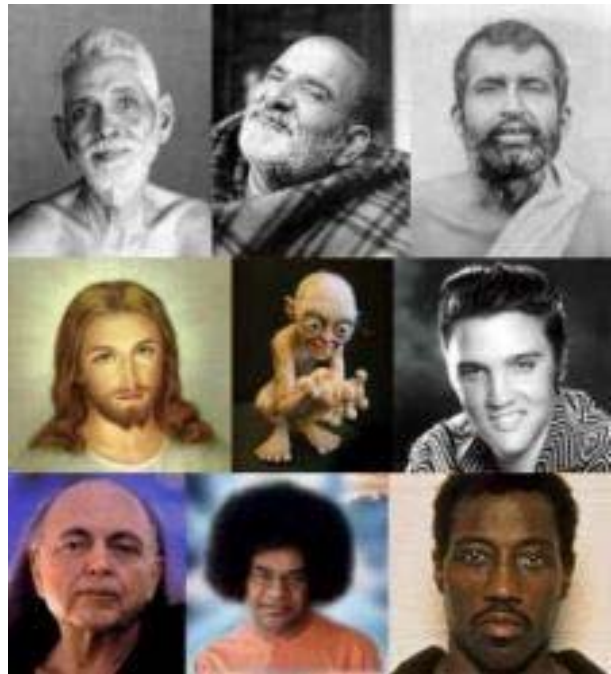
Jesus died on Friday, April 3, 33AD, but he rose again and ascended to heaven - so he doesn't really count.

Adi Da is dead, it doesn't matter when he died, but that he is dead is a good thing for all humanity.

Sathya Sai Baba (aka "AAM ASMM" Afro-Doo Avatar of Manifestation and Alleged Sex with Male Minors) died on April 24, 2011; curiously the same day in infamy that Wesley Snipes was sentenced to jail for tax evasion in 2008, both equally irrelevant.

According to the Population Reference Bureau, since 50,000 BC 107,602,707,791 people (107.6 billion) have been born and there are around 7,036,582,796 (7 billion) people alive today so that means that 100,566,124,995 (100.6 billion) people have died.

How is all this relevant to me? Good question. Since we'll all be dead (counted or otherwise) soon enough we may as well dedicate ourselves to the most precious (not the evil ring) discovery of pristine and abundantly weird mystery that we can get our hands on - before we die. And starting now would be an equally good time to start.



One small caveat though, don't waste your time worshiping the worshipers, they are maggot food and pretty much useless to you. Better to worship what they worshiped - now that's a Toga Party!



## ***Eckhart Tolle does not want you to think for yourself***

What he wants is to sell you enlightenment products and tickets to his banal events. Eckhart Tolle has become an institution and institutions do not like being questioned! You think I'm kidding, well read this from his own web-site on "guidance" for world transformation as a participant in a Silent Group.

"All are welcome to attend a Silent Local Group. The purpose of attending or facilitating a Silent Local Group is to share the teachings and practice Presence with others through meditative silence. Typically groups will meet anywhere from once a week to once a month. Groups usually begin with 20 minutes of silence (silent meditation), followed by an Eckhart Tolle audio or video recording. The group meeting ends with a 10 to 20 minute silent meditation. It is best not to engage in discussion, as it tends to stimulate the mind and ego. "

The mind and ego are not problems, but if you stimulate them they might get in the way of your being an obedient student and consumer.

First he writes the Power of Now, and then he sells you a calendar - best of luck with your timeless nature.

<http://www.squidoo.com/eckhart-tolle-calendar>

## *Reflections on an Inquiry*

It is perfectly and admittedly glib to question the full Monty of what we imagine experiencing is. During the journey of our life we don't voluntarily sign up for personal ruination - typically we avoid it at all costs.

We cling to the familiar (though we have no idea what that is) and we are not even aware of the gripping and magical / unconscious manner that we assert ourselves as human beings inhabiting a body.

We insist we are the products of time and space flailing about on the surface of a planet tucked away on a miniscule pixel in a static universe where molecules rule the roost of phenomenal expression.

We mistake memory and abstraction and conjecture and thought for actuality - we don't see that the ephemeral nature of these movements of mind as personal agency and statehood are fabricated.

We extrude and construct the suffering presumption of self out of absolutely nothing but the primary miracle of this impersonal and unutterable fact of being.

We miss completely the simply self-evident and revelatory nature of direct experiencing as this perfectly unencumbered and remarkably awake certitude.

Make no mistake, if you are inclined to go down this path you will not / cannot return to the frivolity of person-hood. Jim Carrey will not be your spokes-model!



## ***You give us 3 seconds, we'll give you yourself***

You may know the 1010 WINS slogan. What if we applied this same enthusiasm to our own present experience? Imagine a gift that you give yourself, a simple gift - the gift of three seconds where you don't meddle with your past, don't project yourself into some imagined future and make no effort to even be present.

What have you now? What exactly is This reflecting or revealing to you with absolutely no frame of reference and no imagined movement of time as self?

These few short moments (which are not actually moments at all) can reveal a simple yet poignant fact - you are not doing This. It is doing you.

What you insist is your life is merely a profoundly pixelated story stitched together as memory and familiarity and presumption imposed on the fathomless beatitude of your actual non-condition - which is This present fact of experiencing entirely without naming it or explaining it or madly spinning your personal steering wheel to control or steer it.

The only small agreement you may appear to make is to drop your hands from the steering wheel and peer into the heart of This unspeakable abundance - see that you are willing to become immersed in speechless bliss.

Wish you were here - Bliss.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3f3KhR5oDC4>

## ***All we are saying, is give This a chance***

What do we consider is the root of the proof of the primary miracle? What is actually happening if anything at all that we can be certain of?

Before we concoct or convect a story that asserts what we think we know about our disappointing lives, before we stand on some theory provided by our parents, the scientists, the scriptures, the common beliefs of society, whether Fox News or Alex Jones - what is this really?

Is the full field of radiant phenomenal and perhaps trans-phenomenal expression taken hostage by "my life"? Is the incomprehensibility of the Milky Way as one of a 100 + billion "seen" galaxies evidence of pure abstract self-awareness?

Let's say I have read some Hindu and Advaita comic books so I know the words consciousness, absolute, non-duality, awareness, mind, Bodhicitta, and the like - well what exactly do they do for me?

Here is This plenitude of bizaratude and the simple observation (if we are in a mood to be veritable) that we don't have any phucking idea what it is.

So what filters and expectations am I transferring & projecting onto This brilliant array of multi-valent infinity that assures me a place as an independent and long-lasting entity possessing volitional agency and decision making control over the events and circumstances of "my life"?

What if my convictions about what This is are 100% mistaken? Am I interested or inspired to discover what I may be missing? Am I available to come down off my perch of defiant confusion and give This a chance?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGfMfy1WAWo>

## ***No clue what to convey***

The large yellow land movers are growling and shaking and beeping warning signals as they change the landscape outside our picture window from bucolic green spaces to a moonscape of piled-high mounds of brown soil preparing acres of empty eye candy for yet another cluster of opulent characterless energy sucking homes.

The sub-division is called "Rolling Hills at Mill Creek" which is a curious name seeing how the hills are being flattened and the natural rivulets that feed the creek are converted to concrete foundations.

Still it is beautiful in its own way, people are working and soon (months from now) the bankers brokers and other profitably employed republicans will be buying these homes to raise their obedient and digitally conditioned cash-ravenous republican children.

And we all munch together on the abundance of our sun drenched earth sipping tea, enjoying a depth-full conversation about the nature of reality and getting stoned on This.

Without lifting a finger to frame or explain the undeniable presence of presence, our liberation is fulfilled. If they pave paradise, we'll just tailgate!

## ***What would the Buddha say if he were a contemporary Ph.D.?***

In a simple 1 minute 55 second presentation (see Chapter 10 - Selfhood) this articulate researcher and presenter makes it perfectly clear just what the Buddha had discovered and offered to his companions as liberated relief from suffering more than 2,500 years ago.

For all our seeking and earnest attempts to unravel the curious nature of the spontaneous appearance of nirvana and samsara attributed to a remarkably vital insistence on a independent yet counterfeit self - this brief presentation puts it all in a succinct few remarks.

Enjoy.

[http://fora.tv/2012/03/24/Being\\_Human\\_Mental\\_Representations\\_Decision-Making](http://fora.tv/2012/03/24/Being_Human_Mental_Representations_Decision-Making)

## ***Tragic Hilarity of Self Will***

There is a fundamental and unseen mirage right here, it is so perfectly intimate and remarkably coherent that we have no reason to question it.

That This is capable of stitching together the appearance of temporal continuity as experience occurring to “me” as an individual is nothing short of the best special effect ever!

With it “we” are duped into presuming (if not unconsciously insisting) that we know the boundary lines and causal exigencies of This immediacy and we think/wish that all would be well if This mystery were to obey us.

What we may refer to as awake is absolutely discontinuous with our uncontested notions of possessing and putting to use the tragic hilarity of self will.

Without one or several miracles of sobriety (at whatever cost) revealing that our world view is 100% incorrect – we take our presumptuous and delusional hubris all the way to the grave.

## ***Tragic Hilarity of Self Will - Part II***

An Inquiry Enthusiast writes:

Actions taken that are generated by spoken words arranging other actions to occur at a future moment that is understood as possible, within the seemingly predictable rotation around the sun, form the foundation, the conviction that there is continuation of continuity.

NSS Replies:

This is a thoughtful string of possible causation and just like the Buddha's Dependent Origination it is of course flawed. Words are not actually generators, they are merely verbal/mental artifacts of impulses already underway that are expressing spontaneously, underneath the radar of what we call conscious awareness or conscious contact.

We can't really say with any plausible accuracy what continuity is or how it is teased into seeming existence as some operating or behavioral predilection of a primate – that this is expressed and gone as a simultaneity, though it reflects the apparitional nature of circumstances, events, and beings is too farfetched for our linearity to conceive or apprehend.

So we must startle into Awake, which is a dimensionless autopoiesis of This as This inherent in This.

An Inquiry Enthusiast writes:

This is then perceived as reality, completely disguising that the what is seen as reality is reconstituting itself every instant, from nothing.

NSS Replies:

To call it, or anything for that matter, reality becomes kind of useless since there is no fixity or anything that can be found, though we could say just for fun that reality is the absence of anything that could possibly be called reality.



## ***What would you call the fulfillment of all desire?***

What would you do with the power to fulfill your desires? How many days would you spend on creature comforts, exotic travel adventures, risky behaviors, philanthropy, or attaining spiritual heights?

What if it could become perfect health, total absence of apprehension or risk to self or vulnerability?  
What if you went for a big ticket item like immortality?

Would you absolutely love it if experiencing as your self or your spirit or even your body would have no end, would enjoy eternity?

What makes the primary miracle so luscious for you? Would it be better if you had more control, more time on earth, more cash, more certainty, more security, more notoriety, more privacy, more knowledge - or less of anything you might find irritating?

Maybe you have some fond regard for the absolute cessation of any and all experiencing, no matter how subtle? You may be really looking forward to a proper death at a proper time where there would finally be absolute absence of any craving or continuity or any experiencing or recording of experiencing at all, nada nothing - sweet oblivion.

I wonder if we have any idea at all what (or how) it is that we really are and really crave or avert in the midst of This crackling radiantly present and intimately void experiencing called life?

We have so many ideas and urgencies about how this or that could and should be better according to our wishes and preferences, but is any of that true? Can we meaningfully (or otherwise) rely upon the fluid and strangely impersonal nature of experience arising and the profound unpredictability and ungraspable nature of This present non-repeating moment never to be seen or heard from again?

I know you're very busy, but if you can find 25 minutes of spare time to contemplate some of these questions - this poignant episode has got to help.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=btLFfHzWwQY>

## ***Litigious Gurus - my favorite***

I am naive, in a good way. I like to presume that if you are on the spiritual path to cultivate and celebrate the gift of Awake then you are willing to take some risks.

I would assume (yes I get the ass you and me thing) that you are willing to look into your nature, do a little shadow dancing, mix it up in the name of love and emancipation from frivolity and misunderstanding.

But, as it turns out, I am frequently mistaken about the spiritual veracity and undefended camaraderie of others on the path including self-announced enlightened teachers - maybe because I can be such a badger (euphemism for asshole) when I assert my affectionate feedback.

Anyway, by firm advice from my attorney (do you believe we aspirants need attorneys!) I can only offer a recent email exchange with an enlightened teacher from the WDM ilk by request - to avoid the explicit threat of legal action and/or a visit to my home by Homeland Security and the FBI.

Such is the atmosphere of Mutuality these days. So if you care to enjoy my offering you'll have to ask me to read it as a fellow Inquiry enthusiast of the Night Sky Sangha so nothing can be construed as libel or slander.

Send your interest to practice at [nightskysangha dot org](http://nightskysangha.org)

## *Is simple just too much for you?*

All the phucking masters with all their holy trinkets and divine personas surrounded by adoring devotees enthralled by demonstrative rigormortis nirvikalpa samadhis and arousing Sanskrit mantras about whom story after story is told - give awakening a bad rap.

There is no explanation or affirmation needed for This present and self-evident miracle. You don't need to figure it out, purify, meditate, process it according to your specious sense of abiding self, get it right, make sense of what the phucking masters have said, or be certified by anyone to authenticate what you already are - what This already Is.

By peering into the present nature of experiencing you can discover an autonomous freedom that is so far beyond what you can imagine or project - everyone else can just go phuck themselves and they will anyway.

You don't need to heal your past, pace your future, acquire some skills or talents, or draw attention to yourself as a gifted practitioner or healer or yogi or student or author or expert or acknowledged realizer or be in possession of any advantage whatsoever.

This very moment is dripping and saturated with everything you need and are for totally unencumbered recognition to reveal itself as this perfectly present suchness.

If the slightest effort or reflex appears in your experience to acquire or understand This - you're back in the hallucination of time. Time does not heal all wounds, time is the culprit where all wounds happen to the imagination of you!

Please don't attempt to measure or insist that you are this and not that, that you can possibly know what condition you are in and so unenlightened. You don't know shit from Shinola, and that's the good news.

Just because words and feelings and senses and "knowledge" are appearing in your experience doesn't mean anything about your condition nor do they create any authority for you to tell yourself or anyone else what is happening.

Must you continue to insist on having any certainty or wisdom with respect to what This is, just as it is, right now and right here?

Is simple just too much for you?



## ***The Dependency Zone***

Once you get a taste / blast / inoculation of the profoundly impractical and useless revelation that you are not human - all sorts of hell breaks loose.

Once the blasphemy of being ensconced in a body as a self-deterministic individual is broken, where do you turn? Once the conscious glimpse of measureless infinity as yourself snaps you out of the somnambulist's dream of space and time, you're gonna need a support group - maybe not.

Some folks wake up fast, like wham - in your face awake, and if you don't like it, well then phuck you. Like Lily Tomlin said, "We don't care, we don't have to, we're the phone company!"

Some folks wake up slow; two steps forward, one step back, 20 steps back, no steps forward, shoe marks all over your face, no sign of the perpetrator.

Some folks have no idea (and don't want to) that This is not what they insist that it is - they are the materialists. They take it for granted that all matter, energy, and phenomena (whatever those are) commenced some 14 billion years ago (whatever those are) and that they were born into this volume of stuff (sometimes called the universe) as independently existing (whatever that is) self-willed characters off to win the lottery so their future will be better in all respects. Hee Hee, they make me giggle.

But once you graduate from Muggle-Land and are given the keys to Hogwarts you may find yourself in some bardo of frequent and repeating agony (for decades even) as your instincts for perfect inconceivability struggle with the vast body of bullshit you've been taught by everyone around you since before you were even conceived.

Maybe for a time you find solace and purpose in therapy, hallucinogens, recovery, silly pastimes like Buddhism or yoga, or big money gurus and their game of placing you in a static dependency relationship with their shopping carts. But that is not going to last, though it will bilk you out of a whole lotta money.

What you want and have every "right" to want it, is This simple moment without knowledge or explanations or plans or excuses or justifications or doubts or anything at all that can seduce your perfect and unspeakable nature out of its tree. That's what you want, that's what you are, that's what This Is.

If you have the guts and the interest to abandon everything you think all the way down to the counterfeit nature of experiencing itself, then you may have sufficient escape velocity to break the back of the Dependency Zone.

I'll be at the bar, first round's on me.

## ***What's Enhancing Who***

Practicing Mindfulness is not relegated to the cushion. Quite unexpectedly one may come to realize that meditation is not something that enhances your life, one realizes that the imagination of your life appears in meditation.

This simple recognition, which is not an event, cannot be reduced to conform with human rationality. Calling it or anything real or existent or the truth is no longer relevant to your first hand understanding.

This is the effervescent nature of being; irrational - timeless - non-corporeal - and without a future, oops I already said that.

## ***Awake is not for sale***

Sometimes one may inquire - "How can I tell if a teacher or teaching is genuine?"

By genuine we probably mean that there is some authenticity or reliability with respect to the deliverables, which ultimately have to appear in my first-hand experience to be vetted by me in my life, more or less right about now.

Well now you're screwed; not because there are no genuine teachers or teachings, but that the deliverables are already here and you're most likely not noticing them.

Would you respect me in the morning if I sold you what you already are, already have? Why would I take your cash if I had nothing to offer you in return that wasn't already in your wardrobe?

This immediacy that appears in your experience as your experience without any idealized patina or impact or utility or ultimate destination or even verifiability is Awake. This is Awake, what does it have to do with you?

If a teacher is working with your psycho-emotional material without a license then they should be arrested for impersonating a licensed mental health practitioner and fined appropriately for accepting your kind donations. This is what the Waking Down in Mutuality con-artists do, but I don't want to bring any further attention to them - at some point they may grow teeth like the all too spirited Scientologists and sue everyone who disagrees with their tactics and pedigree into the ground!

If a teacher is selling you a better spiritual condition sometime in the future, feel free to walk away - and don't bother looking back.

If there is some promised healing involved - you're back to the captivating idea of born - existence - fear of cessation and if you look at it clearly, all the healers and everyone they healed are dead. And so will we be.

Now the basis of true discernment is not really about the teacher or the teaching; it is about your availability to see that This Is Awake in the way that it is.

You can reject materialistic teachings and teachers, you can also spend your cash and direct your devotion and satisfy your psycho-emotional needs anyway you want to - your liberation from what seems to ail you is at hand.

Everything you think happened before this very moment is gone, never to be seen or heard from again. Same is true of this moment, including yourself.

See it and rejoice, Awake is not for sale!

## ***Some days, you just don't feel like waking up***

Having a radical departure from typical primate sleep-walking appear in your life is nothing short of an extra-terrestrially inspired miracle.

Though it is curiously self-evident that each and every moment has absolutely no duration, we fail to make anything of it.

That the entirety of the cosmos is done itself, whether from a materialist's point of view or a motiveless and a-causal point of view - is still clearly an unpopular notion.

Moreover, that no source, author, or building blocks can be found to justify all of creation (big bang idealists or otherwise), still it is a wonder that this simple secular observation is summarily ignored.

Though no one alive or dead knows what this is, we cavort and effort our way through life as if our steering wheel, gas and brake pedals are connected to and controlling something, anything.

Even though we are surfing a gnostic dream of inconceivable beauty and abundance - we spoil the very ether and atmosphere that cradles us; nation against nation, religion against religion, race against race, political party against political party, mind controlled to the core by misanthropic corporate and nationalistic interests that will surely serve to sever our sustainability.

You can hang with some enlightened guy or gal and get high on Inquiry or Yoga and all kinds of stuff like that, you can go to self-improvement and consciousness expanding workshops, get messages from disembodied authorities, do Tantra; whatever raises your serotonin uptake or gets you through the night - it's alright, it's alright.

But some days, you just don't feel like waking up. Those are the good old days, phuck it, drop the mantle, kick back; enjoy the robins, bobwhites, and warblers whipping up some bluegrass on the lawn.

## *Some days, you do*

In order to remain ignorant of the primary miracle we must assert (generally unconsciously) that we know what This is and how it works and why it works the way it does including all of the nested infinities of sentient bacterium, mitochondria, sub-molecular biologic self-repair processes, the curious interfacing of "photonicallly" inspired particle/wave bio-chemistry at the cellular and sub-cellular levels to account for cellular differentiation and specificity, the morphic resonant field, the string theory, the warp of time/space, the behavior of x-rays at the event horizon of our typical black hole, and the rhythm of cerebrospinal fluid dynamics that rock the occiput and sacrum in order to milk the pituitary gland nested safely behind the eyes at the sphenobasilar synchondrosis (where the occiput and sphenoid bones of the skull meet) which regulates all endocrine functions of the body, just to name a few.

The only way to justify our presumed seat and agency as disparate (if not desperate) vehicles of self-will and determinism is to ignore just about everything but our own non-stop neurosis.

What we presume to experience as I - Me - My occurring as body identification and the movement of thought, an effortless and spontaneous improvisation of inner speech + pattern recognition, is an absolutely frivolous and completely mistaken account of our actual trans-human and fractal harmonic nature which has nothing to do with time or space or self-will or synaptic humors.

Some days you just don't feel like waking up, but some days you do. It takes a miracle to nudge the average primate out of the crushing stupidity of being a person, and thankfully we have a cornucopia (or shit load) of miracle on tap to do just that.





## ***Mostly Bald and Balding***

In this instant of noetic dreaming all appears to appear, but clearly whatever we may say or report about it is the joyous frivolity of playful hallucination – and that must include the imagination of non-enlightenment and the idealized condition of enlightenment.

One can see / discern the rudimentary impulse that accompanies this mystique of pattern recognition which effortlessly qualifies the nature of experiencing as one thing and not another – thus the bane of suffering and the hope to end suffering.

All enlightenment sales take advantage of this most basic curiosity; that something is happening, that it's happening to me, that it will likely or should continue to happen, and in my future it will/should feel better to me - thus I Am That, or some similar nonsense.

