

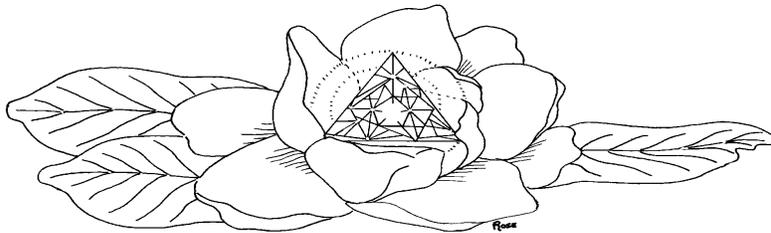
Thoughtline

May 2013

Up Coming Events
COMMUNITY MEDITATION MEETINGS
The Third Festival of the Three Linked Festivals of Spring
Gemini, Friday, May 24, 2013 @ 8:30 PM *Note late start time for exact time meditation*
Cancer, Saturday, June 22, 2013 @ 7:45 PM

In this Issue
Fundamentals

by Tom Carney



Workshops/Classes (To participate, please call to arrange a meeting)

- ▶ Building the Lighted Way - Sundays @ 9:00 AM
- ▶ White Magician Training - Tuesday Evenings @ 7:00 PM

Online Workshop/Class/Group Meditations (Please call to join)

- ▶ New and Full Moon meditations (To sign up for notices e-mail vezkuhl@gmail.com)

Group Meditation Work

April 10, 2013 through May 9, 2013

The tension of the lower evokes the attention of the higher. *The Rays and The Initiations* P. 494

May 10, 2013 through June 8, 2013

Light and revelation are cause and effect. *The Rays And The Initiations* P.74,5

Arcana Workshops

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FUNDAMENTALS

In infinite Cosmos, what we humans think of as beginnings are the rather relative, mostly arbitrary, and convenient opinions of people. So, it may have been from the Planet's beginning beginning or maybe just from the time when we began to stand up rather than run around on all fours, that we started to figure out that we were somehow different from the other creatures with whom we were accustomed to be running around.

The Genesis Myth

It is nice that the Genesis Myth of Adam and Eve has Adam sitting down and "naming" all of these various critters. The metaphor compresses a process that probably went on for a billion or so years into a busy afternoon. However, whenever it started, the dawning realization that we were different from these other critters gradually began to emerge with power in our consciousness, and I suspect that we did actually start generating identifying sounds for the various critters. I would guess that we were especially interested in naming the ones we could eat and the ones who were interested in eating us.

In fact I can't imagine that all of the animals do not have identifying sounds or "names" for themselves and the other creatures that inhabit their particular hunk of the planet. Very early on in this process we must have started wondering what we were. I mean it must have been becoming rapidly clear, even at this low level of discrimination, that we were not elephants, or snails. But we were something.

Somewhere along that Path of realization that we were something that was somehow different from the others we apparently started "thinking" of ourselves as "Man", or whatever that sound was at that time. According to many sources of the Ancient Lore, this growing ability and sense of discrimination, which was the resolution of instinct into intelligence was initiated or engineered and helped along by what Master D.K. calls an "implant".

He tells us that "...the seed of mind, (*I imagine it was something like a DNA algorithm*) was implanted in some of the aspiring animal-men by the Hierarchy, and these animal men became human beings, of a very low order to be sure, but still men. They were "sparked," if I might so express it, and a point of light appeared where before there was none." *Discipleship In The New Age II P.48 (Italics are mine.)*

However the Lore alludes to just how this "implant" was intercrossed: Agnishvattas, visitors from Venus and so forth; it was definitely a 7th Ray operation, i.e., Spirit into Matter. I suspect that it was not long after this--maybe another billion years or so--that the sense of individuality evolved to a point where we began to realize that, although "men", each of us was in fact a different person. When that happened, the question of *what we were* began to kind of morph into the question of *who we were*, and the quest to discover "**Who Am I**" became the driving engine of human evolution.

So, we recently went to see *Les Miserables*. Loved it. Resonated, of course,

with the film's core theme of humanity's endless search for meaning and identification, "Who am I?". The question itself is a kind of psychic indicator that signals when a person is actually becoming conscious of his or her individuality.

This life question "Who am I?", as it is asked over and over again in the film, is evoked by a series of largely self engineered events. It seems that when one of us incarnates we lose touch with Who we actually are and become identified with or lost in the illusion of being the matter, the dense physical material in which we find ourselves existing. Since then, our Path, the true history of Humanity, has been about our ceaseless struggle to evolve, "from the darkness to the Light, from the unreal to the Real and from death to Immortality, or, in a word, to discover in truth Who We Are.

It has been, I am sure you will agree, a very long, at times wild, and at times beautiful, journey. I have found it interesting to realize that getting back to the Light, and the Real is really just the beginning of a new adventure into the Boundless Be-ness.