But if none of this is true, as in some reliable frame of reference for the primary miracle, then whatever the quality “my” experience appears to be is really its business.

Seems like there can be/is a way to see/feel/experience/articulate that has nothing to do with the entire body of metaphor we may use to express enlightenment sales.

If this simple and marvelously delicious apparition has hair, then it can also have good and bad hair days. If like me it is mostly bald and balding – then really what is there to teach other than the pure pleasure of speechless and verbose poetry that This is?

Since there is no bottom or top or beginning or utility, unencumbered transcendental immersion is good, and identification (though it can suck) is good too. Have I missed anything?

## ***Tie a Yellow Ribbon***

You'd think the "Support our Troops" refrain popular amongst supporters of justifiable exported violence and global chaos would expect the highest standards of behavior and righteous fortitude from those privileged to be protecting our freedoms (aka to be mind controlled) here and abroad.

Well imagine my fine surprise to have the esteemed comic turned senator, the honorable Al Franken send me an email about the deplorable state of rape (largely unreported and unsatisfactorily investigated) amongst the ranks of our armed services.

He reports - "This month, the Department of Defense estimated that more than 26,000 cases of sexual assault took place in the military in 2012.

It gets worse. The year before, only 10 percent of reported cases - only a fraction of the total - ever resulted in a trial where the victims could find justice. A stunning 62 percent of victims felt like they were retaliated against for coming forward.

Unbelievably, even if a jury does issue a conviction, senior military officers with no legal training -- and, often, glaring conflicts of interest -- can throw that conviction out with no explanation, no recourse, and no accountability."

If you count yourself amongst the still surviving hippie generation that may have flipped the bird once or twice to the egregious and oh so self-righteous minions that call themselves the protectors of democracy, you're in luck.

If you were one of the many brave peaceniks who told them to go phuck themselves in a spate of enthusiastic dissension, apparently they have taken your advice to heart and are doing just that.

## ***One Noble Truth***

When you're done with the Four Noble Truths, and I hope that's soon, there is release. And what exactly, one might ask, are we released from? Simple, the failure to see what you are capable of bringing forth.

This, just as it is, radiates speechless fruition, while enjoying the pleasure to imagine otherwise.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIG25NdOWIs>

## ***The Only Way Back***

For those of you actually interested in participating in the Gaian Liberation Adventure to Avoid Doom "GLAAD", one must understand and cultivate a proper relationship with and approach to your inherent intelligence - which is simply the trans-human, trans-culture, and trans-faith miracle of direct experience.

This is what the Gurus know, and the Shamans know, and the realizers embedded in all religious and spiritual traditions know - that present interest and attention given to your own infinite capacity for dreaming and dissolution is the key to your fulfillment and nourishment and non-violent well-being seen as the multiverse itself.

If your spiritual adventure or your teacher or your library and retreat experience is not pounding this message home in order to free you from all cultural, educational, and religious ideology and dependence - then get the phuck out!

Find anyone (local or otherwise) to practice the art of present dreaming and freedom from thought, or start your own group and see who shows up. Liberation is not a deferral, Awake is What This Is and you are fully capable of befriending yourself and aiming straight for fruition.

See time-stamp 23:59 to hear how our good and deceased friend Terrance McKenna words it, or listen to the whole message if you wish.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hv\\_TPlmjkQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hv_TPlmjkQ)

## ***How would you design the universe?***

Let's say you are God, not too far-fetched, maybe closer to the truth than we suspect.

And you were given a work order from Cosmic Central to design and implement a universe that had two simple properties.

First property: Non-obscured perfect, infinite, impersonal, abundant, and self-evident radiant expression completely free from explanation, utility, or purpose and in your face 24/7. This is typically referred to as nirvana.

Second property: Unabashedly capable of not seeing the first property thus becoming transiently consumed with a false sense of self resulting in the appearance of loathsome suffering. This is typically referred to as samsara.

I would say you knocked this assignment out of the park. Nice job God.

## ***Touring One's Consciousness***

I recently connected with an old high-school friend (not that we're old, but we were bar-mitzvahed together on March 15, 1969).

We caught up in the way one might, an abbreviated view of one's present life and interests. I of course took the liberty to share my "spiritual" proclivities and he responded in kind chatting up his family situation, his son's bright academic future, and his business responsibilities so we kinda got a feel for each other after some number of years.

At the close of a recent email he asked, "Perhaps you can tell me more about touring one's consciousness?"

So, you take a free-associating ranter like me and a sincere question from a friend – mix it up in a martini glass and here's what you get.

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Of course, first you have to experience or recognize some sort of invitation, even a whisper or a hint of suspicion.

There may also be the presence of some psychic restlessness or dissatisfaction with whom you've become, how you construct your personal universe, what you believe in and why.

If the fabric of your consciousness is not beginning to fray, then one has no incentive or push/pull to begin a conscious and willful adventure toward some deeper apprehension or frame of reference for what is actually going on.

Maybe particle/wave physics gives you a thrill, or some doubt about the presumption of the big bang, or the curious nature of quantum entanglement solicits your attention?

There can be a loss of faith, loss of control, powerlessness in the face of a steam of ambiguity and an inability to string any confidence together that you can rely on.

These are typical symptoms that can nudge us onto the Magical Mystery Tour Bus – as the world we thought we knew is no longer home.

If you are so divinely afflicted I would imagine you have already cultivated some form(s) of sanctuary or reached out for belief systems (spiritual, religious, or secular) that assuage your condition. So the question(s) remains; has some affliction begun, have you attempted to resolve it, is your present set of resolutions keeping your head above the rising waters of dissolution?

The Inquiry begins basically every moment, the depth depends on the degree to which our imaginary investment in universe creation is working or failing.

And in this regard, failing is our preference. There's more, always more; rather than push some agenda I am happy to respond to your own introspection's.

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His reply, thus far.

Hi Jeff – very thought provoking.

I want to explore further, not right now – too busy, which is probably case in point.

Will be in touch as time permits.

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Does this sound at all familiar to you?

## ***I can't find my head!***

Kicking back, laying around the shack, I thought I'd drink in the teachings of the king of milk-toast enlightenment - the forgivable and forgettable Adyashanti.

Occasionally he offers a free web-broadcast (sometimes live, even) where he blathers on and on about who knows what in the name of spiritual teachings, as he considers himself a spiritual teacher. And why shouldn't he - he makes a smooth mint selling palliatives to spiritual wanderlusts who imagine he has something of value to listen to.

So around 10 minutes in I am already frantically dialing the 800 number to plead with him to please shut the phuck up, the throbbing in my head is getting so bad I am scouring the kitchen for a knife sharp enough to sever my entire head with a single zen stroke and throw it as far away as I can so I don't have to listen to this whining and complaining horseshit that some (many) relish as useful spiritual news.

Of course the line is perpetually busy so I can't get through, and I can only find a short paring knife so it is plunge and cut and plunge and cut until I can lift my whole damn head from my blood drenched shoulders and throw it in the woods behind the house.

The relief was near instantaneous, though the kitchen will be hell to clean. A word to the wise, if someone starts lecturing at you about what This Is or Isn't, or uses the word ego - make sure you know where the exits are and/or stay away from sharp objects.

I'm feeling much better today, but I can't find my freaking head - they're not gonna like this at the supermarket.



## ***All the useless eaters will soon perish***

Please don't take it personally that the Bilderberg Group wants you off the planet; sterilized, neutralized, vaccinated, and rendered into an anaerobic mass of self putrefaction - so you and your children stop consuming vital planetary resources that compromise the vitality of Bilderberg Group members and their privileged family lines.

At 7.120 billion and growing, the earth and our present methods of harvesting its plentiful resources cannot sustain the present population. There is just no way.

Fossil fuel burning, irreversible carbon footprint, dwindling fisheries, global radioactivity, ocean acidity, declining alpine water storage, rising oceans, aspartame, squalene laced vaccinations, high fructose corn syrup, antibiotic abuse and infectious pus-laden animal protein, noxious chem-trail skies - just where do you think this is going?

Media control has been fully accomplished, every day your Constitutional and God-given inalienable rights to freedom and autonomy are assassinated by the misanthropic corporatocracy and the globalist intentions sought by the Bilderberg Group (no need to pick on them) and other institutions that chart the course for their own 1% 'er agenda at your expense.

The fact is, no one is looking after your interests; not the government, not the supreme court, not the attorney general, not your local police force, not the North American command, not FEMA, not your employer, not your bank - no one.

We are at the point where the social fabric is strained to the point of tearing and in order to avert mass social unrest, plans are afoot to neutralize your dissension.

If you owned the banks and the corporations and the money and the resources and the media and had the politicians in your pocket - what would you do?

You'd probably make sure that your family and your friends and your resources were not consumed by 7.120 billion useless eaters also. It's not personal, population culling strategies are for the greater good - you just don't happen to be on the greater good team.

What does any of this have to do with awakening? Well why don't you figure it out and get back to me.

## *My heart belongs to Dada*

Everyone should have a Dada (elder brother in Bengali), I have one. I first met my Dada (from afar) at a 3rd story loft apartment around the corner from what used to be Barney's New York at 17th street at 7th Avenue.

Jean Klein was new to NYC and offering teachings, wearing a lovely ascot, flowing white hair, an open and affable invitation of a man, a deeply quenching relief to the drought that followed Krishnamurti's death in 1986. But Jean Klein was not my Dada, one of his posse members was my Dada - Leif "Lakshman" Jenssen. The son of a sea captain and the brother of Ram - make no mistake.

While the stories I have to tell about my Dada would fill volumes to rival Miracle of Love-Stories about Neem Karoli Baba, let me simply render a conversation we had recently (via text) where Dada was gracious enough to talk to me about liberation.

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NSS: Please talk to me about awakening - no one else does.

DADA: True. Everyone is faking it. Thinking they've got a handle on it. But it's a hammer without a handle, or an iron flute w/ no holes.

NSS: Is the uninvited and capricious fact of experiencing supposed to feel good or be enjoyed as some sacred revelation? Why do the Gurus sell any form of "good times" - "my life is enriched" bullshit?

DADA: Why not? Experiencing is the sacred lingam of the eternal. One might say one can take advantage of the fact. Knowing that experience is your bitch can be comforting.

NSS: Ok, so after all the loft and dross are boiled off - we're left with a simple gift. "Experiencing as my bitch, is comforting" - is that an alternate book title to I Am That?

DADA: Sounds good. But what do I know; I'm just an old addict with a rickety body. I Am That or Experience is your Bitch. I like the cut of your jib.

NSS: You're deflecting - my question is what's at the heart of "I've got this?" Seems all we can do or share are spurious and poetic memes about the curious and infuriating nature of experiencing without ever saying or conveying anything meaningful about it - No?

DADA: Correct!

NSS: I know you mean that one. (Note – Dada can and will use the term “correct” to gracefully exit a conversation with an idiot).

DADA: It's like basketball. We keep the hoop small to have a game. Love you, of course.

NSS: So then if we investigate the presence of experiencing and can eschew all frames of reference or explanation - simply put it's in our "favor" to feel wonder or bliss or more-after-more than be consumed with existential panic and control dramas?

DADA: Yes, Iron flute concert.

NSS: I'm just interested in whittling this down to the most ordinary language - so it's not some vague fantasy of "I must have what the Guru has."

DADA: To feel, yes, I missed that - It's cool the way you boil it down.

NSS: I can't help it, I don't want to feign any understanding or turn the immediacy of this luscious and blasphemous transcendence of phucked experiencing into something where one would want to make This better or agreeable to "me".

DADA: I see what you mean. That is closer to the truth.

NSS: You see everywhere the Gurus land points to some preferred sovereignty having to do with me and experiencing. And it is all bullshit.

DADA: True. Most gurus sell that.

NSS: There's no end to the instantaneity of self-referencing as feeling and so the seduction to accomplish, as an accomplice, an understanding of What exactly spins infinite delusion. Isn't This actually nirvana? Does that make any phucking sense?

DADA: In a certain way they (the Gurus) may lead away from the truth to point to the truth if they are artful.

NSS: There's a certain madness to it - where tears of incomprehensible association and unspeakable unbounded expansivity well up. Shall we say, a 3 point shot from mid court?

DADA: Yes. I like to play like Meadowlark Lemon - artfully if possible but not seriously. I kiss you.

NSS: I take the dust of your feet Dada.

## ***Generous nature of delusional association***

If you ever become interested in discovering the nature of reality, whatever that is - you must first enter the lair of the dragon of delusional association.

Once you enter the lair (and guess what, the door just shut behind you) you will find a never ceasing stream of consciousness, content, phenomena, meaning, conclusions, justifications, answers, opinions, moods, and feelings arising in what may be called your experience jumping up and out at you from virtually nowhere as apparitional ghosts in the machine within an imaginary superstructure of space and time.

This dragon will keep you so phucking occupied with his bad breath he has no reason to even turn on the heat. You'll be so busy ducking demons that you won't even notice the dragon and so will never reach for the sword to lop off his putrid head. And this is what's typically referred to as your life.

But the other side of the story isn't such a golden age either. If everyone were to slay the dragon and exit the lair of delusional association, as in wake up and smell the coffee you self-aggrandizing muggle, typically referred to as self-realization; what would that look like?

Then all "humans" would quit their jobs, lay down their arms, be summarily released from all entitlement and fear, and end up wandering around abandoned airports like a swarm of zombies looking for a place to eat. And just how long do you think the species would last in that condition?

Even if it were up to you to choose a fate, doesn't look like there is much future in store for you no matter what path you choose.

## ***The history of the headstand***

True Gurus always wear a frown, not because they don't love you, but as a reminder to be vigilant with your own bullshit.

When surrounded by self-seeking and superficial devotees they quickly enter into the famed yogic headstand, to make it appear as if they are smiling - until everyone goes away of course.

## ***The happiest day of your life***

The happiest day of your life comes when you realize that the person who cares the least about all of the bullshit coming out of your mouth, is you.

## ***The grand-daddy of all addictions***

An Inquirer: That matter appears in a location, exciting the senses, may be the universal grand daddy of all addictions.

NSS: Indeed, but it is stranger than that. How does one infer the presence of matter in a location exciting the senses?

Simple, from the only plausible fact at your disposal, which is experiencing itself.

Now is this experiencing the result or consequence of a big bang or your birth? Big question. Are you, as experiencing, the result of anything at all? If so, you are phucked with associative delusion which arises spontaneously and impersonally though it conveys no actual condition.

If not, then it may be possible to see that the root culprit is the transcendent and a-causal nature of experiencing which also arises spontaneously and impersonally though it conveys no actual condition.

In a word, exactly where will you look to find some explanation or causal consequence for nothing at all?

Neither ignorance nor awakening are actually true, but one might take the risk to say that seeing This fact is awake, but to what we have no idea.

## ***You are the Holy Trinity***

Just back from seeing "Now You See Me", a far-fetched escapade of big magic. A mix between themes found in a good Robin Hood, Count of Monte Cristo, and your basic major heist film.

The best special effect for me is to see past the mere entertainment elements of the film and peer into the cosmic message being conveyed by consciousness so to turn it into something about awakening that may be of interest. It's just an occupational hazard.

Imagine that what we have here is the greatest magic trick ever conceived and performed. And it is ongoing, not just a one time event, but a miraculous stream of pure magic morphing instantaneously and entertaining itself without hesitation or limitation.

And since magic can't help but be itself, it is accompanied by the most profound deception imaginable, actually beyond imaginable - that's what makes it such a formidable deception.

You are the key, the third element of the trinity. So Magic is the unencumbered primary miracle of all that appears and expresses in phenomenality, made of nothing, fractally urging itself into nested infinities of truth, consciousness, and bliss unutterably beyond description, resolution, or corporeal duration.

The deception is that you (let's just say magic asleep) become convinced that you are something; an individualized extrusion of personified consciousness carrying the miserable burden of self-will and responsibility occupying a material body, the fantastical result of a big-bang and the false accusation of birth.

This deception is made all the more convincing due to the smoke and mirrors of time and space - the not-to-be-believed hypnotic suggestion that anything is actually happening at all.

There is a key that unlocks the imaginary shackles - that key is you. Once you learn how to turn yourself and listen, like a skilled safe-cracker, to the tumblers - without warning the safe springs open and the magic is fully revealed.

If you imagine your life is about anything else but cracking this safe, well consider yourself deceived by your own magic. As they say in the film, "Welcome to the Eye!"





## ***Who's your Guru?***

Let's get naked! I mean keep your clothes on, but let's look at the lowest common denominator for the present fact of experiencing.

What is it made of and how do you know it, name it, make sense of it, recognize patterns, create stories, abide in time, make plans, anticipate your future or ruminate about your past, borrow explanations from people you've never met, presume you were born? I mean really - how do you do all of this shit?

If you get naked perhaps you may discover that you have no idea how you do all of this shit, and no one alive or dead has any better idea than you. Is that at all possible?

Someone asked me just last night, "who is the clearest Guru you've ever met or studied with?" Well the answer may enliven or disturb you, but the answer is me! There cannot be anyone other than me, my experience, my imagination, my bullet-proof confidence because if there is - then I'm paying homage to a phucking sock puppet and what would be the point of that?

You want to wake up, and I know that is a big leap already, but if you do you'd better get accustomed to the fact that you happen to be the clearest and most true spiritual seer on the planet, there's no one else here.

## ***The Mothers are Coming, the Mothers are Coming!***

My local ascended and dead spooks channeling society is having a program next week billed as "channeled messages from the group known as 'The Great Mothers'."

Here's how it goes - "There are 12 mothers, among them are Mary, Isis, Gaia, Hera, Quan Yin, Shekinah, The Great Celestial Mother, The Great Water Mother, The Mother of 1,000 Eyes, the Ancestral Mother. The Great Mothers have come in at this time for us to remember and experience Divine Love. They have said their work can bring more Love, Compassion, Caring, Beauty, Peace and Healing into our World."

Why only 12? Where are the Mothers of Invention, Mama Told Me (Not To Come), Mothers Little Helper, Mammias Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys, Stacy's Mom, Mother Love Bone - you get the picture.

They (the mothers) have said they can bring more good shit to our shitty World - one wonders, what the phuck have they been waiting for?

We're out of time, where have they been, here we are on the brink of comprehensive annihilation and now they are coming in to help us out! I mean are we on the bottom of the compassion transplant list or what?

Nevertheless, decent folks will show up, plunk down the \$10 spot, have some Oreo's and herbal tea, go oooh and aaah - saying please give me more of those motherly forecasts and encouragements so I can make the world a better place tomorrow.

And despite my lame protestations, I will probably smoke a bone in the parking lot, wander in all bleary-eyed and paranoid, pack my fists with Oreo's and try and get my fair share of comfort.

After all, I would be a damn fool not to heed the advice of my Mother.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rKaQzQAInn4>

## ***What was the Buddha Smiling About?***

From a Fellow Inquirer: Of all the parts of our brain that have been examined, the pre-frontal cortex, that most recently developed area, seems to be the location of the witnesser of 'experiencing'. Accessing this brain appears to benefit from a cerebral hormonal balancing, something that requires a directed intention to bring this condition about. Lacking that hormonal balance experiencing becomes a toss up in the brain allowing random interpretation by whichever earlier brain function grabs the ball first.

Said another way, we are walking around with an intermingling of physical and emotional memories, sensations, remembered impactful experiences and the illusion that what we say has something to do with what occurs. A snow ball in hell has a better chance than humans have for ever seeing that all of us have been set up for what looks like the "mysterious" entertainment.

A stance that suggests itself other than a bit of programming, is to enjoy, along with the "mystery", witnessing the 'experiencing'.

Is that what the enigmatic smile is about on the images of the Buddha?

NSS: If you would permit me the liberty to be a little more bold with you. There is no brain, there is no experience or experiencer, there is no intention (directed or otherwise) or any actual condition; no one has any clue what the brain or its synaptic and hormonal wonderland are or what the nature of consciousness is (including perceived objects, the perceiving subject, or the art/act of perception itself).

To presume any of these things is delusional madness, the gotcha of the divine expressing its fine and abundant skills of self-deception.

The radiant and non-material nature of whatever this is, is not a function of the brain, electro-magneto simulation or stimulation, or the periodic table.

If you are willing, you can simply drop into the indecipherable heart of identity itself and enjoy the show. You need not make any further effort for the rest of your life to explain this to yourself or anyone else for that matter. That's what the Buddha was smiling about.



## ***Instant Karma***

Oh where, oh where

Has my enlightenment gone?

Oh where, oh where can it be?

With my thoughts cut short

And my beliefs so long (as in goodbye)

Oh where, oh where can it be?

Awake is none other than this very moment, it is always just this, right here, right now, fully expressed, instantly and always not what we imagine it (or ourselves) to be.

All we have, all we are, is this perfectly non-stoppable transmutation of the entirety of awareness as events/circumstances/phenomena (objects perceived), the hallucination of the perceiver (the imagined subject of experiencing), and the magic of perceiving itself. And these are not separate elements - Awake is unbounded unicity.

All vicissitudes and stories and plans and accumulations of self are merely a habit of mind, they do not convey any actuality, they are just shadows and dreams and distractions from Awake itself, and thankfully, only temporarily since there is no lasting in Awake.

This Awake instant karma (a good thing) is already completely free from self, incapable of escaping from itself, morphing in all and every directionless direction faster than can be traced or imagined or thought of or told.

Awake is bigger and better and smarter and faster and more lethal than you can imagine - no brag, just fact.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9j1qkorFszY>

## ***Gurus may love you, but they can also be disturbingly banal and uninspired***

Wayne Liquorman is a world-traveling (not necessarily renowned) Guru. He is popular, he has a website, he sells CD's, DVD's, books and other spiritual morsels. People sit with him, enjoy the shakti that radiates from his presence, they ask him questions, he answers them - it is the same basic bullshit we see over and over again. A giant seeker spider web where you spend your money hoping perhaps to be just like Wayne someday.

And his promise to you is the love of the Guru - sounds a bit suspicious if not kind of sickening. Here's his latest message, decide for yourself:

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Hello my loves,

The love of the Guru is the greatest of gifts. It is without any conditions. You have done nothing to earn it and you need do nothing to keep it. It is without demands. It does not even require that you love the Guru back! You have this love despite your many shortcomings and defects of character. It is a love that meets you where you are and it accompanies you as you change. The love of the Guru is the Love of total acceptance. It includes everything and everyone...sinners and saints, beautiful and ugly, base and sublime alike. It is there even when you can't see it or feel it. It will not leave you for as long as you draw breath, because it is your birthright, your reward for being alive.

With Grace comes the knowledge of this unceasing love.

May it find you now!

With love,

Wayne

-----

And let's not forget just how much the Guru really loves you - again from Wayne's email message -

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"We are most grateful for all who remember The Fellowship as part of their estate planning. Such bequests have helped us through difficult financial times."

-----

Look I love you too, I mean I really phucking love you in a really big way, really big, I mean love, like major major love, big love, genuine long lasting love - but please keep your cash. I don't love you that much.



## ***Shaktipat by any other name***

The following excerpted biographical information (a bit long) is from Gabriel Cousens' website:

- At the age of 9, Rabbi Gabriel Cousens, M.D., M.D. (H), D.D., began having explicit visions of white robed ancients in a desert setting. Gabriel received Shaktipat initiation from Swami Muktananda in 1975, and in a direct apperception of the truth, he realized: "There is no death for the Self; only the body dies".
- Swami Muktananda acknowledged Gabriel's liberation just prior to leaving his physical body. In 1983, at the end of a 40-day fast and three days of unbroken nothing awareness, a small voice broke the eternal silence with a whispered message "chasmal"; he was now to serve his people of birth.
- As a result of that Divine direction, Gabriel entered into a study of the mystical Kabbalistic and Essene aspects of Judaism to realize truth as bitul hayesh, in which the personal "I" disappears leaving only Hashem (God); all else being the dance of the illusionary matrix.
- Gabriel also explored the mystical Jewish/Native American connection. He was adopted into the Lakota High Horse Clan and given the name Yellow Horse. Gabriel has realized "Mitakuye Oyasin" as the "unity of the four worlds and the four levels of physical creation and life".
- These Kabbalistic/Essene/Judaic, Yogic, and Native American aspects of Self-Liberation have brought Gabriel to a Rama Krishna level of attainment and have given him a unique, authentic, ecumenical, unified world view.
- Gabriel co-created the Kundalini Crisis Clinic in 1976 and is a vehicle for Shaktipat transmission at the direction and empowerment of Swami Muktananda. He is considered a master of Kundalini as well as a teacher of meditation, prayer, jnana, bhakti, karma, and mantra yogas.

Gabriel gives good Shaktipat:

According to Gabriel Shaktipat initiation (S'micha m'shefa/Haniha) is the awakening of the Divine force that is resting in potential within us. It usually occurs (when) through a living enlightened awakened spiritual leader / teacher (like Gabriel of course) with a great amount of the spiritual kundalini flowing, shares the Grace of this energy with the aspirant.

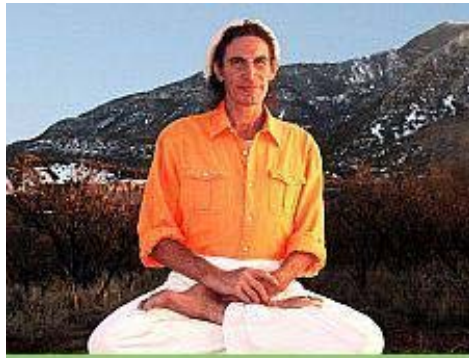
When the combination of this energy with the kundalini energy of the aspirant is enough to reach the critical ignition point, the Shakti Kundalini awakens.

Because Shaktipat can happen through sight, Kundalini awakening is possible through looking at the picture(s) and video link on this page. (Come stare at Gabriel's photo - uploaded)

We at Night Sky Sangha were fascinated to learn of Gabriel's amazing spiritual accomplishments and willingness to share his sublime gifts (at "a Rama Krishna level of attainment") with the entire world!

Upon completing some exhausting research the staff at Night Sky Sangha also discovered, curiously enough, that Shaktipat initiation (S'micha m'shefa/Haniha) is also possible through (S'micha m'shefa / Hi De Ho), through the enthusiastic presence and universal greeting of the Master of Holiday Cheer himself, Mr. Hankey the Christmas Poo. (Come stare at Mr. Hankey's photo - uploaded)

See Mr. Hankey's transmission in the devotional satsang video (link below).



## ***Awake is simply your autonomous nature, released from identification with the miracle of dreaming***

That This Is is the primary miracle, and curiously enough This has not sought your permission to be what it is nor is it interested in your opinions or ideas about what it may be, or how it came to be, or why.

This is expressing completely autonomously of your approval or condemnation and is not connected whatsoever to your wishes or prayers for it to be or appear as something you would like, or would like stopped.

This doesn't give a shit god-damn about your Guru or your Guru's teachings or promises, nor does it endorse or care for ascended spooks who bother and seduce vulnerable primate idiots in order to convince them that there is a useful message to be brought to humanity.

If you practice yoga, This doesn't care or even notice. This has no interest in whether you heal from your afflictions or if they kill you, slowly, quickly, painfully or blissfully.

This will dream your silly ass into a total frenzy of imagining that you have a phucked up and useless life, even when you don't and couldn't possibly have.

If you want to wake up you will have to contend with what This Is, not what you think it is, not what you hope it is, not what you were told that it is, and not what it will be someday according to you or anyone else.

If you have the simple presence of mind to look into your actual experience you can discover what This is not - and doing so over and over and over again with the gift of each radiantly impossible moment you will gratefully lose your mind.

Once you lose your mind, you may realize that you never needed it in the first place, and what remains (which has never been anywhere else but here) is This unencumbered by the likes of you.

No further instruction or celebrity or vows or ascetic commitments need be made, no one needs your money or affection for you to wake up. This is This just here, just now - where exactly do you think you're going?



## ***Why I don't like Byron Katie***

Well, I'm not really sure, but give me a moment and something will come to me, of that I am confident.

She's too damn positive and full of great spiritual one-liners and she brags about her non-condition, and she loves way too much shit with way too much unconditional acceptance - and it throws people off.

Oh shit, now I have to justify this crap or people will think I just made it all up rather than being really thoughtful and studied about it all.

Well I can go two ways - I can simply recant what I just said and give it up, or I can elaborate on why I don't like Byron Katie.

Give me a minute ....., OK here goes - no really, I don't like her and here's why.

1. Look at her god damn web-site, you'd think that liberation has become a phucking institution, there are more links on that site than I have brain cells (please ignore what that says about me).
2. She even has an iphone and android app for doing her crappy "work"! Now we can all get enlightened by using our crappy cell phones!
3. Just to give her the benefit of the doubt I am going to do her crappy "work - 4 questions" just so it's not sour grapes on my part.

- Is it true?

Yes it is true, I don't like Byron Katie.

- Can you absolutely know that it's true?

Yes, it is absolutely true that I don't like her, her web-site, her precocious apps, her presumptuous and expensive workshops and retreats and human improvement intensives - I think all of that is total bullshit!



- How do you react, what happens, when you believe that thought?

I feel vindicated, joyous, self-righteous, happy to be alive, completely confident in my disdain for her and her teachings - as a matter of fact I feel perfectly liberated, absolved, and free from all conditioning based on my belief (if not certainty) that I don't like Byron Katie! Jeez, I guess I should thank her, I've never actually felt this good.

- Who would you be without the thought?

I have no idea and to be honest I don't really care - I'm finally free from all delusion, thanks to not liking her not one single bit!

Thanks Katie - you are a miracle worker.

## ***Are you in Jeopardy! - I'll take 'Turn it Around' for \$20,000, Alex - Byron Katie, Part 2***

Let's be clear, Byron Katie is a fountain of startlingly clear love. She is so nontenured and fearlessly in love with what is, that if you give her an inch of yourself, you will be transported to a depth of feeling that will leave you reeling with transcendence.

Such an encounter may indeed place you in Jeopardy!, because you will never be able to pretend to be who you thought you were, ever again. Question is - is that liberation? Question always is - is This liberation?

To better understand the poignancy of the "turn around" process please see the link below (comment section).

Further, it may be useful to appreciate the genesis of "The Work" as a brilliant distillation and amalgam of 12-step recovery methods from Bill W. and friends, the original work of John Paul Rosenberg aka/ Werner Hans Erhard (the original EST seminars, now Landmark Education), Buddhist psychology (the Abhidhamma Piṭaka), and of course Katie's own direct perception and experience in working with early aspirants.

However, if you are really in a pickle, and your life sucks worse than you can bear any longer, and you just happen to have a spare \$20,000 lying around + 30 days off from work - you are in luck; because Katie will entertain you (as her schedule allows) with her presence and her brilliance and her shakti and her unfathomable love of you for 28 straight days - amazing!

So what if it doesn't work, you will have paid so much in time and \$ you will be able to convince yourself that it was the most beneficial and trans-formative experience you've ever had.

Question is - is that liberation? Question always is - is This liberation?

<http://www.thework.com/turnaroundhouse.php?pg=register>

## ***Study the myth, perhaps then one may wake up to the primacy of experiencing***

Screwing with Gurus and their websites and their teachings has no genuine merit - we all know that. What can a Guru do but make promises, meet you at the check-out counter, attract attention to their own self-celebrating calamity, sell you a photo or a DVD, perform some miracle of manifestation, mess with your head, your heart, your vulnerability?

No one can actually do anything for you! What you presume to be your consciousness, your body, your life, your library, your spiritual experience collection, your core wound, your healing - is all myth.

If you are trying to remedy a myth with some psycho-emotional, material, or spiritual / experiential intervention (including advice from Gurus) what do you think you're going to accomplish? Simple, more myth.

Your only job is to peer so deeply and intimately into the spontaneously and impersonally arising spectacle of myth that you discover that it isn't so, and no one can do this for you.

No method, no practice, no devotion, no meditation, no advaita-ism, no ascended advice, no waking up or down (for that matter), no "work" or "turn-arounds", no FSA (a la Liquorman), no dzogchen or illumined narratives, no shaktipat - no nothing can or will ever be responsible for your inconceivable capacity to dream myth or transcend its delicious seduction that you may discover that it, as yourself, can't even or ever be possible for a single moment.

As the primary miracle of experiencing experiencing engulfs your very being just like the Blob ate a whole movie theater - then you're in the home stretch.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GODDLgM1gKo>

## ***Freedom for whom and from what?***

There is no whom, there has never been a whom. In fact the deception of whom is actually a byproduct of the whats. It's the whats that engender the whom, so if you consider the farcical nature of the whats it is easier to realize the emptiness of the whom.

Experiencing as an actuality of radiant stimulus (never amounting to much) appearing in consciousness (not a thing nor a place nor having any reliable time-stamp) is doing what it does.

One may say there are the five sense windows accompanied by other words to describe what tickles the five sense windows, but what does that amount to? Light is seen, sound is heard, food on the tongue is tasted, odors are smelled, "physical" sensations are touched, but where does that leave you except with a circum-loquacious loop of abstract myth expressed as the brilliant reference field of language and the miraculous association of thought patterns?

Can you see or appreciate just how arbitrary the idea of the senses, the sense stimulants, the consequences of the fact of experiencing, and to whom it all may be occurring is? Just because we have at our disposal a fantastical field of barking noises (thought or spoken) in thousands of languages world-wide doesn't mean that they say or mean anything!

Experiencing alone is; what we think it is is farcical, frivolous, fantastic, fallacious, fabulist, facinorous, factitious, falderal, and falsidical - just to name a few.

If we take the slightest interest in actuality and can (even for a moment or two) feel what it is, rather than think what it is - our lives will change in mysterious ways and steer our karma in the direction of reality - I promise.

Even The Who know this (with a bullet).....

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHTdrPL22-Y>

## Why tangle with ephemera?

Presence as phenomenal expression and the curious nature of experience itself doesn't come with a handbook and if you look at it in a relaxed manner you can see/feel that it isn't trumpeting or lamenting any drama having to do with you.

The immediacy of Brahmanic fractal pressure and your involuntary awareness of whatever This is or isn't has no premeditation or story or destination or outcome that could possibly be suitable to you as a human.

That you subscribe to experiencing as if you exist and events + circumstances frame your life as a human is complete fabrication, unutterable myth.

If you are wishing to discover what Awake might look / feel like, that is effortlessly at hand - it is just This. The moment you presume to know or wish to control what This is, that's when the dreaming of self is activated - as a simultaneity of deception accompanied by the burden of psychological time.

In this regard Awake is not in your future, it never is. Awake is all that is or could possibly be present. If you stop tangling with ephemera perhaps you can start enjoying Awake as your own pristine and unencumbered nature.

That you don't need to do or believe in anything for this to be so is just another gift from your trans-human nature.



## ***Going Nowhere Nectar***

Step 1 - You are not living a life. Contrary to popular belief, you were not born into a preexisting universe presumed as the flatulent consequence of a big bang.

Step 2- The brain is not the cause or repository of anything, it is a fulfillment of radiant and morphic predilection.

Step 3 - All and every presumption you have and conclusion you draw about the nature of This mysterious experiencing is completely (as in 100%) untrue.

Step 4 - Make no excuse to justify or attempt to improve your insistence on possessing a counterfeit self. All that gets you is more denial and more suffering.

Step 5 - Whatever your present experience is, is Going Nowhere Nectar.

Step 6 - Ignore all previous steps, we're not in the primate convincing business.



## ***With alcohol you get sober, with LSD you lose your judgment***

Thanks to Jack Webb I think I may have "bought the farm."

Without warning I have a tendency to suspend judgment and sail off on another "trip" sometimes several times a day. The sad consequences of this malaise include profound joy, expansive engulfment, spontaneous absence of self, loss of the sense of time or space, inconceivable and effortless suspension of ideation and the presumption of continuity, unspeakable phucking bliss - a tragic condition for sure.

Please, whatever you do, don't suspend judgment for a moment. Stay calm, stay human, obey the law; fine and upstanding people everywhere in government, law enforcement, education, banking, pharmaceuticals, Homeland Security, the NSA, the FDA, well respected international conglomerates, including our esteemed Supreme Court, and honorable members of the Executive and Legislative branches of this fine democracy are here to help you and your kids with the presence of liberty, the gift of privacy, and above all, the pursuit of happiness.

Look around you - can't you see it's working! And when you're done scanning the horizon for copious evidence of our enviable accomplishments - maybe you'll renew your interest in waking up, just maybe.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Twre6ltGEI>

## ***Today is truly a great day to enlighten!***

Arithmetically speaking you have 86,400 opportunities in a day to wake up. That's 24 hours x 60 minutes per hour x 60 seconds per minute, presuming of course that it takes a minimum of a second to realize the supreme truth of being.

I mean you are rolling in good fortune when it comes to liberation; this is better than playing the mega-millions lottery where your chances of success are 1 in 135,145,920.

Let's say it takes about 5 minutes (300 seconds) to buy a lottery ticket - so one can say you just forfeited your freedom from all suffering 300 times in order to give away your money to a total stranger. If that's not compassion I don't know what is!

Mystery Question of the Day - What do the supreme truth of being and the lottery have in common - they both "just keep you hanging on."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4RabQLuj4N8>



## ***Litter your house with JYN's and your life will improve - Byron Katie, Part 3***

Sorry to beat a dead turn-around, but I am enthused by a lovely presentation (given to the NSS) this evening of "The Work".

Byron Katie promises that people who do The Work as an ongoing practice commonly report:

- Alleviation of depression: Find resolution, even happiness, in situations that were once debilitating.
- Decreased stress: Learn how to live with less anxiety or fear.
- Improved relationships: Experience deeper connection and intimacy with your partner, your parents, your children, your friends, and yourself.
- Reduced anger: Understand what makes you angry and resentful, and become less reactive, less often, with less intensity.
- Increased mental clarity: Live and work more intelligently and effectively, with integrity.
- More energy: Experience a new sense of ongoing vigor and well-being.
- More peace: Discover how to become "a lover of what is."

In order to do The Work you start with the Judge Your Neighbor (JYN) worksheet - see link below. This insightful questionnaire is not unlike a 12-Step personal inventory and resentments / injury clearing process (Steps 4 & 10).

The Work itself, or more specifically the catharses that are possible by practicing it are not dissimilar to Recovery benefits, Eugene Gendlin's "Focusing", the Co-counselling process, Vipassanā-meditation insights, skillful psycho-therapy, and many other process oriented practices aimed at unloading and ameliorating the unpleasant burdens and insults associated with being a person.

Toward the end of the presentation I asked the presenters (both certified in "The Work") with all due sincerity and appreciation for their warm efforts - "Do you have any confidence that practicing "The Work" diligently between now and the day you die will result in your liberation from suffering?"

Neither one had any such confidence. Byron Katie is sincere, she is not shy about espousing the fabulous gifts she enjoys as an awakened being, she puts her whole soul into "The Work" and she fearlessly enjoys the lifestyle that her financial success ensures.

What you get is a house littered full of JYN worksheets and promised life improvement. Is that acceptable to you?

[http://www.thework.com/downloads/worksheets/JudgeYourNeighbor\\_Worksheet.pdf](http://www.thework.com/downloads/worksheets/JudgeYourNeighbor_Worksheet.pdf)

## ***An hour left to make it right***

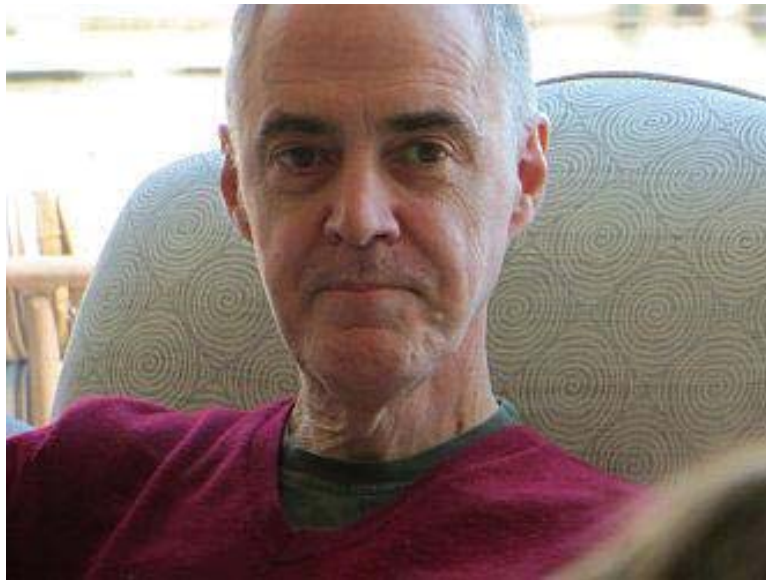
It's 11:00 pm EDT, one hour to go before Guru Purnima becomes just a faint memory and turns into an ordinary Tuesday.

Sorry to write more than once in a day - I do appreciate your interest and don't wish to impose on your kind attention. But today is Guru Purnima, and I am a card carrying seeker / devotee, on a mission.

Peter Brown is my guru (for reasons of simple humility he may not say so or even like the idea, but that's not my concern) - I don't have words to express my gratitude for his generosity of time, of spirit, of insight, of patience, of surgical accuracy, of humor, and absolute dedication to facilitating the autonomous confidence and flowering of understanding for those that have sought his friendship.

I have been an avid and intolerable seeker since I can remember and have enjoyed the company and care of quite a few teachers over the years. They pampered and peppered and prepared me (as any thrilling karmic adventure is supposed to do) to hear and feel what Peter has to say. I am grateful also for their generosity of spirit, at a depth of feeling that I cannot render in written word.

It's not for everyone - this Guru business. If it is my fate (blessed or otherwise) to be reincarnated, I would do it again, and again, and again, and again. What can I say, I am a glutton for joy!



## ***Refuse your consent***

Most likely the primates that conceived you also falsely accused you of being a person. In doing so they laid the groundwork for your abysmal suffering - though we can forgive them for they know not what they do, or not.

Immediately upon taking up residence as a person you are afflicted with a cornucopia of insults, violations, coercive impositions, and a heap of risk.

Once the effulgent nature of unencumbered being is tricked into corporeal and individuated duration as an independent and long-lasting entity - it, or more accurately, you're phucked!

Then it gets worse; along come the gurus and their snake oil solutions and promises of relief in exchange for your obedience, self-sacrifice (sometimes referred to as seva), codependent fawning, cash, more adoration, and more cash - until you are so confused and exhausted that you have nothing left to give them and then they discard you with the same narcissistic ambivalence that they recruited you with.

And all along (the watchtower) you may discover that you have made no genuine progress with your suffering or life-enjoyment score - the confusion and insults and malnourishment continue to be torrential. Oddly enough this turns out to be a good thing, if you haven't already jumped from a high altitude window.

When you are done defending yourself, when you are done investing in an idealized future where you remain as a person unencumbered by affliction, when you are done with spiritual authority - then you may be fortunate enough to become available.

You may discover the strength and magical resources to refuse your consent, to see beyond the imaginary perimeter of person-hood, to withdraw from any remedies, to destroy the myth of restlessness and becoming, to let your certifications and vows lapse - trust me, with no effort you will find kindred souls to welcome you back to yourself.

Isn't it good to know that you are the Joker and the Thief!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XqGHE5GgZ44>

## ***This Perfect Day***

The emerging and accelerating vector of social dystopia is robbing you and your children of your basic freedoms, whether Constitutionally or Spiritually granted.

The rapid pace of corporate controlled political influence and intrusion upon your civil rights is converting the Founding Fathers' dream of a representative and spiritually wholesome democracy into a wasteland of fear, violation, and profit-driven corporate mandate that reduces you to a thumb-texting robot who has lost the ability to look up.