At any rate, this eons long quest has been driven by our need to know who we are. The Path was/is a trail of "experiment, experience, and expression." Because of the confusion of our identification with matter, we have been operating for a very long time on the assumption that we are our dense physical appearances.

Consequently, rather than trying to discover and be who we are, we try to be what we think we are supposed to be. What we think we are supposed to be is conditioned by

the environments in which we live. Most of our brothers and sisters, having been taught by their environments, have at least a vague idea about what they are supposed to be in the present time and place in which they are living.

If the environment, family, culture, traditions, etc, in which we incarnated, conditioned us to think that we are supposed to be wealthy and powerful individuals, we strive to be that. We experiment with self generated scenarios and plans to achieve that end. Regardless of the specific goals, these experiments create conditions, events, that become the generators of experience or tests or crises or as any explorer would see it, opportunities for the discovery of Truth-- that truth being, that we are not any of these things, but immortal beings who, for the time being anyway, we call Souls.

A very basic everyday example: One sunny day, I was watering the roses in the front yard planter. A very large, black pickup truck was parked right up close to the brick wall that is between our front yard and the street and some water was splashed up on the truck. All of a sudden, this huge guy who was part of a crew that was painting a neighbor's house, came running across the street literally screaming about my messing up his truck.

I said "Jeez man, it's just water." He was livid with rage. "I don't care if it is water. I take pride in my truck." He jumped in the truck and drove off in a cloud of smoke and screaming tires that peeled big black rubber marks on the pavement.

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An Aside

Two things are worth noting here. First, whatever transpires in our life, whether we call it good or bad, is by and large a matter of our own individual or group creation rather than being the result of some outside God who favors or has it in for us. Secondly, it has been pointed out, that "where a life is devoid of crisis it means the

disciple is standing still." *Discipleship In The New Age I P. 534*

It is easy to extrapolate the above very genuine example of our identifying ourselves with what we have: cars, clothes, the neighborhoods we live in, our jobs. Then there are the more subtle things like our race, religion, sex, and age. These identifications are made and held mostly unconsciously. They are the very powerful sources of the decisions that control the actions we take in our daily lives.

One day at work, I was discussing a case with a very intelligent and highly experienced Children's Services Social Worker. She was a senior Supervisor probably around 60 years old. It occurred that she had forgotten a significant point about some child's situation. She was embarrassed and said something like "what can you expect from an old woman."

Perhaps the deepest, most subtle, and most powerful of our identifications is our identification with our personal individual dense physical bodies. We are taught by our parents, and most of the people who surround us from infancy, to so be. We think of ourselves as our bodies, and we see all other persons as their bodies as well. I recently watched this imprinting take place with my grandson.

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For the first few months after his birth, he clearly did not have any idea or thought that he was his body. There was no sense of separate existence. He was this free floating, totally unidentified, field of experiencing consciousness. In the very beginning he responded to other sounds and feelings, objects, things, like his mother's presence and soft cooing sounds that people make at babies, but he did not identify with them.

By the time he was maybe six months old, he had separated himself out from his surroundings, and started to associate himself with his name. Practically every contact with him would begin with or contain his name, so it was not long before he would look or otherwise respond to it. When he was asked, who are you and he would point to his chest and say, "Jasper".

It was not many months after this that he began to be trained to have property. He was told over and over that this or that truck or toy was his and he eventually began to refer to this or that toy as Jasper's truck or blocks. So the identity of self is subtly expanded from the body to the things that one considers his.

These things become extensions of our sense of self, and a child will be very hurt if some treasured object gets lost or damaged. For example, long before seat belts came into vogue we were driving down the 405 freeway in Los Angeles at around 50 miles an hour. My youngest daughter, probably about 4 was hanging out the back window of our VW letting the wind blow through her hair. She lost hold of a treasured book she was reading. She was broken hearted and cried for quite awhile. This is how the seed of our sense

of the ownership of property gets implanted and grows or expands in our consciousnesses.

This separated or separative self-centered sense of identification with one's things generates a kind of consciousness that expands through the acquisition and ownership of as much property as one can accumulate. In many cases the accumulation of things becomes the overriding motivation or force that drives one's life. As Emerson observed years ago, "Things are in the saddle and they drive mankind." *Ode Inscribed to William H. Channing*

One could say that, unnaturally, this is against our basic inner spiritual drive, and that unconsciously, i.e., without any detached thought about it all, we are programmed and come to think we are our bodies. And, as we were taught/programmed by our parents and guardians, we, as parents and guardians of our children, quite unconsciously, imprint/program them with the same illusion of reality.

One looks in the mirror and sees him or herself. One thinks "I am", and that "I" is the body looking back at one from the mirror. We ceaselessly refer to ourselves as I. One asks one's wife before going out to dinner, "How do I look?" And we mean US, the body.

So, we go comfortably and blithely about; not even conscious of assuming that we are our bodies. We run our lives, from this position. We create our values, make our decisions, initiate our actions all based on what we think is the best for ourselves, what will lead us to the most happiness or self satisfaction and so on.