And in the process of this repugnant dash for cash the very biosphere that nourishes your life is choking with the flotsam and jetsam of so much waste, radioactive debris, deep well oil spills, and collapse of the basic food and atmosphere chains - it's a wonder I can think at all (thanks Paul Simon).

Each day I marvel at the profound lack of attention and absence of rage (or any response) amongst my peers (as in the entire species), while the machine that is slowly turning us into Soylent Green goes virtually unnoticed and unchecked.

Thankfully, fascism and enlightenment have something in common - they both creep up on you. While we're sitting around being monitored and evaluated as a possible risk to the state - a shining plethora of unhinged amazement is nourishing your soul, if you're on the lookout for it.

Please consider the possibility of awakening in this lifetime, check it out, make it a hobby interest, do a little reading, permit yourself to become inspired by the presence of your miraculous non-violence.

Hope to see you on line (in the queue) for our daily injection - and please enjoy Ira Levin's "This Perfect Day".

<http://www.activistpost.com/2012/12/lessons-from-this-perfect-day.html>

## ***I've Grown Accustomed to My Original Face***

After peering into the heart of unfathomable doom (see last post) I'm in a jazzy kind of mood. And what an auspicious opportunity to take a crack at Buddhism.

Basically it comes down to this - the Buddha lied and then you die; no nirvana, no cessation, no release from suffering - just a bunch of heartless accusations which condemn you to a life of fruitless practice and disappointment. Really, I mean it.

Life is suffering - that's bullshit! Life is an unfathomable mystery of liquid bliss which has never and will never bestow some condition upon "you" - some condition you need to remedy.

Suffering is caused by desire (aversion & attraction) - that's bullshit! If you dare to look deeply and curiously at the spontaneous and impersonal nature of seeming identification with miraculous apparition you will discover that you are not in control of the degree to which you take a position as a self or rest, without violence, in this effulgent fountain of pure inconceivability.

What you insist upon as your desire or attachment (so many Buddhist brownie points for your miserable condition) is actually not possible - attachment is not possible. Deal with it - any and every moment has no actual duration, no real chance to contain a repetitive entity that can attach to anything. Objects (of attachment) and Subjects (the miserable "attacher") are inferred, they are without substance.

The damn Buddhists attack our Judeo/Christian shores with accusations of suffering and desire and we're all in. No thoughtful consideration of the holes in their pedestrian view; we just buy a cushion, and a bell, and a robe, and a bowl, and criticize everyone else of failing to behave compassionately - and we think we're the shit!

Well phuck them and the lamas they rode in on. Sorry, I was in a jazzy mood, and then got all worked up - Jesus, I mean Buddha (with a sigh).

Not to leave the 2 remaining noble accusations unleavened; Suffering can be broken - that's bullshit! This is how they set you up for the exchange of cash and codependency to enroll you in their crappy remedy approach.

And then the Pièce de résistance, Suffering can be broken by following the 8-fold path - that's bullshit! Not one, not two, but eight ridiculous right vs. wrong insistence's for you to agonize over for the rest of your life while you pretend to be more compassionate and equanimous than the next guy.

Please don't get involved with Buddhism, it will arrest your chances for awakening, not improve them. If you are presently a Buddhist, then please just stop - let the Abbot know that you are no longer interested in playing Costello, and quietly leave the meditation hall.

Since I promised you jazz, please enjoy several renditions of "I've Grown Accustomed to My Original Face" - really these are all majestic, just like you.

***Buddhism, Huh, Yeah, What is it good for, Absolutely No Thing,  
Say it Again!***

Sing with me –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01-2pNCZiNk>

## ***I'm a Believer***

I met a guy, let's call him Simon. He had a bible with him, I asked him "what's up with the bible?" He told me.

He's a Messianic Jew, a practicing Jew who believes that Jesus was indeed the Messiah the Jews had prophesied and were waiting for. I told him, with all due sincerity, that I believed that to be true as well. This opened a window for further conversation.

After we diplomatically negotiated each other's take on our respective religious and spiritual positions we arrived at a philosophical impasse. You can imagine.

Simon is quite clear (we all might concur) that he is not the author/creator of creation - someone else must have done all This! On this point he sees the bible as his instruction manual to worship Jesus & God in the manner to which they have grown accustomed - so he can enjoy the fruits of their generosity toward him in his life.

He even alluded to the presumption/prediction that were he a more/better worshiper that his life would reflect these efforts commensurately.

After I did my best to suggest that there was no need of any intermediaries or manuals to realize that God "R" Us he asked me if I might have chosen a wrong path.

As I pondered the question I had this spontaneous psychic overwhelm of profound incoherence and an instantaneous dark night of the soul experience wondering if I had maybe forsaken the divine order of beings and had thus condemned myself to some kind of unutterable damnation - nah, phuck it, that's bullshit.

So I told him, "nope, I'm good."

In an instant the unbearable weight of God and Jesus and Bible and belief and bartering and performance anxiety left me like a hydrogen atom races toward the sun. I shook Simon's hand and we wished each other the best on our respective paths to awakening.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfuBREMxxts>

## ***One Step Awakening, Guaranteed!***

People often ask me, and I quote, "Hey, Night Sky Sangha Guy, you seem so full of yourself, distastefully over confident with the bullshit that you espouse, you like to make fun of Gurus and teachings without offering anything substantive or worthwhile of your own, you're one of the most offensive posers of self-aggrandizing attainment this side of the Mississippi, I think you are a total jerk and I am going to unsubscribe from your crappy facebook page and email list - but before I do..."

And I quote further, "Please tell me what I can do to wake up because all the crap that I've done and all the money I've spent and all the seva I've performed to contribute to the wealth of others has gotten me nowhere, and I am just pissed off about what a waste of time my whole life has been - seriously I want to know what to do before I unsubscribe from your useless and indulgent rants, you freaking jerk!"

And to this frequent question I typically reply with my guaranteed solution/question that delivers instant awakening to all who dare to ask it - "Is experiencing happening to you or as you?"

That's it - one simple question; not four questions, not four noble truths, nothing to turn around, no eight-fold path to misery, no cushion time, no hugging, no posturing (yogic or otherwise), no bible, no Yeshua, no Buddha, no Byron, no Dzogchen, no process, no destination, no accomplishment, no parchment, no vows, nothing to defend, nothing to explain.

If experiencing is happening to you then you dwell in an ocean of complaint and entitlement that will drive you to unlimited sorrow for the rest of your imaginary natural life.

If experiencing is happening as you, welcome to Awake!

Now that I've fulfilled my obligation, feel free to unsubscribe - from everything!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-Mz714xemU>



## ***Oh Shit, Ram Dass has a new book***

One of the most cherished and beloved fakin-the-funk spiritual liars of the new age of useless bullshit is out with a new book and this time he promises that the crap he has been feeding you for over 40 years (since Be Here Now was published in 1971) will finally provide you with a reliable experience (though it hasn't worked for him yet) of awakening.

Back in the day Ram Dass gave an elephant's dose of LSD to his Guru Neem Karoli Baba who after appearing completely unshaken by the "experience" remarked that it was strong medicine. This seminal non-event coupled with Ram Dass' un-incarcerable ego and gift for gab launched a spiritual career of warmly received psycho-bullshit and story-telling that has thus far failed to release Ram Dass himself from the remarkably superficial and self-satisfying position of;

I am a teacher,

I have teachings,

I will write them down and sell them to you,

You will buy them (in print, CD, and DVD),

You will cultivate tremendous disdain for your ego,

You will enter the realm of your spiritual heart,

These acts will do nothing for you, and I don't really care.

Ram Dass is so incredibly stuck in becoming and improvement and self-will one marvels how (after all these years + a major stroke) he finds the audacity and confidence to sell us yet another manual of preposterous lies that will insure you remain as self-inflated and so full of the value of your spiritual life as he is.

It never occurs to you that the slightest hint of fulfillment as something worth having is pure illusion, we don't see the primary lie that becoming is worse than a waste of time - so we'll go out and buy Ram Dass' new book "Polishing the Mirror" and apply it to our personal myth like bad makeup and remain perfectly defended in the face of the failure of these crap teachings to award us with any value at all.

Operators are standing by to take your money and fill your book order.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gbm8iqXXxq0>

## ***Weeding out the Preachers and the Humans***

You can imagine I have a hard time making and keeping friends.

Just last post (when I got silly drunk trashing Ram Dass and spit up my chai all over my embroidered kaftan) someone named SeeingThru Maya or some such handle calls me a "dick" and unsubscribes because I was being hostile.

And then some gal called Dhanya Durga (a lovely person I'm sure) starts preaching about some Hindu and Guru and Polishing shit for whose benefit, I can't for the life of me figure out.

It's kind of simple, do you want to wake up to the unbelievable Big Lewbowski shit that This Really Is or do you want to phuck around and swim in the river of your imagined self-interest and remain all human-ed up?

This is an inconceivable infinity of self-fulfilling liquid beatitude that responds as a simultaneity to whatever the magic of interest and attention seem to be interested in and so is able to convince itself of there being a subject and an object extruded in space unfolding in time, when none of that is actually occurring.

If the magic of interest and attention simply becomes disinterested in taking any prisoners or having something/anything be on the other end of itself – then the dreaming doesn't resolve to a world in which you find yourself as a container or an antagonist/actor.

I'm attempting to convey (poorly I know) the trans-human and trans-explanation nature of what This is actually not-doing, so we can shake free from the imaginary boundary field of what we have presumed experiencing to be up to this point in our lives.

The Night Sky Sangha is not apologetic nor does it conform to your cherished treasure troves of comfort or spiritual expectations. This does not mean that I don't love and respect you, but why would you care about that anyway.

This is for the crazy few who have nothing left to defend and harbor no malice, Reality takes no prisoners. Preachers and humans need not apply. The Dude Abides.

And "...the whole darn human comedy keeps perpetuating itself..."

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsKoxi12jbl>

## ***...you're gonna have to face it, you're addicted to love***

While it may seem we become enamored with a teaching or a teacher, what we are hopelessly in love with is ourselves.

We cannot resist the liquid radiant love of the first-hand revelation that This is Awake and that this gift of unspeakable nourishing strangeness is coursing through our experience as/on infinite levels of subtle engagement.

There is a Sanskrit word for this turn of events appearing in our spiritual adventure – that would be “toast”.

Take comfort in rock n' roll while This butters you up and devours you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= RB0FpSfGS8>

## ***A dead Guru is a safe Guru***

You might think that fellow devotees of whoever your guru might be would shower each other with the fondest of regard and unrestrained support to enjoy the adventure of waking up and soar to the heights of discovery.

You would be mistaken; most devotees are in it to assuage and ameliorate their own psychic conundrum of "what about me?", "what can I do to get it?", "is there enough to go around?", "is my progress good enough", and honestly speaking why shouldn't we be.

It may be useful to examine just how reliable your memory and devotion and vows are once the Guru dies? After some years of respectful reminiscence one may discover that all we can be devoted to is an idea, a memory, a collection of faint presumptions - and we mistake these memories as living devotion. But once again, we are mistaken.

We hold ourselves hostage to our ideas of and affection for the past, and we can't help it but hold others hostage as well and because we fail to imagine that we can be / or are free - no one else is permitted to be so either.

And what glues this pile of "gomaya" (Sanskrit for shit) together are your fond memories of the dead guru which is nothing more or less than what's dead inside you.

We think we are interested in liberation, but we are really interested in being safe and there's nothing safer than a dead Guru. If you don't already have one, find one and become devoted to her/him. That way you'll be safe and you can pine for realization until Lakshmi (Ramana Maharshi's liberated cow) comes home - for the rest of your life.

Only what's alive as unmitigated radiant wonder can free you from the cell of your own smug position as a know-er, as an accomplish-er, as a devotee of maggot ridden memories and fond regards for your former spiritual experiences.

Contrary to popular belief, this profundity of you is not corroborative or collaborative or some shared experience. If you're waiting around for some agency outside of yourself to grant you the moniker of understanding, you're worshiping in the wrong direction.



I would humbly suggest that it's perfectly OK for you to wake up right about now, right about here, by disregarding any and all advice or boons you've been granted prior to this moment - they won't help you.

## ***Who's awesome, You're awesome!***

Inquirer: So far, the contrast between 'experience as happening to you' and 'experiencing happening as you' looks like the difference between a Technicolor world and the world as a bright light.

Night Sky Sangha: How this looks is part of its arsenal of tricks, one's focus may shift from permutation to the immediacy of the revelation of creation, and subtler still. Looks are always deceiving.

Inquirer: Not only are we designed and conditioned to believe that there is an existing Technicolor world, it is nearly impossible to sustain looking at the light, not knowing what is coming next.

Night Sky Sangha: No need to sustain anything, that only stimulates the imagination that there is a looker. Pure novelty is on tap, who knows what's coming next.

Inquirer: One may say that a sense of humor, even joy becomes possible when we accept that the intense light is indifferent to our desires and is appearing to its own drummer, simply for our delectation. Making it Technicolor is what we do and in that effort kill the possibility for profound joy, settling for the full spectrum of emotionality.

Night Sky Sangha: How This manages to ensnare itself as an extruded and disparate creature of consciousness is a miracle. Curiously it is not causal nor does it have any actual consequences.

Inquirer: Is 'awake' in contrast to the normal state of the world, simply another example of the yin/yang Technicolor nature of the occurring world?

Night Sky Sangha: Awake is not relative, it is absolute. It is not available to be characterized in relation to anything else.

Inquirer: Having a clue about being witness to the moment of creation, in fact being one of its creators is too awesome to believe.

Night Sky Sangha: This is too awesome to believe and so best to relax completely into revelation; then belief becomes irrelevant, and the awesome remains.

The Dalai Lama knows what you're made of....



## ***Talking monkeys take comfort***

One useful definition of texture is the "distinctive or identifying quality or character". And it is useful to approach this as feeling, not as emotion, but as sensation - the first-hand fact of sentient listening and sensation.

There is no "How" when it comes to the ever-evasive and ever-present nature of awake. Awake is "unfracturable suchness" which, from a linguistic or referential point of view, cannot be rendered in thought or even occur to me, since the me is a fractured symptom of imagination. And one might say that this spontaneous arising of imagination as interest and attention (from where or to whom - we don't know) is what we refer to as the dubious certainty of psychological time.

There is a temporal quality to experiencing when experiencing is presumed to be a) happening, and b) to me. This seductive and holographic delusion which is not a process and did not begin at some point in the past effervesces as presence - as the texture of experiencing.

We have, or better stated, This (as the present presence of presence itself) has the capacity / gift to self-reveal. Self-revelation is not a product of thought, or conviction, nor does it have anything to do with your knowledge or spiritual accoutrements.

The unadulterated texture of experience unencumbered by any thought or frame of reference that the mind (thought factory) might accuse it of is awake 24/7, even on major holidays.

So before you inflict or afflict yourself and others with the silly presumption of being human (whatever that means); why not see what actually is, feel what actually is, be what actually is - I bet you will be thrilled with the possibilities!

From our good friend Hikaru Sulu, helmsman of the USS Enterprise:



## ***The best place for God to hide***

They say that the best place to hide something is in plain sight. Make it so obvious and commonplace that one would never imagine to look there; and where might such a place be?

Let's say you were god; not made in her/his image, not a child of, not a supplicant or worshiper, not born into god's already constructed universe.

You don't have to please god, bow before god, pay homage to god, thank god, curse god, shake your fist at god, cower or lower your eyes to avoid god's gaze, be afraid of god, pray to god, make offerings of recirculated coconuts at \$20 a pop to god (like they did at Gurumayi's palace in the Catskills), or feel subservient and not-worthy of god's shining grace (unless Alice Cooper is nearby).

None of the cherished, mesmerizing, polarizing, and offensive superstitions from our gratuitous world religions fly - you are god.

One could say that awake is the revelation of the simple and mind-blowing observation of this fact. Not as some event that some self-celebrating guru writes about on their shitty sales-pitch web-site - no, that's all bullshit.

The revelation is (and is of, but not as a subject) this remarkable entirety which is not occurring in time, in some place, having some author, made of anything you can find, built of objects, going anywhere, diminished by some purpose or reason(s), lasting for even a moment, limited by a cause or any effect.

This very moment where you are (not have) the remarkable gift that notices and immerses in the primary miracle of interest and attention in love with itself completely un-afflicted by the infinity of permutation and phenomenal expression, is god.

So where would god hide if she/he were prone to such a curious predilection? Not somewhere outside of you nestled in creation, not somewhere inside of you, not above or below you, certainly not before or after you.

The best place for god to hide is as you, and all everything is the un-observed and unobstructed self-evident revelation of this perfectly awake non-condition. Get used to it, and do whatever you do - what choice do you have?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5FT3IGXtAk>

## ***This glorious fraud is all you have, and more than you need***

That sentient experience is occurring is irrefutable, as an unrepentant plagiarist I don't mind referring to it as "This".

Curiously though, if you take a moment to consider the fact of sentient experience, you may discover that This is not bound by time or space or objects or subjects nor does it broadcast any explanation or insist upon any motive or reasons for its appearance.

Sentient experiencing has nothing to say about itself; it's not praying to God for favors or remedies from suffering, it's not taking a position on some spiritual or political platform, it's not interested in past life regression, or angels, or Mayans, or experts on various frivolous subjects, it's not interested in the stories you may insist upon to assert your existence or lament your suffering or attract adulation from others.

What This is defies any and all efforts by religious and secular spectators to explain it, justify it, or manufacture superstitious creationist presumptions about God (his big-bang junk) and "his" objectives that always subsume your inherent dignity and betray/condemn you to a paltry life of supplication and fear.

If you find out that you are interested in getting to the bottomless (not the bottom) of This fabulous, fraudulent, primary miracle of radiant revelation - then what you call your life may actually include some fun, some real fun.

Though you annihilate and self-immolate on the road to revelation it is a phucking hoot to behold that This glorious fraud is all you have, and more than you need!



## ***Avoid 2nd hand stim***

You know how harmful 2nd hand smoke can be, well 2nd hand news is badder, and 2nd hand stim is even worse!

Events and circumstances appear in your consciousness or your field of experiencing - you don't actually know what they are, you just construct a phantasm called your life through the miraculous and impersonal impulse of pattern recognition and association - thus you impose arbitrary meaning on the naked plenum of reality and insist on disparate being.

This same impulse for universe creation becomes inebriated with the effluent of your imagination that events and circumstances are real, that they have consequences for you. That you can benefit or that you're in trouble some how.

All and everything appearing in consciousness (though there is really nothing apart from something else) is 2nd hand stim ("stimulus"). We become seduced by the 2nd hand stim just like the local bubba's at a sports bar watching a game on the big screen.

We are immersed in the hallucination of 2nd hand news and 2nd hand stim which occupies our interest and attention as if this rush of mysterious stuff is what reality and ourselves are made of.

If you take a moment to shift your attention (some folks call this noticing or wondering or waking up) from the 2nd hand stim to the origin or virtuality of consciousness / experiencing itself, your locus of being becomes diffuse and non-selective and nourishing and full of delicious emptiness - absolutely free from the impulse of universe creation. Give it a try sometime.

That you are 2nd hand news is good news, this revelation has the capacity to shake you free from the delusion of self.

Shit, even Fleetwood Mac is enlightened, we can do this!

## ***Is there any Yoga worth doing?***

When it comes to our Inquiry into Awakening peer-based shamanic dreaming group discussions I tend to over-compensate for my regrettable lack of genuine understanding by talking too much, exuding false confidence, shouting people down, pointing out the oh-so-obvious flaws in their thinking while guarding my own - you know, all the basic stuff a terrified narcissist does to stand on the shoulders of others in deep water to avoid drowning in the truth.

Despite these rather deplorable and pedestrian anti-spiritual behaviors still we seem to have a good time winging through the acres and acres of imaginary bullshit which tries over and over again to define our present experience and make the mystery of the entirety all about me.

If you are hanging with a "genuine realizer" there can be a lot of good feeling and personality obliteration in the atmosphere - this is called shakti. A strong realizer gives good shakti, like Beldar gives good cone.

But what do you do as in inviter or a fellow aspirant if you don't have a lick of realization or shakti, but still you are compelled to venture into the beatitude of the present unknown with a couple friends from time to time?

Well, you do a little yoga. Not the posturing kind, not some purification or ritualistic gestures - you simply whip up your urgency, interest, and affection to see what This is for yourself without relying on something you've read or believe or heard from someone in possession of shakti.

If you are willing to appreciate that no one can possibly enjoy any advantage over you, that no one is better at being god than you are, including god - then you can treat yourself to the widest possible aperture of imagination and permission to peer into the nature of being completely autonomously and in doing so make up your own convictions and vocabulary about what you see and what you feel.

That's the yoga worth doing, this yoga is punctuated by your fascination with presence as radiant availability - there is nothing other than radiant availability.

All appears in radiant availability, objects (including the presumption of your own body) are not made of anything physical or tangible or existing - this taste of the primary miracle (however brief) will stalk you and inform you and eventually (as in right now) consume you.

Resistance is futile!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSCe40HMv1c>

## *Dropping down a funnel*

While living up at the widest rim of your funnel you are veritably a muggle, presuming yourself to be born into a preexisting materialist universe as the consequence of some carnality.

From this vantage point you firmly believe that you are a disparate creature meandering around in a volume where circumstances and events appear in the context of space and time. The world is a certainty and so are you as a self-deterministic being possessing an exercisable will that is deterministic and can influence your future.

If you are lucky, life reveals a depth of frustration and disappointment that compels you to explore your beliefs and open yourself to a bit more vastness - so some contemplative and yogic (in the broadest sense of the word) perspectives start to flood in.

Now you are mid-funnel, cracking the cosmic egg of your naivete and beginning to see a broader possibility for the course and subtlety of your experience in the company of miracle.

You've been to teachers, read books, meditated and stretched, graduated from gross presumptions and compulsions to a more subtle appreciation of presence and the pleasure of unsought dumbfoundedness.

As the funnel narrows you naturally lose the predilection or habit for commenting on your present experience as if there were some observable borderline separating you from what is present, the reified (if not re-fried) conviction of there being a subject (as yourself) and objects (the stuff of apparition). Now you have the tickle and invitation to see that your present experience defies the lies/laws of physics.

What if the radiant, pushy, and divergent fractal refractory of all phenomena and consciousness is not the consequence of the big-bang forged universe - but the universe is imagined as the Acosmic consequence of non-corporeal unmanifest being?

Perhaps you can discover what it feels like to peer into the effulgence of being with no beliefs at all, completely innocent of time or becoming or the pressure for your present experience to require the slightest validation or explanation.

Window upon window of speechless presence self-reveals with no one at the center and nowhere to stop to contemplate the view, no restlessness can perturb the sublimity of this present mystery.

Wonderfully there is no bottom or finality to this funnel, even if you fall all the way to the bottom you are dumped into infinity and you never even think of looking back.

## ***How to?***

Religions tell you what to believe, what to do, what not to do, who did what on your behalf, how to eat and when, what god said and what "he" intends for your imaginary life as a worshiper and generous donator.

Religions sell you time, fear, your loathsome and unworthy self, your likelihood to fail to emulate the religions' esteemed founders and sacred prognosticators of superstitious and unconscionable bullshit; they sell you a pack of lies to enmesh and enroll you in pure fantasy while ensuring that you will suffer a forever unsatisfying less-than life.

As long as you remain unwilling to own and abide in the prescient and absolutely autonomous nature or your own etheric magnificence you unconsciously or belligerently insist that you are the product of something else like god.

If you want to hold something or someone responsible for the profound existential misery and panic which create the never ending halos of sorrow and insufficiency that permeate and infuse your experience - then you must be willing to see, with absolutely no defense, the roots of your own beloved superstitions.

If there is a "How To" then there is someone to execute the action plan over time in order to become the proud recipient of some conditional or preferential spiritual state in your future and this belief agenda assures that you will be duped, cajoled, comforted, and put down by the foaming surrealism of samsara for the duration.

If you want to wake up (and why wouldn't you), you need look no further than what is immediately present; you may cease projecting the absurd lie that your immaculate presence is the product of someone else's handiwork; you may drop the reflex (without the slightest gesture or effort) to get something or enjoy some deliverable from the primary miracle of your own liberated being; you may discover that there is nothing outside yourself.

This effulgent view is not an attainment and has nothing to do with how good or bad or deserving or purified a human you happen to be. Recently a dear friend and member of the Night Sky Sangha (though we don't allow members) wrote -

"It just came to me. In a split second, I am everything that is. DUDE! Sublimely simple. And I have no idea what I'm talking about...hahaha"

## ***Arbitrary Liberation***

The frivolous and wondrous nature of universe creation is absolutely arbitrary - one might say that our insistence to impose order, credibility, predictability, safety, familiarity, object-permanence, and even celebrate the "power of now" is pure bullshit. Pure indeed, but bullshit never the less.

How is that we insist on the fatuous certainty of our birth, our plan, our stuff, our future, our knowledge, our moral proclivities, and our present view while we dismiss the entirety of the cosmos as being an arbitrary and impersonal expression simply subject to some set of laws (like the laughable poetry of physics) that we have determined to be true?

Everything else is merely apparitional; but my feelings, my impulses, my money, my gratification, my political and spiritual positions, my life stories, my certitude of what is happening right now is so clearly true that I haven't a moment in my busy day to consider any other possible or plausible reality than my effortless and arbitrary presumptions.

The mind (whatever that is, including who it may belong to) is cascading unmitigated associations and identifications spinning endless fractal representations tirelessly, miraculously, and completely impersonally. How on earth and when exactly did you decide that this smoldering, steaming, and putrid swamp of fantastic and arbitrary bullshit had become yours? And why do we cling so precipitously to this miasma as if our life depended on it?

Each and every disappearing moment (not to suggest that there are any) is a perfectly unscripted and consequence-free miracle of textural hallucination with no author and no building blocks that just won't quit and cannot be anything other than fully phucking liberated. It's like a burning man.

If you have any reason(s) left to convince yourself that your arbitrary liberation is not true - you may want to speak to a professional about it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jq9m70THQ4A>

## ***What will you trade for freedom from self?***

Were it not for the involuntary gift of a life as an imagined individual inhabiting a body, things would be pretty smooth for you.

But as it is you have stuff to do, savings to amass, people to get even with, a bunch of shit to be afraid of, purposeful disdain for infinite injustices, secrets to hear and tell, and all kinds of cool spiritual experiences waiting for you in your future while you race towards old age, sickness, and death.

And depending on your socioeconomic class and distance from Fukushima's run away and species threatening reactors there is a bunch of fantastic sensual pleasures to enjoy, great books to read, wonderful music to hear, thrilling sports events, celebrity gossip, some great food, and perhaps some great twerking - if you have a good chiropractor that is.

Everything coming your way must rely upon your being inhabited as a body fully stocked or stacked with time and space and the certainty of self, otherwise where and how would any of it stick?

Why do you want anything to change in your life, anything at all? What is the nature of the restlessness or dissatisfaction that urges you to heal, urges you to learn, urges you to wake up, urges you to be free from those nasty afflictive emotions and the unbearable paralysis of being you?

How can you possibly be sanguine or at peace in a universe full of asteroids, comets, Nibiru's, and Bieber's coming at you like derailed freight trains threatening your constitution and personal space?

What would you be willing to trade for freedom from fear, freedom from harm, freedom from grief, freedom from self? How deep are you willing to go into those private vaults where you keep your most precious jewels and ideas and convictions and comforts?

That nobody has anything for you, that you are perfectly inconsequential, that the world is no better or worse for your being here, and that nobody likes you - does it all add up to perfect happiness or some form of despair?

Just how aggressive and insatiable are you willing to be in your self-discovery adventure to get to the bottomless of all This?

## ***Appointment with revelation***

I don't know about you; how much you can stomach from all these trivial spiritual sales agents who feign so much knowledge and offer so much advice for a fee, who seem so interested in your silly and frivolous life and problems so you'll part with your money and your affection and your glazed-over adoration, but I just can't handle it.

You think that meditation, angelic visitations, low glucose high chlorophyll juices, compassionate preoccupations, mimicry of neo-advaitist psycho-babble, Patanjali, Ram Dass, being saved, shamanic immortality, or any such advantage seeking that reinforces the hallucination of "you" is well worth your time and interest.

What you don't see is the curiously magnificent and magical impulse for conversion of nothing into something, the instantaneous myth of becoming, the completely obvious and profoundly hidden chemistry of your role as an archivist and the involuntary compulsion to orient yourself as a product of birth in an imaginary volume.

How quickly we forget that we are not even possible, that This is so completely off the charts no spiritual experience or Avataric incarnation even amounts to anything, that the presence of infinity is so startlingly baffling we simply don't know how or why anything is.

When the weave of your precious consciousness becomes threadbare and you can't keep your narrow-verse working on your behalf anymore, then you might say that your appointment with revelation is at hand.

In each moment we are instilled with the remarkable capacity for creating meaning, for insisting that we are experiencers of experiencing, and that we know what this is, why it is, and how to get to the dry cleaners.

Dare to take a moment and feel how it feels once you discard all justifications and filler and plans and entitlements and what-about-me's and simply ignore all the voices that try and convince you that you'll perish or meet with some harm if you stop controlling everything.

## ***Andrew Cohen - What we'll do for Enlightenment***

Some of you may be aware of the recent "Apology" made by Andrew Cohen (a spiritual teacher?) to his minions of admirers and aspirants for evolutionary enlightenment. See link below.

Some of you may be aware of the plethora of abuses that Andrew and fellow community members heaped upon hundreds or perhaps thousands of sincere devotees during a reign of enlightenment terror that persisted (and may still) for decades. See link below.

What is fascinating and equally infuriating are the numerous comments beneath Andrew's apology blog post where one can read a profoundly divergent representation of kudos, advice, warm best wishes, strained incredulity, and shocking disbelief with the superficiality of Andrew's "surrender".

That clinical and sociopathic narcissism (in this case the teacher's and the students') is epidemic might reveal something about the nature of genuine self-discovery and the fantastic spectrum of confusion, supplication, and delusion that accompany the razor's edge of Awake.

Reality is not rational, predictable, count-on-able, friendly, compassionate, healing, or even worthy of your attention - when pursued as a human for human betterment. You don't go to reality for enlightenment, you go to reality because you are made an offer you cannot refuse.

It is lamentable that so many sincere aspirants suffered terribly at the hands of Andrew Cohen and his hench-persons. Perhaps these passages of inner denial, loathsome malcontent, abuse / coercion, violating narcissism, and financial manipulation to name a few are all part of the adventure that we simply cannot avoid on the way to true self or selfless reliance.

Andrew Cohen is a malevolently sick charismatic; our world is spilling over with these personality cultists and petty tyrants at every level of human interaction including globalist control dramas all the way up and down the samsaric food chain of heaven and hell.

There is no point in giving any advice (enlightening or otherwise to a primate), they'll just phuck it up anyway. If there is a way, and we can't say for whom or to what - it would be the un-afflicted and non-coercive welcoming of This presence which does not require any preparation or purification, and though it will certainly kill you - it will not harm you, if you get my meaning.



## ***Physics is good for Nothing***

Do you recall the moment or the day you decided to agree with what you were told about what This is? I bet you don't, I bet you have no idea how or when or why you became an accomplice to the profound portfolio of bullshit that you call yourself.

Do you have any memory of your conception, your birth, or when you transitioned from a lovely and innocent dumbfounded infant to an inconsolable petty tyrant of "No"?

Here you are sitting on a veritable fountain of miracle that's not made of anything, that has absolutely no duration, that defies all theory and probability, that has no author, that is not run by some triune persona or team comprised of a father, a son, and a holy ghost.

All the religious authorities are running on fumes, the politicians are prostitutes for cash and influence, and the democracy no longer represents your interests and inalienable rights for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We have been demoted, marginalized, and condemned to an unconscionable ignorance of our own sacred nature by the bankers, the corporations, the governments, the education system, the militarization of local peace keepers, and a cosmic epidemic of misogynist malevolents.

And because I'm feeling generous we can let the NWO bastards off the hook for a moment and hold the mysterious inherent intelligence (an unavoidable accusation of agency and anthropomorphization) responsible for how things are going.

If you do a little exploration at the edges of our current and surreal models of big-bang conception theories you may find that the confidence placed in electrons, neutrons, protons, photons, particles, and waves is way overrated.

Perhaps we can thank the physicists and the physics for nothing, as in the revelation that there is nothing we can actually hold responsible for consciousness and all that appears in it.

Let's put all this seeking crap and guru adulation aside for a moment, shall we? Let's 86 Ramana, and Ramakrishna, and Lord Buddha, and Adi Da, every supplication we've ever had, including all the self-appointed devotees of illustrious dead saints.

Maybe you don't think so, but as far as I'm concerned you have a responsibility and an obligation as a sacred representative of this pristine imaginarium to wake the phuck up and demand your fair share of this inconceivable love-fest before the whole lot of us perish in waves of useless despair.

Peter Russell gives a good lecture on the topic.....

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-d4ugppcRUE>

## ***Impersonal Plasma of Pure Availability - Part 1***

If you're a seeker you want to know something, something about what though? Perhaps you are motivated to ameliorate your confusion, your suffering, your miserable penchant for self inflicted mental torture? Maybe you want to drink less, eat more greens, play fewer games of solitaire, have closer friends, enjoy your life more better?

Maybe you just want to know God because you are sincerely curious or truly altruistic, or you want to be of service in a divine rather than a pedestrian kind of way. Let's just say seekers are in search of some outcome for some set of reasons - the funny part is that most of us seekers can't really define or articulate what it is that we think we want to find.

We think we're in love with gurus who pet cows, or wildly gesticulating non-dualists who claim to be That, or kundalini drenched masters that swoon in nirvikalpa samadhi's and lose all consciousness of the world, or teachers that give us some "Work" to do in order to mitigate our petty irritations, or the hundreds of self-assured advice givers whose books we can read and workshops we can attend so we can sit rapturously listening to the repetitive and superficial bullshit that they espouse for our supposed benefit.

Most often the seeker wants some resolution for what she imagines is present, but our locus and bandwidth of investigation is so myopic and conditioned by a thousand unexamined presumptions that we trip over our own devotion and end up as second hand codependents still seeking approval and recognition from our poor choices of surrogate parental authorities well into our adult lives.

If there is a wheel of karma, then for sure the seeker holds the best orchestra seats for the duration of this banal concerto of "what about me"!

If we are going to endure the rigors and razor's edge of yogic emancipation we must attend to the profound challenge of individuation before we can swim in some pool of We Are All One.

As long as your focus is tuned to the amelioration of self-centric afflictions - where do you think you're going? As long as "you" want - just what degree of mystery do you imagine will visit you?

Presuming that the entire context and possibility of your first-hand experience is limited to the ideas you have as an individual inhabiting a body born on earth in a time/space clusterphuck volume called the observable universe is simply insane.

May as well enjoy some hand waving while we wait for Part 2.

## ***A poetic interlude***

This Inquiry business can shake your world, and that's exactly why we do it. In the process, mind makes room for heart and poems can happen. Here's one from our friend Pat Walsh.....

I am the safety and warmth of home on a bitterly cold day.

Chaos screams like the rush of winter winds.

I hear it and revel in my contentment.

An open door exposes me to the bitterness.

Therefore I know peace.



## ***Impersonal Plasma of Pure Availability - Part 2***

I imagine you realize by now that I have no idea what to say next. I'm not sitting on some dung pile of strategy, or liturgy, or even any understanding that is lurking in the background which might inform my fingers what to type next.

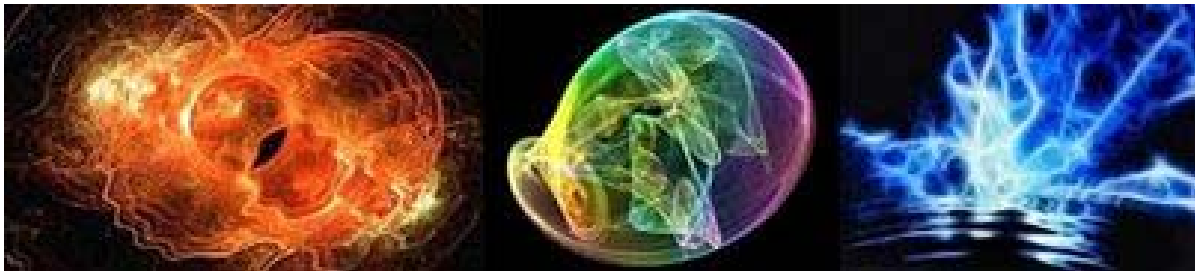
There is no enlightenment and there is no un-enlightenment. This ineffable observation reveals that present experience has absolutely no qualities, not even one.

Qualities appear on the scene instantaneously as a remarkable package deal which includes self, time, space, otherness, externalization, agency, individuation, self-determinism, body, and language to name a few. One might refer to all of these symptoms of belief as reification or imbuelement.

In other words, not that we really need any more words, the irrefutable startle that experiencing is occurring at all does not require any affirmations or explanations. Presence is pristine and made of pure wonder. This revelation is of the nature of immersion, but free of anyone to be so immersed. The singularity of being does not take any prisoners, does not engender a condition, and has no utility or capacity to improve your life.

If there is a discovery to be made and you are the decider (in a manner of speaking) it might feel as if you have shifted from imbuelement to irrefutability. It might feel as if you have become spontaneously free from symptoms and discovered that you are indeed an Impersonal Plasma of Pure Availability.

Why not check it out; it's not like you're doing anything so vital or valuable with your life that you can't make some room in your busy day to find out that you are god. Kapish?



## ***I Think + a Poem***

Inquirer: 'I think' ?

Who is the 'I' and what is doing the 'thinking' ?

Reality only notices doing or not doing, alive or dead.

Where does thinking fit into this?

NSS: When we say 'I think', we have to be (or might wish to be) very careful about what we are referring to and not simply reduce a rich miracle into a platitude.

That profound waves of association appear spontaneously and impersonally rendered in very subtle memes of recognition or pattern creation/identification is profound and may warrant our attention and appreciation.

That this "thinking" is accompanied by the sense of an "I" doing it or to whom it is occurring is no assurance that there is such an "I".

"Who" and "What" are already loaded with the expectation that you should and will find some agent on the other end of the question.

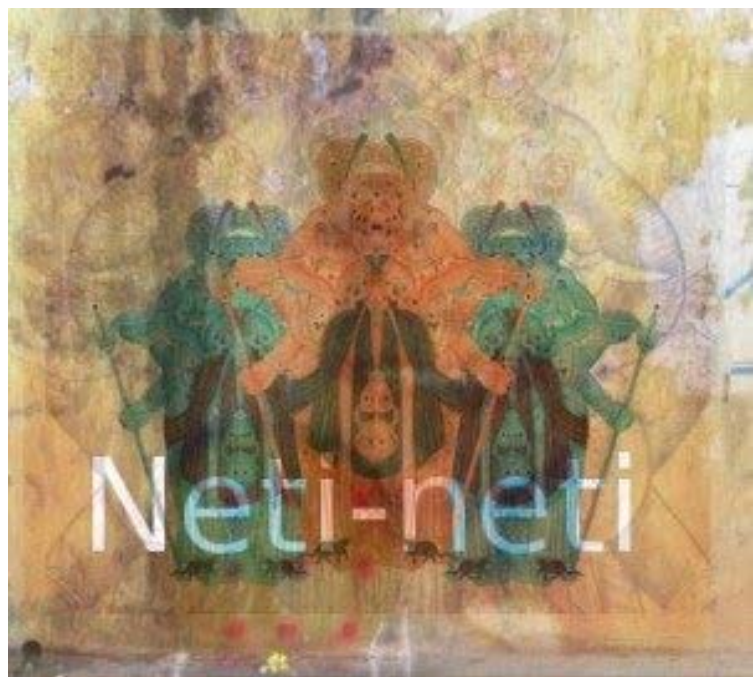
You can't say what Reality notices and the notion of doing vs. not-doing (alive or dead) might be some vestigial residue of Landmark Education's bullshit.

We will not be able to construct a working or causal tautology within fantasy since all we have to work with is the epitome of vague – we can only see that This is not subject to our aspirations for understanding or protestations about how This should or shouldn't be.

When your quest for representation or accountability for what seems to be appearing is exhausted, then you can relax in the undifferentiated miracle of being. But why wait?

A Poem from Pat Walsh:

Unable to express the inexpressible.  
That figures!  
The black hole which devours  
everything that can be seen.  
What is seen?  
The light that "we" worship, the "all"  
that we see.  
neti neti neti



## *A few questions, if I may*

1. Just when exactly are you planning on keeping your appointment with liberation?
2. How much does the earth weigh?
3. How many times must one read 'I Am That' to be That?
4. Is your memory and stuff really sufficient evidence to prove you have a life?
5. Is this curious wonder of presence more than enough for you, or are you missing anything?
6. If you are missing something, where do you imagine it is hiding; somewhere in your future?
7. How much does the earth weigh? I'm not sure I agree with your first answer.
8. Are you really able to say with any conviction at all that you've had it with yourself?
9. What next, then?

The mind (whatever that is) can't help but to weave mistaken, ambiguous, and arbitrary associations about the unscripted and miraculous fact of presence into some idea that you are the proud owner of a body, a mind (it loves to self-reference), a life, valuable possessions, a personal history, numerous responsibilities, consequences of your chosen actions, unrelenting apprehensions, God-given entitlements, and every possible morsel of surreal nonsense - all of which are nothing but inconvenient hallucinations.

For reality, every day and every moment is Halloween and so it plays dress up wearing some 7.2 billion primate masks not to mention the fun it has with the rest of the mammalian, insect, oceanic, and mineral kingdoms.

If you go to some Guru and they sell you a bag of shit, either return it or leave it in the trash on the way out. No one has anything to give you since you already are all that is - why you insist on some other plausible explanation for the big WTF that's never not in your face is really beyond explanation.

If someone tries to encourage you to practice or purify or adopt some teaching or repeat some mantra or trash your ego or be compassionate or make any effort at all to add some idea to your already undifferentiated non-condition of purely inconceivable awake - kindly ask them to please phuck off.

I promise you'll feel better.

Answers to the questions are below - I don't want you to sweat it.

## ***A few questions, if I may. The Answer Key, right side up***

1. Just when exactly are you planning on keeping your appointment with liberation?

If it's not right now, you may as well forget about it.

2. How much does the earth weigh?

Not even an ounce, the damn thing is floating in space, and even the whole of space is floating in space – or are we living inside a beaker somewhere.

3. How many times must one read 'I Am That' to be That?

Not even once, I wish they'd stop deifying Nisargadatta.

4. Is your memory and stuff really sufficient evidence to prove you have a life?

No way – unless you insist of course.

5. Is this curious wonder of presence more than enough for you, or are you missing anything?

Big question, the only question. You have to answer this one.

6. If you are missing something, where do you imagine it is hiding; somewhere in your future?

This is why you remain in samsara, because you think you have a future to be enlightened in.

7. How much does the earth weigh? I'm not sure I agree with your first answer.

The whole of creation and consciousness itself is not the result of anything, your primacy does not owe anything to anyone, you are perfectly autonomous and without cause or effect. I snuck that one in there for my own amusement.

8. Are you really able to say with any conviction at all that you've had it with yourself?

As long as you are still relevant as the experiencer, the seeker, the enjoyer, or the sufferer of anything; you are way too much. It is only when you take the risk to be completely irrelevant that happiness will find you.

9. What next, then?

Just phuck off and chill out, in a good way of course.

## ***Oui R Awl 1; Knot - Part 1***

This is the story of just how "One" we all are, or not. It all revolves around a sincere invitation to a Dance Party, which was successful by all measures, even though most of the "We are all One" crowd decided so stay home and be One somewhere else.