This is the source of Tension we all experience on the Path of Return. It is the

nature of the mutable Cross or the clockwise turning of the Great Wheel. It is the generator of our pain and education. Decisions based on this illusion of separation keep us stuck in the illusion and at the same time generate new frequently more graphic or painful opportunities for us to discover the Light. The examples are unending, but the following is rather unique.

A few years ago in Los Angeles, we experienced a very strong earthquake. A middle aged, middle-class couple's home was close to the center of this earthquake. This couple had apparently spent years and years accumulating magazines, newspapers, and books. They stored all these in various rooms in their modest home. Over time the collection grew to the point where there were pathways through the books and papers in the house, and there was barely enough room in their bedroom to get into the bed because the space was piled to the ceiling with the accumulated magazines and papers.

This couple was in bed when the earthquake arrived. The walls of magazines and newspapers collapsed in on the bed. The couple, apparently unconscious or just unable to move under the weight of the debris, died of suffocation.

Evolution is an irrepressible drive to build a set of vehicles that can house an incarnated conscious Soul who can register and aid the Unfolding of the Great Plan for this Planet. Working with our friends, The Lords of Karma, and after many, many attempts, in the effort to help the individual see and understand the problems with his her life, and straighten them out, this unstoppable drive will eventually lead one into a situation that is extremely unpleasant and equally unavoidable, a blind alley, or over a cliff. Or, as a last resort, one will

simply be literally overwhelmed in some fashion by the circumstances of one's own actions.

The answer to the question has been spelled out for us in countless ancient archives: literary, scientific, archeological or, historical lore and information. For example the 24 volumes of Master D.K.'s collaboration with Alice A. Bailey give us exhaustive detail of who we are, where we came from and where we are destined to go. We can learn these things, and many of us have spent many years doing so. We "know" who we are.

However, "knowing" who we are as an item of data or information, and actually understanding who we are very often are quite different.

"Initiation is (in its simplest definition) an understanding of the Way, for understanding is a revealing energy which permits you to achieve. Initiation is a growth in experience and the attainment thereby of a point of tension. ***Holding that point of tension***, the initiate sees that which lies ahead. Initiation permits a progressive entry into the mind of the creating Logos. This last definition is perhaps one of the most important I have ever given. Ponder on my words." ***The Rays And The Initiations P. 557 (my emphasis)***

Quite simply, the Wisdom cannot be "learned" by reading books. It has to be lived. The answer to the question, Who Am I? cannot be consciously encompassed by intellect alone. We cannot be informed by pouring information from external sources into our brains. We cannot go around just saying what we have learned. We can only model that by how we live, and that means

we must embrace and hold the responsibility for what we understand. We cannot be told who we are. Who we are is something that we have to discover through direct experience, and almost always, not just once, but any number of times.

As many of us have experienced, it is when we become conscious of being stuck in the blind alley into which we have lived our way, or when we find ourselves picking up ourselves, or what's left of ourselves, from the base of the cliff over which we have just run, that we finally arrive face to face with the question, Who, actually, Am I?

Eventually, we get it. However, if not then, the question will be hanging in the air relatively unanswered, and unavoidably awaiting our next incarnation.

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The lore offers windows, metaphors that

will lead the really curious one, the ardent seeker, ever deeper into the realm of meaning and Reality, and eventually to the answer, that is to an actual experience of the answer. This experience, once had, leaves one with an unshakeable sense that one is more, very much more than one's accoutrements including one's body.

Not over night, but sometimes with amazing rapidity, everything changes. Concepts like love, compassion, community, friend, brother, sister take on a new and vibrantly beautiful meaning and significance. The reasons for working, for just being on the planet evolve into a new paradigm. When the consciousness shifts to "...the betterment of all life, ... the struggle for existence is replaced by the conquest of possibilities." ***Community #200***

Tom Carney, Late March 2013



***The New Consciousness
by Tom Carney***

Change is an obvious constant aspect of life. It is also a not so obvious effect of human consciousness. Most of the changes we see as we live and move around our environments are really only superficial adjustments and reconstructions of our dense physical world. The changes are of a revolutionary mode. The faces change. The locations change. The architecture and technology change, but the fundamental way we live does not and has not changed for eons of centuries.

Real change happens only as consciousness expands to encompass more of Reality. This fact is born out in how slowly the way we conduct our lives has changed since we have been careening around on this planet. The best example of this is war. War is the result of a consciousness that sees itself as separated from others on all dimensions, from the individual to Nations, and locked in an eternal battle with these others for survival and identity.

As a global condition, this situation will change only when consciousness expands to the point where enough humans are able to encompass the reality of our essential Divinity and Unanimity. This book is about that evolutionary development. What is actually new on the planet, rather than a different iteration of the old, results in changes to the way we conduct ourselves in our relationships with each other and the planet.

We have been and are in the throes of such evolutionary change right now. Thus, this book, *The New Consciousness*

This eBook is available in either English or Spanish on Amazon.com Kindle eBooks