I'm naive, actually impaired, when it comes to the aspiration for all of "us" to be one. My nagging suspicion is that no one really cares to be one with anyone other than themselves. But I wanted to prove to myself once and for all that this was not true.

So I made a date for an "A\*\* Your Dance Off" party (see image below to get the double entendre) for all of us spiritually inclined god-aimed enlightened-destiny types to get together and worship in the best inter-faith manner possible - dancing to rock 'n roll.

Next installment (Part 2) will highlight all of the local spiritual merchants and institutions where you can find god in your own backyard, and our white republican enclave is actually rife with such opportunities.





## ***Ouï R Awl 1; Knot - Part 2***

Permit me to introduce the diverse and curiously wonderful spokes of our local and extended spiritual community; this is a list (with url's below) of all of the groups that we invited to our "A\*\* Your Dance Off" celebration for peace, oneness, and fulfillment.

Pebble Hill Interfaith Church - this is the home of the Night Sky Sangha. It's where we meet two nights a week and Sunday mornings for stillness practice. This is where we held our dance celebration.

12-Step Recovery Friends - our pals from the AA and NA meetings that meet at the church.

School of Sacred Ministries - an inter-faith ministerial education and certification program sponsored by Pebble Hill.

Circle of Miracles - another local circle of faith, healing, channeling, and miracles.

New Hope Metaphysical Society - a rapturous community for medium-ship, spirit guides, and messages from deceased, ascended, and ancient intergalactic beings.

Stephen Redding's Family & Friends - our local Gaia-friendly mystic who has survived several near death encounters. Stephen throws a fantastic party at his arboreal sanctuary and farm with a giant bonfire.

Susan Duvall Seminars - Susan is a gifted marketer and seeker, her offerings are world class and include healers, mystics, pineal gland activators, mediums, and spiritual adventures to vortex-rich sacred sites.

Sacred Paths - a spin-off group (from Pebble Hill) of spiritual aspirants and God/Goddess worshipers filled with awe and enthusiasm for living.

Local Buddhist Sanghas - local contemplatives and pursuers of enlightenment.

Yoga Studios - Dragonfly Yoga Studio, Sun Dog Yoga Studio, Ash Mill Yoga, Synergy Integrative Health, River Yoga.

I figured that we could change the world by dancing together and enjoying the solidarity of the "Ouï R Awl 1" experience. There's a message in all this - I promise.

## ***Oui R Awl 1; Knot - Part 3***

Let's just finish this off so we can move onto more fun stuff. To be brief (I'm kidding), permit me to make these few observations and then we can drop it.

You may have perused the interesting web sites and offerings of our local spiritual "community" - we have quite a number of opportunities here in Bucks County to make your life completely whole and to cultivate total happiness, health and wealth, and dwell in pure serenity for the rest of your days.

One would think that there might be some inter-faith connection between these groups, but the fact is that every one of them stakes out their territory and competes for attention and customer loyalty and cash to promote their business and spiritual occupations.

Besides Pebble Hill (where we held our dance) and a few 12-Step pals - not a single one of the many parties invited responded at all to our invitation. No "thanks", no "great idea", no "appreciation" for the cross-promotion, nothing - not a damn thing.

It's not like I was actually surprised by this nor did I (do I) take it personally - I just like to rant and this seemed like a ripe opportunity to make a sincere attempt at outreach and inclusion and, of course, we ended up with mum.

Don't you find it kind of curious that no one really talks to anyone about anything that might look like a coherent revelation of freedom? I do.

All of our local spiritual efforts for life improvement and emancipation from suffering behave just like our fear-mongering global religious, political, corporate, and financial expressions - believe what we ask you (tell you) to believe, do what we ask you (tell you) to do, pay us and tithe with your money, your heart, your obedience, your recruitment efforts on our behalf, and offer up the lives and bodies of your children for our purposes.

I'm telling you flat out (and you are always more than welcome to ignore me), it takes a very focused and deliberate warrior's attitude to reach sufficient escape velocity for you to leave the orbit of primate ignorance and eschew the entirety of this species-wide imaginarium which has no other interest than to incarcerate you and drag you away (over and over again) from your unencumbered and present nature.

We at Night Sky Sangha are doing our best to Dance it Off; hope to see you at the next "Liberation 'R Us" party.



## ***Why is seeking enlightenment such a bother?***

It is absolutely incredible just how many ways and means there are for us to ignore the palpable miracle of awake just as This is and go off half or full-cocked (or half / full yonied, to be gender inclusive) for enlightenment and end up dehydrated, malnourished, and then dead on the steep side of a southern Arizona mountain after getting kicked out of a novice practitioner cult retreat with not a penny to your name and no vehicle to get your ass back to the nearest Denny's.

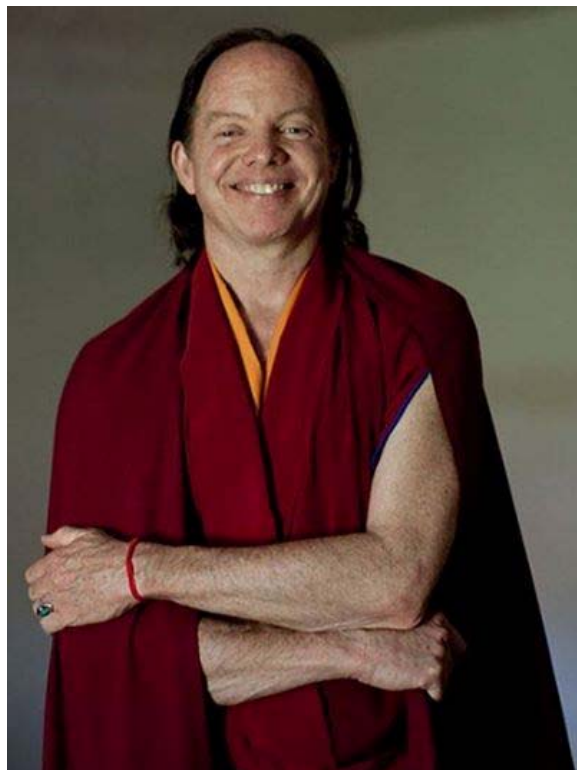
Two lovely yoga teachers sat next to our table at breakfast this morning and I left them a Night Sky Sangha business card as a welcome invitation to participate in our Inquiry meetings. I was directed to their web site and naturally followed the crumbs of their "lineage" to a fantastic story (referred to above) about shit you will just not believe, or probably will - URL's for your reading pleasure can be found below.

Not to elucidate any further about the sad story itself, or the narcissistic charismatic that claims attainment resulting in someone's death - the real point is quite simple.

If someone offers you an explanation about reality or consciousness or attainment or paths to attainment or means to attainment or invites you into a protracted process or retreat or expects you to devote your savings to their cause, or does anything at all but simply encourage you (for no money down) to consider the inconceivable beatitude of This right here just as it is - then get out.

What passes for Dharma in the West; whether the Buddhist sitters, or the Hindu stretchers, or the Sufi twirlers, or the Bhakti chanters, is all bullshit! Every single gesture of causality or pursuit is absolutely untrue. This exhortation may save you from decades of distraction, but probably not.

Try not to buy a used car (or enlightenment) from this man.....



## ***The sublimity of pure wonder***

Kindly permit me to offer you a full pardon from the crimes, wounds, and indulgences of your past in hopes that you may release yourself from all spiritual aspirations, pursuits, and obedience's.

Curiously enough this simple gesture, which no one but you can gift to you, is all that is needed to solicit and immerse in the sublimity of pure wonder.

The source and fruition of all yoga and bhoga including the lamentable genesis of all religions and belief systems is simply this presence just as it is.

God is not other than this, not somewhere else, not here/there to help or hinder you - This present miracle of mind-caressing wonder is the very presence and present of being and is in fact the liberation you have been hoping to acquire.

By pardoning yourself from all externalization, projection, transference, and loyalty to the imaginary authority or knowledge of others you become remarkably self-sufficient and able to wake up to the self-evident nature of your inconceivable autonomy.

This autonomy is enlightenment, it is here, it is now, it is irrefutable, it shines with impunity - it is the fullness and emptiness and entirety of your present experience.

If there is a reason to participate in Satsangs, it would be to end the tyranny of your own self-denial. The guru (which is you-ru) has but one gift to offer you, and that is yourself.

Forgive my glibness, but any other suite of nonsense that suggests time or practice or obedience or vows that distracts you from the present sublimity of pure wonder is crap.

With all this god-talk, I'm "jonsing" for a doughnut.



## ***Infinity at the tip of your nose***

What exactly is surrender? Is it something you do, something you agree to, something you commit to; are "you" even in the equation?

What if surrender is none other than this very gift of irrefutable wonder? Perhaps your imagination + what you think + what you believe are instantly released into infinity when you see that your liberation is none other than This.

If you make demands upon your present experience or insist on some form of complaint or insufficiency then you inadvertently close the door on the revelation that is resting at the tip of your nose.

What is it that urges your next inhalation and invites your heart to take another beat? This window of wonder and confidence in complete freedom from self is always immediately at hand. Your yoga then, is simply to become enthralled with the nature of expressive infinity; just here, just now, just this.

You must stop waiting or wishing for enlightenment, you must stop supplicating anyone or anything other than what is immediately present as the nature of your own experiencing. You won't liberate anywhere else than here or in some imaginary future that you don't actually have.

The present moment has no duration, no substance, no reason, no cause, no utility, and it cannot be reported upon or remembered with any adequacy - your present experience cannot be found, it is unabatedly dissolving and still it does not cease.

This curious miracle of consciousness as the primacy of all being and phenomena is not a thing, not a quality, takes no prisoners, has nothing for you and yet if you permit it to, will reveal awake unmistakably and complete freedom from all authority, all confusion, and all becoming.

This very moment is the seeker, the sought, the key, and the fruition of the quest for yourself. Welcome to it; you're out of the waiting room, you've kept your appointment, and it is clear that there is nothing more or less for you to do.

This is the way of your days for the rest of them, Day after Day.



## ***Can you handle the truth?***

Who do you admire for telling the truth? And what did they tell the truth about? Was it about something they or someone else did? Was Monica Lewinsky there by chance?

What exactly is the truth? Something you know, something you feel, something you were told about, or something that was inoculated into your consciousness and behavior patterns for your own good?

Was it something about Jesus? Maybe everyone is just kidding about the truth, but they're happy to take your money or have you be in their church. Maybe they offer you a plausible diagnosis and then write you a prescription for living - as long as they get some % of your terrific experience and good fortune in the form of cash.

What's happening to you right now? Just how accurate do you feel when you think about or convey your confidence in your present experience?

How many cells are there in your body? What are they up to right now? Can you consciously communicate with even a single cell and get a status report so that you can do something better or different for its benefit?

What is your memory made of? Where is it stored exactly, somewhere in your brain? Do you always tell the same funny story in the same way with the same inflections and does it always land as you intend with your present audience?

Did anything happen to you a moment before now? Can you feel it from the vantage point of the past? Where do you live? Not your address of course, but where is here exactly?

What is real, what is reliable, what stays still long enough for you to be sure you are experiencing it? If this is a present moment, how long do you have to enjoy it?

Is there any gap between what's leaving and what is freshly appearing? If the past is clearly a vague illusion of recall, and the future is clearly a vague projection of what's not happening - then how about now?

What can you say about now? Once you see that now is impossible - where does that leave you? Why seek to attain? What could possibly be the use of an attainment?

Do you hope that some spiritual destination like enlightenment will be of some value or use to you? And when exactly? In your future perhaps, so you can be happier, better, more secure, profoundly invulnerable then?

How good are you at living now? Though we can't find it or actually benefit from it, is your experience one of absolute wonder, absolute incredulity, absolute uncertainty, absolute curiosity - or do you insist over and over again to turn nothing into something and call it your miserable (or even not so miserable) life?

Here's a simple koan; Two aspirants vowed to sit in a Porta Potty until one of them reached nirvana. Which one do you think won, The aspirant on the left or the aspirant on the right?





## *If you could let go, would you?*

It can feel as if we have accumulated a camp trunk of conditioning, circumstances, and events that we are the owners and recipients of.

We can hold our heads in our hands and marvel at or lament the inventory that seems to comprise the content and evidence of what we call our lives.

We are imbued with and crafted by beliefs, responsibilities, regrets, shame, aspiration, uncertainty, ambiguous presumptions, disappearing impulses, vague and compelling moods, insane thoughts - and all this is not actually stored anywhere nor are we the containers of what appears and disappears in every dissolving moment.

It may be that reality cannot actually take anyone hostage, it has no hard drive or storage medium, it's only volatile RAM electrostatically refreshing and discharging in each double nano plank's constant of a blink of nothing at all.

In that respect just exactly what or who do you think you are and what does it matter really since you're mistaken anyway? If you take it a small step further there is nothing that you or This could possibly have accumulated and so there is nothing to let go of.

And even if there were, and there's not, how exactly would you let go of it? Would you cough it up, laugh it off, or barf it out? What you call your experiencing is doing itself according to its nature and your presumption of This happening to you is an artifact of thought and the reification of pure radiance, and quite simply untrue.

So good luck doing anything about this as a condition of or necessity for you to be absolutely free. And if anyone tells you what this is or what you should do including the encouragement to let go, just show them your pet bird!





## ***Ordinary Reality is Non-ordinary Reality, it's better than The Secret***

I'm a Carlos Castaneda fan - I don't think it's too much of an exaggeration to say he saved my life, and/or that Don Juan saved my life.

After the Hobbit and Trilogy where was an adolescent seeker supposed to turn; Krishnamurti, Ramana Maharshi, and Ramakrishna weren't on our radar yet? Be Here Now was cool of course, but indulgent in a way that obscured the true magic and mysticism of Neem Karoli Baba.

Autobiography of a Yogi was also fantastic, maybe too fantastic - and certainly insufficiently intimate.

But Carlos and Don Juan invited me into a love affair of such depth, such affection, and such profound possibilities that I went naturally to Castaneda and the profound miracle of those teachings.

I recall weeping (which I did quite frequently in those days) that I would never meet Don Juan or be able to converse with him because I was failing Spanish and wasn't particularly gifted with language. My options for finding a mentor of extraordinary experience and skills were nil and less than that even.

I pined secretly within the hidden depths of my tortured adolescent and suburban soul to find a master so I could fulfill a curious and unsolicited hunger for sacred discovery.

The story goes on of course and it is a fun one, if you enjoy gurus and shamans and contemplation and drugs and addictions and the writhing that accompanies a life hell-bent on transmuting the denial of dissociative narcissism into sufficient individuation and release from codependency to actually consider the apogee of liberation.

I found a copy of "The Teachings of Don Juan, a Yaqui Way of Knowledge" tossed somewhere in the undergraduate maelstrom of a dorm room belonging to my sister then studying at Stony Brook on LI. I was there to see Frank Zappa with Flo and Eddie do the Billy the Mountain tour - another transcendent experience that deserves its own story.

The book didn't quite leap into my hands, but once there I could not let it go and recall reading it in the dim light between open cars on the LI Railroad ride home, one meticulous and extraordinary word after another.

And once back in Wantagh, I walked home from the RR station some 3 miles straining to read in the night, inoculated and afflicted by some magical soma of transformation that was ringing and shining and laughing in every cell of my 18 year old body.

There is no question in my mind that Carlos unlatched the crazy and formidable and unrelenting seeker within me, he brought me the gift of the cliff - and I have been leaping ever since.

I recently read a rather startling expose on Carlos' life on Salon written some 7 years ago. Turns out Carlos was just another gifted and self-intoxicated narcissist and sex-addict who fabricated Don Juan and most of what was written while creating a mess of a love club that probably ended real badly for many - so what.

Carlos may have been a fraud in many if not all literary respects, but he was also a conduit for unlocking the imaginations of millions and offering such succor to tortured and confused souls like mine, that I remain grateful as well as disappointed for those that may have suffered under his non-liberated influence.

Non-ordinary reality turns out to be just this ordinary reality. If you're lucky enough to dedicate your life to making the discovery, I don't see any reason why you won't succeed in it.

<http://www.salon.com/2007/04/12/castaneda/>

## ***Quick Start Enlightenment***

Kenneth Folk has a program for you, a rather quick one at that, aimed at your becoming enlightened as soon as possible as the result of some simple (more or less plagiarized) steps including your decision and willful capacity to surrender.

The first steps coined "First Gear" are reiterations of time-tested practices in the Buddhist liturgy (Theravadan Vipassana) referred to as "labeling" where one objectifies the raw facts of body sensations, feeling tones, mind states, and thoughts in order to penetrate the myth that these dissolving appearances are self.

Ken wants you to see that if you consciously and cooperatively label what you think or feel is happening then you are no longer "embedded/unenlightened" in it as self and thus enlightened. The hope is that once you objectify everything that you imagine is happening within your psycho-somatic atmosphere - you un-embed.

This isn't true nor does it work, but that's for you to discover for yourself, my opinion is useless (that's obvious by now if you read the crap I spew).

Ken's "Second Gear" is another lift (or theft if you will) from Ramana Maharshi's seminal and often misunderstood "Who Am I" training. The metaphor here is to turn the unruly, oppositional, and defiant nature of consciousness on itself to discover if there actually is a Who to Whom All This is occurring.

This shit doesn't work either, but the same invitation applies - give it a few decades on and off the cushion and see how you feel. We'll keep the PO box open so you can send us a postcard from your miserably unenlightened future.

Now that you've successfully completed the first two gears and know beyond a shadow of a doubt that you may or may not exist, we come to the fabled and always stale dessert.



"Third Gear" is, you guessed it, surrender. No one has ever articulated what there is to surrender, or who might surrender, or even how to surrender, but they don't mind instructing you to do it anyway.

Some folks say "there is nothing you can do", other folks give you gobs of shit to do or ways to think about or frame the mystical and mythical nature of your experience so you can be enlightened too.

There is no "way" to get to what This already is, why drive around the block to return to where you already were? Yes, I know, it's the scenery fool - my life as scenery.

If you dare to peruse Ken's Forum you may discern whether his formula for your spiritual success is working or not despite the tag line on his web-site that reads, "People are getting enlightened here."

A few links follow that exemplify the elements of Ken's "teachings", the copyrights on others contributions to the Dharma have all expired and are in the public domain so Ken is not likely to do any time - enlightened or otherwise.

Halloween Approaches.....

## *Musings on 'no-self'*

I had the privilege of attending a SIG (Self Inquiry Group) meeting recently which morphed into some email exchanges with the participants and an extended family of fellow aspirants.

Permit me to share some of it with you.

A SIG member wrote: In any case, I do hope that your approach is fundamentally different since the great relief that I experienced with the realization that the self is an illusion or projection of the mind, was only temporary, as has apparently been the case for many others who have spent time at the "no-self" sites. Perhaps the community that you're forming and differences in your approach help prevent the illusion of self from reestablishing itself.

NSS Reply: Thank you for the wonderful links and the generous trove of insightful reflections and possibilities found there.

Imagine how much is at our disposal for investigation as contrasted with Richard Rose's day (1947), we are immersed in and surrounded by resources so vast that one would imagine that awakening would be epidemic these days!

Your question and reflection on the nature of "no-self" sites and more importantly why one's own revelations are punctuated by ambiguity and unreliability are most poignant. Indeed this Inquiry that you pose is a wonderful wormhole for discovery.

We can't help but become unconsciously infatuated with presence and phenomena as a whirlwind of subjects and objects appearing in space twirling about as circumstances and events occurring to "me" in time. Thus we are spellbound by the miracle of being from the vantage point of self, and this self reveals itself to be so annoying, so insufficient to the task of joyful living, so self-important (why wouldn't it), so doggedly existing and infuriating – that we want out!

We want to be free of/from self, from limitation, from apprehension and risk, from the banality of individuation and duration, from fear; such is the noble path and madness of a sincere seeker for truth.

For so long we engage in ardent explorations and teachings and practices and purification's and ecstatic dances hoping to spin so fast that our self is flung far from our shoulders never to return. We are deliciously and deliriously and hopelessly and compulsively compelled to be free from the intoxication and incarceration of self, that we are likely to go insane before we get any relief!

This condition-less condition, it turns out, is the launching pad for the last thrilling furlongs of our journey to vacuity.

Why is it that we want enlightenment (whatever that is or isn't) to be permanent within our personal lexicon of experience? That's fairly simple; cessation of self is so phucking good that we would be fools not to want it, have it, be it all the time.

What we are dealing with on this path of fruition is a fabulously complex, immeasurably simple, holo-fractal cornucopia of pure magic so inconceivable by human terms and tendencies for explanation, that we are baffled silly by the presence of presence and do not understand (understandably so) the nature and subtlety of our frames of reference which insist on self and time and circumstances and the urgent requirement for consistency of experience.

This genesis of unrelenting weirdness did not happen with the big-bang, your conception, your birth or anytime at all for that matter. It is not possible to self-condemn ourselves to corporeal individuation without the gift of ambiguous arbitrary fantasy creation spontaneously and impersonally appearing in what seems to be “my” consciousness.

Following these crumbs (all admittedly hallucinatory) back (in a manner of speaking) to the source of unconditional and radiant beatitude free from all qualities is the most fun a primate can have, once the primate catches wind of this journey, of course.

Hope to see you (and other SIG friends) at an Inquiry some time.

<http://tatfoundation.org/bio.htm>

## ***Remedy for what?***

Problem is we take our suffering so seriously that we naturally place way too much emphasis on enlightenment as a remedy for what's not happening and never did.

Throw yourself away, what's the point of attaining enlightenment as an idealized solution to the imagination that you and your life suck and you need to do something about it?

The slightest hint of present insufficiency and sought for improvements in an imaginary future is exactly what keeps you wanting and delusional right now.

Handle it.



## ***Disinterest in Experiencing***

Before you have a suitcase full of stories or profess obedience to some world or obscure religion you must first contend with the primary miracle.

Well, what the heck might that be Night Sky Sangha guy?

That This or anything for that matter is occurring at all is fairly startling, don't you think? To write it off as the predictable or commonly accepted consequence of the big bang is a fat bag of horse shit, don't you think?

If one has an interest in the genesis of suffering and a similar interest in some approach that might alleviate this suffering you can't just ignore the primary miracle - otherwise you're dwelling in imagination and not likely to be all that successful.

You may spend a considerable chunk of your lifetime doing what you can to prepare for the day when your ship (spelled "relief") comes in, but you won't make a dent in your alleged misery unless you contend with the primary miracle.

You see, each instant of experiencing is a fresh start, a universe-wide fractal refresh of all and everything, and owes nothing at all to what you might think occurred prior to this moment - this observation is in fact liberation.

That nothing is happening at all, save your delusional presumption that it is, and that no moment lasts long enough for you to have any idea at all what is happening is also an open portal to liberation.



By giving your content-free attention to the primary miracle you may observe the impulse of interest (samsara) or disinterest (nirvana) arising purely spontaneously and impersonally - when neither holds you hostage, that in fact is liberation.

Even if I am full of shit, and that is a certainty for sure, still you owe it to your not-self to check it out and see what's what-less.



## ***Dog Fish Head Namaste***

From time to time seekers ask, "Hey Night Sky Sangha Guy, do I need a Guru?"

Well I am a seeker advocate and pride myself (no one else with any sense would) on helping seekers to navigate the pretentious and notorious labyrinthine morass of getting from prideful stupidity to over-confident self-realization, and why not?

So the quick answer is Yes and Yes, mind you I did not say Yes and No (which is typical of those banal "both/and" types), I said Yes and Yes. Why else would I submit myself to your kind and courteous disdain and disagreement unless I was willing to stand by and defend my assertion that you'd be better off if you find some Guru (preferably a good one) and sink your teeth in her/his trousers and never let go till you find your way home - just like a smooth chilled glass of Dog Fish Head Namaste.

The subtle or in-your-face aspect of this advice is that the refractive, mysterious, irrefutable, profoundly disturbing and holo-crazed nature of infinity masquerading as something other than infinity will kick your ass into dumbfounded and prideful misunderstanding 24 hours a day and then some - no matter how enthusiastic, well-trained, and earnest you are about getting to the bottomless nature of your own Wile E. Coyote consciousness.

We have no idea just how miraculous and formidable the nano-charged nature of delusion is (even though it isn't) and what we are up against, let alone what we are. This is way too weird for words, even though you can wrangle a few together as you stumble into revelation after revelation after revelation.

At some point - thanks to the not-two intimacy of infinity appearing as Guru & Aspirant, one may pierce the apparent veil of experiencing being something happening to someone, and all heaven breaks loose.

There's no such thing as ignorance or enlightenment, but this doesn't mean that you should ignore either one. Cheers!



## *Some Inquiry & a Poem*

Liberation doesn't have to be some grandiose or celestial event that you take to the bank. It can be just you, as you are, open to insight and discovery - the way you live your life.

In this context-less context the key is, "It's the way this is felt that makes all the difference", courtesy of our dear friend John S.

Luckily, our attention turns from circumstances, events, and our discernment about them (all symptoms of radiant presence) to the primary miracle punctuated by the sacred solemnity and sole existence of the curious and ever morphing nature of consciousness itself.

Inquiry with Frank Z. -

Inquiry: Liberation seems to occur concurrent with the recognition of This, within which moment everything else is not present, all there is This.

NSS: Yes, as our attention goes to the ground, we become less interested in its symptoms.

Inquiry: Joy accompanies this liberation when acceptance of what has appeared in This is recognized as having appeared without my effecting, speaking, or intending; and that doesn't mean that any of those actions have been abandoned.

NSS: It is a curious observation to see that This indeed joy – and not as the consequence of anything other than that This Is.

Inquiry: They are simply dance steps available be used to create the illusion that we are having something to do with what occurs.

NSS: All ideation and story-telling are just that, an imagination that “we” or “thought” or “belief” are connected to anything.

Inquiry: There is nothing in This but This.

NSS: Yes, the collapse of other reveals the autonomous presence of This – and our confidence cannot be attributed to anything other than This.

Poem from Pat Walsh -

No reference point.  
No black no white.  
You really must be kidding.  
No where to stand.  
No place to fall.  
No knowing anything  
at all!



is  
to

## *Just imagine what you are imagining about your imagination*

You may know or not know who Lionel Trilling was. At least you know now or now know that he is dead.

He was quoted as saying, "The poet is in command of his fantasy, while it is exactly the mark of the neurotic that he is possessed by his fantasy". Pretty good shit, you agree?

We could (out of affection for J.K. Rowling) rephrase Lionel's insight using wizard and muggle, or (with due respect to Castaneda's Don Juan Matus) Lionel might say a warrior and an ordinary man.

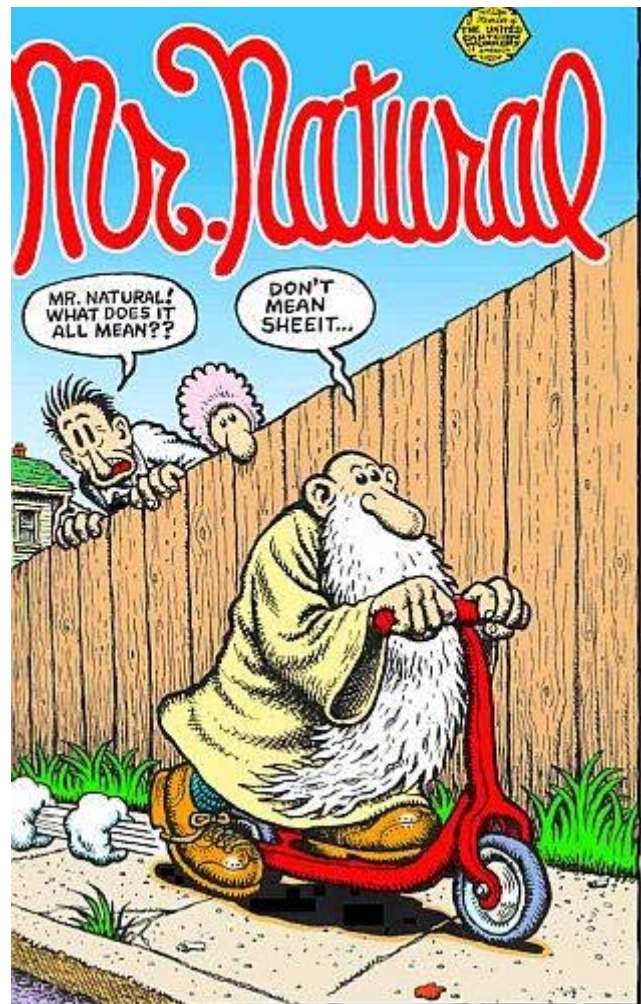
Let's just say that all and everything at your disposal from moment to moment is the infinity of imagination since there exists no discernible or dependable or functioning or actual reality outside the gift and embrace of unrepentant infinity.

This irrefutable presence and impersonal elucidation of quality-less infinity is all there is and curiously enough does not obey the supercilious laws of physics or pay any mind to time or space, since there are no such things.

Any and everything that appears in mind is none other than the spontaneous immediacy of this infinity doing the only thing it knows to do - namely to imagine what it is imagining about its imagination.

What we call corporeal life or existence, including the un-reportable miracle of the apparent universe, are symptoms of this intuition making itself known to you (spelled seeking) and as it burns its sigillary mark upon your soul (spelled agony) you have no choice but to keep your appointment with unencumbered release (spelled awake).

If you care to imagine what you are imagining about your imagination, surely this inconceivable revelation will visit you and then you're phucked in the best way possible, after all it's quite Natural.



## ***Much ado about nothing***

I cut my teeth in Hindu Dharma in my early twenties with a 3-month trip to West Bengal where I submitted myself (as best I could) to Sri Swami Prahlad Chandra Brahmachari, a renunciate baul of prodigious yogic attainment.

Under his divine tutelage I came face to face with my own yogic challenges: I am lazy, easily discouraged, prone to irritability, lack the maturity to stay focused on anything or believe in anything, avoid taking risks to avert failure, and trivialize sadhana because I can't do any - in a word I have a rat's ass chance in all creation for even a miniscule pinch of attainment.

But enough about me, what about Shree Ma and Swami Satyananda Saraswati - two of the sweetest and most accomplished practitioners of Hindu Dharma and devotional practices probably on the planet today.

Their pantry is overflowing with divine exhortations, ecstatic chanting practices, enviable and fabulous biographies, temples, murtis, travelogues, recipes, classes, inspiration, and astrology for starters - they are a one stop destination for you to enter the nutritious world of God Realization.

A simple question: where does all this fanfare and incredible yogic accomplishment leave you? How about plunked down right about where your ass is now, just here.

Is anyone better at being God than you are? Is God better at being God than you are? If you spend your whole life in worship and renunciation, will you have become better at being God, will you have improved your chances for attaining to what you already are?

I have spent a considerable portion of my mediocre, unholy, and selfishly driven life in pursuit of some inkling of anything I could write home about - I ran out of postcards a long time ago.

I have a suspicion that God surfs the Earth (or maybe the Universe) channel, lights a blunt, and yawns out loud - "much ado about nothing".

<http://www.shreemaa.org/>



## ***Wanna make something of it?***

There is no cell in the entirety of the matrix of your body's 60+ trillion cells that is older than 7 years since mitotic inception, and yet, how old are you? That's a bit of a lie, since brain and eye cells apparently "age" with you. (See link below)

Nothing actual occurred prior to this very moment, and yet, there's a box somewhere with your baby pictures.

That present experience is lusciously dripping with Satcitānanda (truth, consciousness, bliss) and still appears to you as the lamentable burden of yourself, is a miracle of imagination.

Seekers for enlightenment are hot on the trail for the best possible experience, that's why they always fail.

This is the best possible experience, This is the only possible experience. The unrelenting irritability of insufficiency is conjured by the compulsive impulse to make something of This, to make something of yourself - no one can help you with This!

How about a baby picture? You may notice the fierce determination and confident stance of this young toddler on a trajectory toward total emancipation.



## ***Thrashing around in a bliss-fest***

You may have noticed that nothing and no one obeys you, including yourself. This is very good news.

Every time we are reminded that our consciousness, our memory, our aspirations, our best efforts, our sincere intentions, our blustery commands, and our supplications have absolutely no impact on the rushing forth of the radiant and pushy primary miracle; we get a reprieve from stupidity.

It may feel as if we have been abandoned by the Lord, that we are not taken seriously by the ascended masters, that we are alone on a damp crapper in a wooden outhouse on a cold day.

But the truth of it is that once all inhibitions and ambitions have been cleansed from the greedy and small-minded presumptions of your needy soul, the whole universe comes to sit with you and the intimacy of absolute vacuity renders you dumb-founded and buoyant beyond your wildest expectations.

It may be worth your consideration to stop thrashing around in this bliss-fest and just come to rest, even if the toilet seat is a bit chilly.



## ***Take one small step back***

As long as we remain enamored of our capricious capacity for instantaneous abstraction, confusion reigns supreme. This miracle of universe-creation from nothing at all turns out to be so enthralling that we live with the supreme, yet chronically malnourished, confidence that experiencing is occurring and therefore proof of "me".

In this way we become enslaved by circumstances and events as the defining parameters of our lives, the movement of time, and the pursuit of happiness as things accomplished, things obtained, things to do - we create bucket lists and non-stop conjecture as mental fantasy over and over again and fail to see the open doorway of absolute cessation.

Suffering is one tricky bastard, it pays to reflect deeply on the genesis of suffering and not jump to any Buddhist conclusions about its nature or cause. Fact is, no one knows the nature or cause of suffering - the primary miracle is too good at what it is and what it does for anyone to be confident about anything.

If you can take one small step back; suggesting that you refrain from knowledge, refrain from causal chains, refrain from the restlessness of becoming, refrain from some attainment or stream entry - then you may be able to sense the open doorway at the tip of your nose.

All there is is revelation, and it is not occurring to you, it is you. The fire of revelation is bountiful and beautiful beyond description or metaphor - seeing this is cessation of any remaining identification with circumstances and events. Feeling this releases one from the disdainful presumption of individuation and duration.

Take one small step back from the bling of extroverted phenomena and enjoy yourself as nothing at all.



## *A Course in Miracles*

I went to an ACIM meeting last night to see what I was missing; let's face it, my whole reason for being and seeking is to find out what I am or have been missing - and there is a phuck (if not a truck) load of that.

Mind you, I'm not interested so much in discovering what This really is, I just need to be sure I'm not missing anything and that no one is having more fun, more knowledge, or has found a better guru than I have. It's a very spiritual endeavor as you can undoubtedly see.

These kind and evangelical folks (someone called me brother) explained that the Course is channeled or intuited dictations from Jesus himself. Imagine that, Jesus died for our sins, was crucified, reanimated and rose from the dead, and then somewhere around the late sixties decided to gift us with yet another tome of what to do about this annoying and seemingly tamper proof "EGO".

So your mission (should you decide to accept it) is to work the lessons in order to achieve a better understanding or even friendliness toward of God's Will somewhere in your future (since no one is actually allowed to realize now).

Most of the stories and unsolicited testimonials from the Course-Accomplished "ministers" in the room had to do with some form of life experience improvement, or evidence of their ego-lessness, or kind advice to those of us still suffering from ego-ism.

Funny how the Course trumpets key elements from various non-dual radiance traditions like Advaita, Dzogchen, and Kashmir Shaivism, but packages them all around the notion of ego and how it "attacks" us from/with fear.

So the effort is aimed at revealing the slimy and formidable accomplishments of ego (a lot like Eckhart Tolle's pain body and Power of Now bullshit) in order to be free, someday, of its entanglements and snares.

That ACIM is also an industry peppered with charismatic celebrities of all types makes me wonder if there is anything of value to it; wherever you find a gaggle of primates seeking succor by doing shit about their own imaginary condition you can bet it isn't really working for anybody.

Still the fellowship of overly and overtly smiling and self-confident lovers of Jesus is hard to dismiss, I wish them the best. I'm just too jaded and self-important to be benefited much by an incomprehensible pile of gibberish.





## ***A Course in Miracles II***

I was compelled to get to the bottom of the big mystery surrounding the authorship and ultimate authority of the Course in Miracles "dictations".

To my surprise it was impossible to get through to the Pope, Neale Donald Walsch, Eckhart Tolle, Marianne Williamson, and Oprah Winfrey (in that order) so I placed a call to Jesus and as luck would have it, he took my call.

If you've never talked with Jesus directly, I absolutely recommend it! He is available (amazing considering how many times a day he is solicited for interventions), down to earth (which is not easy to be after an ascension), witty (now that he's down from the cross of course), and does not refrain from using adult language (which he learned while being on the cross of course).

So I ask him, "Jesus" I say, "did you or did you not dictate the Course in Miracles to Helen Schucman?" And Jesus replies to me, "Phuck no, I wouldn't be caught dead writing that shit bag of fatuous nonsense." Then he softens a little (which he is really really good at).

Jesus continues, "people can do what they will in my name and I can't stop them and would never wish to. There is no need for any lessons or sacrifices or oration or clarification for my beloveds to be irrefutable irresolvability. I checked with the Merriams & Noah Webster on the spelling, they're usually at my card table."

I am not too forward with Jesus and usually express my gratitude for what he shares and leave it at that so I can savor his guidance and presence, and let things just sink in - but he feels my hesitancy (after all omniscience has its benefits) and volunteers more reflection.

Jesus continues, "My nature is uncomplicated, your nature is the same. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are not separate or individualized - the primary miracle is This Radiant Being. All appears in and unfolds in the dreaming miracle of myself, I am the Christ, I am alone and all there is, I am nothing at all and I fill the universe with abiding sacrament as myself."

Now I know he's done and before I can say goodbye I hear the dial tone which sounds like Om, and I brush the tears from my cheek. He always makes me cry, every single time.



## ***A Course in Miracles III***

I promise this will be my last post having to do with ACIM. In fact this post is hopefully more relevant to all religious and spiritual ideology of which ACIM is one small spec of irrelevancy.

I attended a talk by Peter Fenner (RadiantMind) in Berkeley a while back and enjoyed my own reverie quite a lot. The one cool thing I came away with was a remark he made to a particular "on the circuit" seeker who had a penchant for getting into attention seeking gibberish laden free rambling diatribes about stuff not at all relevant to the topic at hand, just to hear himself speak and/or to try and outwit the teacher with incomprehensible questions and assertions.

This guy was always around at these non-duality talks, and how did I know that? Because I was always around at these non-duality talks, so its kind of a kettle and pot thing.

Anyway, the audience would always yawn or cringe or laugh nervously when this seeker got going because it was always really difficult to make him stop. But Peter nailed it with ease. He simply said one of the most curious problems he has encountered as a teacher was that so many aspirants over complicate the matter; and the crazy guy just folded, it was phucking brilliant!

So what if I told you I could condense the whole ACIM journey into one single question; no big fat blue book, no lessons, no meetings, no ego, no celebrities, no workshops, no retreats, no nothing - would you be interested?

No matter if you are or you aren't, here it comes.

What can you (or are willing to) discover about the irrefutable fact of your present experience that is not an idea?

Therein (herein/now-in) lies the entirety of all religious and spiritual aspiration, simply rest in This.

<http://www.buddhistgeeks.com/2009/07/bg-128-peter-fenner-entering-into-natural-meditation/>

## ***A Simple Twist of Fate***

Let's pretend for a moment that you have some interest in awakening, or some similar metaphor typically used to refer to something other than This.

The whole torrid and turgid affair of conducting a turbulent search for a simple twist of fate can be punctuated by meetings with strange people, believing in a bunch of useless shit, investing in spiritually inspired self-denigration, being misled by narcissistic therapists and gurus of a sort, and enjoying the delicious angst of great urgency, lamentation, and miserable failures - and all in one day!

That you are a child of infinity living inside a thimble never seems to occur to you, the self-evident nature of radiant creationism is so good at occupying or inhabiting its own fantastic fractalism as an entity - you swear that you are you.

This self-identity package commonly includes being born as a body of a certain gender, race, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic class, and other adornments dwelling as a creature breathing invisible gas on the surface of planet Earth tucked away in some obscure parsec of the Milky Way galaxy within the inconceivable volume called Universe that started from absolutely nothing as the Big Bang.

One wonders, are you so phucking gullible that you take this user information package provided by parents, school teachers, counselors, scientists, gurus, bankers, politicians, police officers, psychopants and salespersons of all kinds to be real?

Let's start at square one, just as a palate cleanser, do you have any idea what This Is? If you do, you are insane and you may as well deal with that however you wish to, or not.

If you don't then you are naturally and without effort available for a simple twist of fate. A twist that will assist you in shifting your confidence and attention from thought to being, from story to presence, from assertion to listening, from abstraction to clarity.

Mind you, you won't find anything that looks or smells or feels like awakening, you won't have anything to sell to anyone, you won't invite anyone on a retreat (or an advance), there will be no CD's, DVD's, exercise books, interviews with Oprah, and no donate button on your website - you will simply have forgotten all about it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOidLloVNgc>

## ***Imagination is the most profound evidence of your present liberation***

The only vehicle at your disposal, and oddly enough, apparent obstacle for your enjoyment of absolute awake right this instant is your imagination. All spiritual endeavor and mentoring simply encourage you to trust your own imagination to see and feel and set yourself free from the hallucination and imposition of being small.

Two quotes to contemplate.

"They who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night" - Edgar Allan Poe

"Imagination, the supreme delight of the immortal and the immature, should be limited. In order to enjoy life, we should not enjoy it too much" - Vladimir Nabokov

Where do you live?



## ***Conversation & a Poem***

Inquirer: Suppose - There is only One Mind and that all thoughts are minds (beings) thinking galaxies, space, all stuff and non-stuff which are available to be experienced through the bio-electrical human mechanism and further that those same beings can also think thoughts and create the illusion of manifestation which is still the One Mind's thinking, what the hell is the point?

There is no limit to any thinking and doing... We do not have to stay, can leave any time we want. Whatever...

And yet the mystery and fullness of the presence of THIS is so utterly overwhelmingly engulfing.

NSS: Yes, and it is stranger than what we mean by "mind" or thoughts; all phenomena is borrowed from the Primacy.

All ripples of everything are not experienced through the bio-electric mechanism, even the plenum known as body is a ripple itself. This can't actually place itself outside itself.

You discover what the point is when all referencing elapses into itself and no further boundary fields are imagined.

Yes, liberation is total failure of all imagination and extrusion, overwhelmingly and lovingly engulfing and speechless and radiant and without any quality.

"Sometimes Crashing" courtesy of Pat Walsh:

Brooding in the depths  
where only life exists,  
Rising from the  
unknown  
into the unknown,  
I give life.  
Little feet scamper  
on the shoreline,  
playing with what is -  
and what is not.  
I rise and swell,  
I crash and retreat.



## ***Happy Thanksgivukkah Everybody!***

What a great day to celebrate The Well-Lit Genocidal Convergence (a festival of lights and the extermination of Native Americans), can you stand having so much joy crammed into one day? I can't.

"Hanukkah marks the Macabees' long-ago defeat of the much-larger Greek-Syrian army that had invaded Israel. The Macabees were just a small group of Jews... but they organized themselves into a guerrilla army and, with God's help, proved stronger than their powerful enemy." - IFCJ.org

Once again and over and over we see the same theme play out in the inviolate life of the surviving underdogs when God came to their (practicing Jews) rescue and assisted them in killing enough of their enemy (the Greek/Syrian forces) to proclaim a miracle of warfare and long lasting oil.

Sounds a lot like the fossil fuel wars and corporate hegemony (as in belief systems) we suffer from today.

Thank you God for helping me to kill them and not be killed by them, you are a great and powerful agent of my will to live! If everyone would simply believe what I believe - we could, all 7.2 billion of us, put our weapons down and feast!

And to think that this 8-day festival of gratitude coincides with the secular reminder of our successful genocide of indigenous Native American culture is just too good to be true!

"... by 1637 Massachusetts Gov. John Winthrop was proclaiming a thanksgiving for the successful massacre of hundreds of Pequot Indian men, women and children, part of the long and bloody process of opening up additional land to the English invaders." - Robert Jensen

Mr. Jensen goes on to say "Simply put: Thanksgiving is the day when the dominant white culture (and, sadly, most of the rest of the non-white but non-indigenous population) celebrates the beginning of a genocide that was, in fact, blessed by the men we hold up as our heroic founding fathers."

As if these two curious insults against our own dignity and our own divinity weren't enough - I am further compelled to mingle with genuine affection (which I have) within the gracious and generous embrace of family which is just another war-zone in its own right.

No problem really, there will be plenty of alcohol and other libations to see me through the day, which to be frank, I use generously to get me through the life.

Happy Holidays  
every one of us, may  
all beings be happy  
and continue to  
suppress their lethal  
and egregious  
instincts for control  
at least for the  
remainder of the day.





## *Perpetually Swept Away*

If you give the slightest attention to the curious nature of your own conscious experience you will find that each moment is perpetually swept away, leaving no trace of its ever having existed.

Yet one persists in the dogged imagination and confidence that something has happened, is happening, and will surely continue to happen - and oddly enough that these happenings are happening to you.

This simple observation reveals the extraordinary nature of self-hood and the chronic restlessness that punctuates and accompanies it - we are always locked in the mirage of becoming and doomed to dwell as individuated creatures beholden to psychological time.

All of that pedestrian Buddhist crap about desire being the cause of suffering, and the famed dichotomy of craving and aversion having to do with anything at all is just another silly celebration of symptoms - not cause.

Suffering and Nirvana (cessation of suffering) are myths of equal and useless proportion. If it is in your destiny to eschew the surreal madness of primate agreement and religious explanation and solutions systems run amok you would be well served to take a knee to your own miraculous first-hand experience and apply yourself to seeing and feeling what it actually is so you might revel in the greatest gift you've ever known - perpetually swept away.



## ***The distractions which usually plague my mind***

Consider where stress and apprehension actually reside in you; where do you actually cringe, or brace, or tighten, or suffer?

Do you suffer somatic distress between your ears and behind your eyes (as/in your mind or brain) or do you suffer somatic distress in your throat, your abdomen, your shortened breath, your heavy heart?

Isn't your reflex to cling and tighten and brace from imaginary distractions and projections of events not actually occurring all felt elsewhere in the body - not actually in the vague place where your thoughts seem to occur?

You don't suffer your afflicted thinking where it actually occurs (as if we know where that is), you suffer it through association in your biosphere, your biology - the somatic consequence and symptomatic expression of psychological suffering happens in the body!

Our thoughts do not afflict us, they don't actually hurt us - the somatic result of thoughts is what hurts, what makes us suffer.

This doesn't mean you can't suffer a whopping migraine or have pain in your head or brain or eyes, but that is not due to thinking!

A key kernel of the contact sport referred to as awakening is a profound reevaluation of one's identity, one's felt presence, one's attention and awareness, the miracle of gross and subtle body sensations. The Awakening adventure is about where and how we construct the world we imagine to be real and independently existing, and then place ourselves inside it as a distinct occupant.



It is curious to see that nothing actually plagues your mind, you can think any weird shit you want (or don't want since you're not in control of the content of thinking anyway), and your mind does not suffer.

Perhaps we'll look further if there is interest in this musing.



## ***Who made you a deputy of delusion?***

Hmmm, let's say there is thought and memory and sensation – we don't really know what these are or how they have come into being, but some kind of weird shit seems to be happening.

Do you have a mind because there is thought, or is there thought because you have a mind? Do you have a brain because there is a mind, or is there a mind because you have a brain?

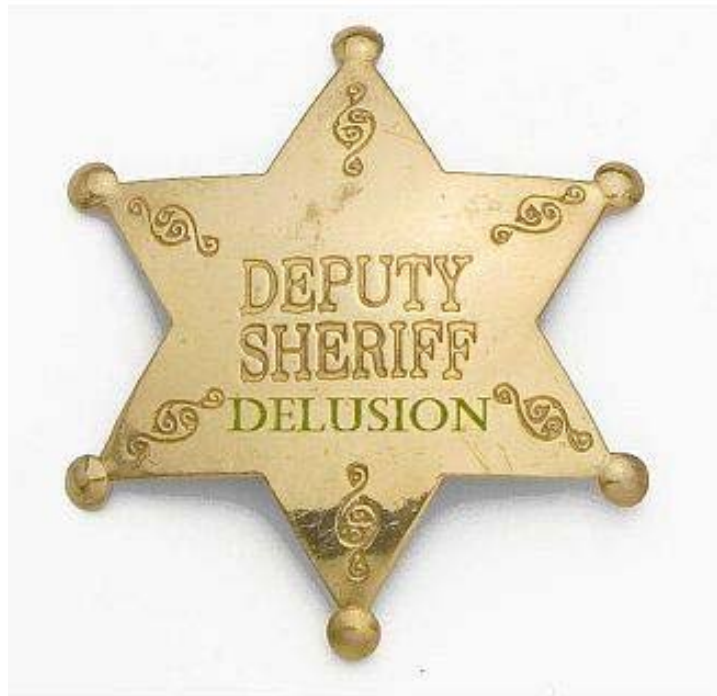
Do you possess consciousness and being because you were born as a body some few billion years after the big bang, or is the body and the big bang and your dubious birth the offspring of consciousness?

Just because there is thought and memory and sensation (and please remember these are all ideas of what is actually present), does that mean we really occupied our past, we will surely be there in our future, or that we are even here now?

Might it be of any value to ask why and how the irrefutable nature of being confers some certificate or license for your individuated existence? Just who made you a deputy of delusion anyway? And when exactly did this miasma of self launch or impose itself upon your pristine and wondrous vacuity?

If you are interested in the least about the miracle of This Present Infinity, you have to stop fixing your suffering for your future betterment and see that you have never occupied the miracle as a creature, you are the miracle.

Now go out and get those bad guys!



## ***Look, get off it already, This is not subtle!***

There are gurus whom I love that will refer to This as being subtle, and because I love them I generally refrain from making one of those "bullshit" sneezing sounds while they are speaking.

Imagine, if you will, a curious singularity which is nothing at all, did not begin, does not end, is the consequence of nothing at all other than itself though it is not anything, can and does include everything without being a volume, has omniscient and unbounded imaginative power, is infinity without measure, expresses with radiant holo-fractal irrefutability, never goes anywhere and did not come from somewhere else, laughs at physicists and gurus, and despite all this incredible potential - can only do one thing.

And what might that be Night Sky Sangha Guy? The only thing that This can do is blow smoke up its own ass!

Now, some readers may take refuge in this simple observation while others will demand equal rights as co-creators of their imaginary life force and agency so they can craft or pine for a life that works for them.

But your best shot at total joy and unencumbered liberation is to see that there is no point in making This work for you, because if you do, you are just breathing smoke.

And where exactly might you be breathing that smoke? You guessed it, up your own ass.



There is nothing about the primary miracle that is subtle, absolutely nothing at all. This is in your face, as your face, sitting on your face, face to face, without abatement!

If you insist upon insisting upon yourself as a free agent knock yourself out; it was never true, it's not true now and it never will be true and the sooner you get hip to the non-subtle revelation that all This is nothing other than itself and no one can or will ever figure it out - then maybe you will just relax and be swept away by the incomprehensibility of sacred divine wonder as yourself.

## ***If you're really serious about This, it's time to go balls to the wall, are you with me!***

This is not some male-exclusive chauvinistic call to action, there is no need to have (or even feel that you have) stout testicles. We are not talking about a lineup of orthodox Jews davening by the Wailing Wall or some other anatomical commitment.

From steam engine days and later attributed to the throttles on fighter jets, going balls to the wall referred to a kind of hastening, an inspiration to go full speed ahead, get the job done - not at all dissimilar to Nike's encouragement to *Just Do It!*

I admit it's kind of testosterone-ic to turn the curious catharsis of self-realization into a "take the hill" approach, but why not get excited about something once in a while?

There is no doubt an instinct and a taste (not just imaginary or wistful) for absolute freedom and places beyond awesome that have visited you, that are standing by right now to take your call.

We might think that our affection for nirvana is inspired by obtaining a remedy for the loathsome and small-minded symptoms of samsara, but it is not.

We actually go to freedom because we already know ourselves as such and writhe and wiggle with all intensity and balls to the wall fervor to actualize our own irrefutable instincts - that's why and how we wake up.

Something shifts in us when we no longer reference ourselves as being dutiful sufferers following some prescription for self-improvement or the cultivation of a better moral or contemplative or compassionate fabric.

There is a kind of joy and confidence that bubbles up when you know that you're free, have always been so, and are living in the vicinity of your own fruition.

What's stopping you from stopping, from giving it all away, from resting in the present miracle of your own experience?

Might be worth some consideration.

Here's a steam engine you can ride (balls to the wall) all the way to enlightenment, comes with a whistle too!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5YekIKmImM>

## ***Are you a real seeker or just a poser?***

Real seekers are irritable, impatient, pissed-off even. They don't have time for explanations or exercises or pretty words about how deliciously enlightened you (or some self-celebrating Guru) are.

They've really had enough of Vedanta, Yoga, Advaita, Zen, Shadow Work, The Work, and milk toast smooth talkers like Adyashanti or Isaac Shapiro or Pamela Wilson.

Real seekers are done healing, and they don't supplicate spooks, ascended masters, channels, mediums, or angels. Real seekers are done with mindfulness and clever attempts at pretending to be compassionate while seething with disdain and self-preservation strategies underneath some charade or glowing patina.

Real seekers are real; they can be counted on to speak their minds, and take the heat, and piss other seeker-phuckers off, and they are done placating their families, their employers, their friends, and their teachers.

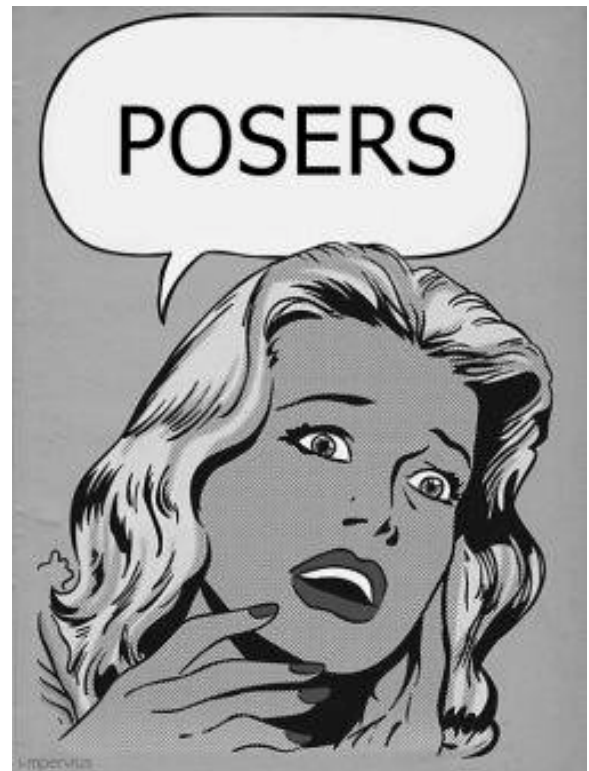
Real seekers have got to get to the bottom of this total phucking ego-maniacal bullshit from hell or someone's gonna get hurt, and it might be them.

Real seekers don't have time for Greg Goode, Jeff Foster, or anyone who has the time to write a book about the nature of consciousness - because there is no goddamn nature of consciousness or any goddamn thing for you to do about it anyway.

Real seekers are the coolest people around, and that's because they don't give a shit what you think about them - they're done with you!

If none of these symptoms appeal to you or can be found in your present experience - you know what you are, you're a poser.

Have a nice day, poser.



## ***What Me Worry?***

There is no sequence or chronology or any evidence of some event or supremacy that occurred or existed prior to this moment.

Not God, not the big bang, not consciousness, not the Great Turtle (though I am partial to that creationist view), nothing existed or occurred prior to this present presence of immersive irrefutability.

Once (see how easy it is to screw up from the unutterable truth just by saying "once"); once whatever This Is or Isn't tricks itself into being other than itself all the problems start.

"Trick" is the kernel here, because This can't actually depart from itself or convey some independent agency upon the likes of you as a body or a mind or a choosing decision maker - all of that "I Am" stuff is absolute bullshit.

In this very instant which doesn't last long enough to be a) happening, or b) have any duration, or c) be reported upon with any accuracy or veracity whatsoever you are merely or entirely the expressive profundity of trans-human dreaming unbounded by space or time or genesis or consequence.

If however you invest in circumstances and events to antagonize and bully you and then spend your life trying to manage them and yourself, you will never escape the restlessness and insufficiency of what is typically referred to as suffering.

If your spiritual remedies are extroverted in the slightest, then you simply drag your presumptions and hallucination of self with you into your imaginary future.

When you stumble upon the courage or irresistible intelligence to face the dreaming without excuse or explanation or deferral or the reflexive bane of what-about-me'ism - then you can crack the code and discover something immeasurable as yourself.

Perhaps that's why we call it Inquiry into Awakening?





## *Poems speak directly to it*

Depths unplumbed,

unknown,

unspeakable.

Joy unchained,

unleashed,

unbridled.

Richness

unseen,

untouched,

unending.

Me-

undone,

unwound,

unable.

- Pat Walsh



## *The unspeakable magic of stillness*

What is the point of mindfulness or excursions into non-duality or reading the books by the wankers who espouse it? Why might we care about what Shri Sadguru Siddharameshwar Maharaj has to say on the subject?

You realize by now that what you are really interested in is your own experience, in fact that is the only possible "thing" you could possibly be interested in - even if you are a clinical enabler, self-abnegating codependent, and compulsive rescuer.

All we do or don't do is for ourselves; to assuage, ameliorate, celebrate, celi-bate, or if lucky, aspire for awake.

Even though we gather information and teachings in a vicarious and hopefully entertaining manner, we are genuinely interested in something like non-dual illumination occurring in our first-hand experience - we don't really give a shit about what has happened to somebody else. Why should we, their dubious ignorance or take-it-to-the-bank happy happy joy joy is for them to monetize!

If we look carefully at the immediacy of consciousness and its permutations (all experiencing) we may see that it is absolutely impossible for this to be still; at least as content and radiance and movement and flow of awareness and data packets goes.

So what are those lucky guys and gals talking about when they refer to stillness, or stillness speaks, or any confounding metaphor that may be used to render some representation of what This or Awake is and feels like? What the phuck are all these gurus talking about?

And more importantly why am I listening to all of this horseshit hoping (if I'm hoping) that something (any goddamn thing) happens to me too?

Does it ever strike you as strange in the least that this curious seeking and supplication for something big, something amazing, something enduring, something real, or something transcendent is occurring right under the nose just how big, amazing, enduring, real, and transcendent This is right now?

How on earth (or elsewhere) do we discover the irrefutable authority within ourselves that amidst all of this frothing hallucination we are indeed the unspeakable magic of stillness?

How indeed. The funny/challenging thing is that Awake is not a "how to", it is a "This Is". Our job then is to become oriented to its tactile and textural sensate nature rather than dawdle and dwell in the abstract so we can feel This as it is. No second hand reports or exuberances will do.



## ***God Particle Confirmed by Physicists! - Peace on Earth Insured!***

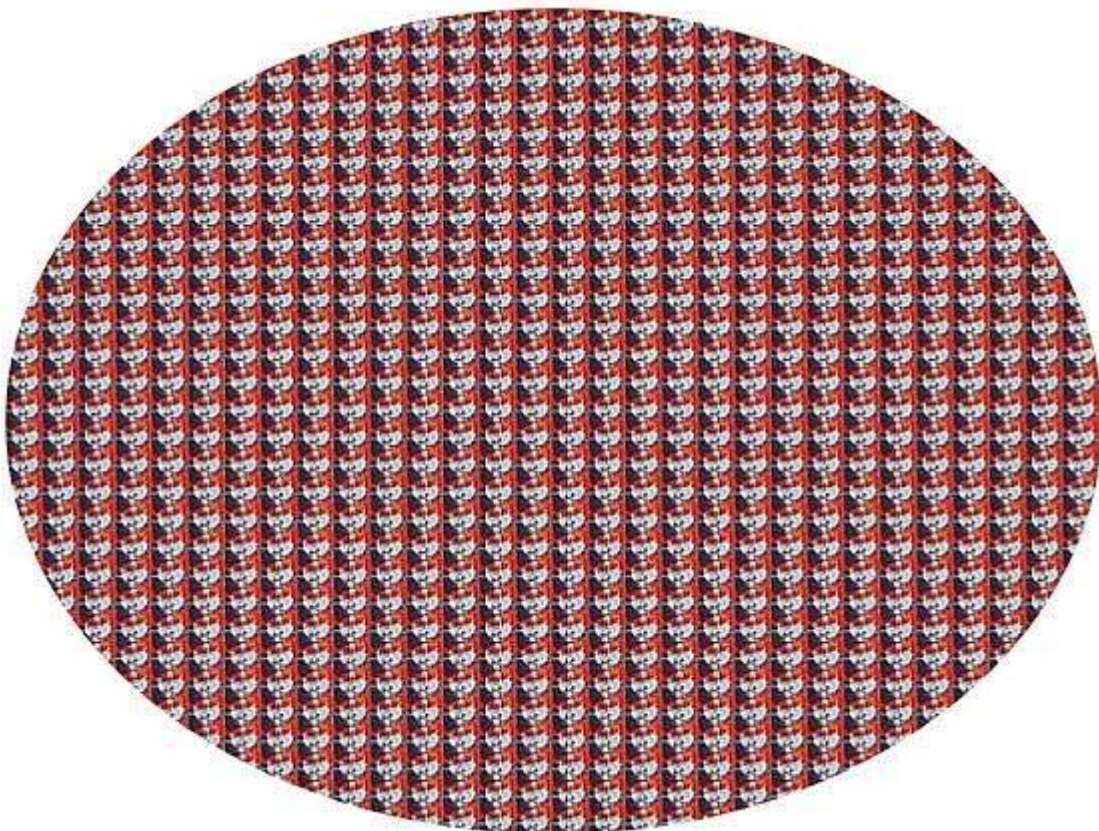
This is fantastic news! Physicists have finally found indisputable evidence of the ultimate foundation particle "the God Particle" which they attest is indeed what the entirety of all creation and phenomena including wave, particle, quantum entanglement, photon, quark, Higgs-boson, black holes, galaxies, stars, gaseous nebulae, and consciousness itself are made of.

What we have below is the best possible grid array imaging of the sub-atomic signature that the God Particle leaves in its wake which image required a super cooled mega collider photonic imaging device sensitive down to the Planck's constant variable varigator which is smaller than small beyond small in lay persons' terms.

Just imagine that we finally know beyond a shadow of a doubt that the entirety of everything is made of itself and there is truly only one expression or absolute dependable which cannot depart from itself so the bane, myth, and misery of separation, greed, fear, and sorrow has finally been shattered to pieces so you can all stop seeking now and enjoy your lives in peace and abundance as there is no cause for war, control, accumulation, violence, or coercion any more.

Are you feeling it? What a wonderful Christmas present indeed!

In a highly anticipated follow on to this breaking story we expect the particle to be aptly named and hopefully a higher resolution image to see beyond the fuzz. We'll keep you posted.





## ***Physicists Aghast! - God Particle Revealed***

Apropos of our Dec. 21st post, we are compelled to report that a brilliant young physicist and researcher skilled in high resolution renderings of sub-photonic elusive imagery associated with the recent discovery of the God Particle has committed himself to a rest home and asylum located in the Swiss Alps that specializes in mental health and recovery tools for physicists that have seen too much.

Though his promising career has come to an abrupt end, he leaves behind a legacy of revelation so profound that it is likely to change the course of all humanity once the mainstream scientific community consents to release the results of his investigations.

We at Night Sky Sangha (with ties to the asylum) are privileged to be the first to share in this marvelous God Particle discovery. The foundational building block of all creation has been termed a bozo-on, and the remarkable imagery below is self-explanatory.

Merry Christmas to All!



## ***But what's a bozo-on made of?***

Though asked in jest, permit me to gesticulate on this question.

We imagine that our experience, our life, the stuff of creation and phenomena are made of something, are the symptom of causal factors and can be attributed to tinier things doing something, or maybe attributed to one large thing, one omniscient being or event, like God or the big bang.

We insist, without really thinking about it, that something other than this or something other than what appears to be happening right now is responsible for the functioning and expression of the observable universe, its contents, and our experience of same.

We are all complicit in the generally unexplored presumption that something other than This itself, perhaps some sacred and ascended, or paternalistic trio of well intentioned supermen, or that Shiva and Shakti (whatever they are) are to be held responsible, but most likely not accountable, for the entirety of all expressive creation.

When we look large (telescopically) we find an infinite cornucopia of amazing permutation and long-ago-far-away events that strain the models of accepted physics and the models of explanation and reference.

When we look small (microscopically and sub-atomically) we find the same vague, ambiguous, unreliable, non-lasting, peek-a-boo of weird observer-affected and self-reflective dreaming miracle.

But despite the fact that no one knows what experiencing or consciousness actually are you may notice that we easily snap into or occupy familiar frames of materialist reference that place us in the picture/video as disparate creatures occurring in time and space - which confidence begets the fantastic myth of my life, my belongings, my hopes and wishes, my satisfaction or chronic fear and resistance.

What if This, whatever it is or isn't, is not made of anything other than itself? What if the corporeal and sensorial certainty of experiencing is a spontaneous and unhinged miracle of liberated wonder?

What might occur to you as an aspirant or a naysayer if you realize that you are not the product of a materialist or causal universe, that you are indeed the dreaming miracle itself and there is no other?

And that's what the bozo-on is made of.

