

Parables of the Masters

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This collection of parables is a logical continuation of the theme started in the book *Divine Parables*.

The parables published in both collections were narrated by the Divine Masters — the Holy Spirits — to help us, embodied people, assimilate the philosophy of God, so that we can learn to live in accordance with His Will for us.

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Huang

Parable about Master Heavenly Heart

*The path of a thousand miles
begins with a single step.*

Lao Tse

There was a master. He was called Master Heavenly Heart. He was called so because His spiritual heart was connected with the Infinite Tao and opened for the worthy — the gate to the Abode of Tao.

When He walked — Tao was with Him and in Him.

When He stopped — the pass into the Infinite Tao opened in the place where He stood.

When He was thinking — Te were there and illuminated His thoughts.

When He submerged Himself into the calm — He dissolved and disappeared in the infinite Ocean of Tao.

When He acted — the Great Te directed His actions, and Primordial Tao gave Him the power to fulfill them.

It was so with any activity in which He participated. And He did not waste His thoughts but rather kept peace and silence in the mind — so as not to interfere unnecessarily into what was already done. Yet if He participated in the creation and implementation of any plan — there was no force that could stop this plan from being realized.

A sage sees all the connections between things and events in their unity and from the Calm of Tao. And He acts only when Tao prompts Him to act.

Such was Master Heavenly Heart.

I say “was”, following the custom of people to name as “existing” only that which takes place in the material world, and as “non-existing” what is not dressed in the material cover.

But to be honest, everything should be called vice versa.

The Immortal Masters live *on the other side* of the things and phenomena of the dense material world. But this does not mean that They do not exist.

They may have bodies or may not have them; it does not affect Their awareness of Their existence and Their ability to act anywhere as needed.

Master Heavenly Heart is one of the Immortals. Therefore, He is always everywhere.

He comes to those who really need this and are ready to learn from the Immortal Masters.

At the same time, He always lives where things and phenomena of the material world do not have power and where vanity and worldly desires cannot perturb peace.

Where is such a place? It is in the Infinity of Tao!

Even now it is possible to hear the stories about His great and small deeds. These stories about wisdom remain in the world, where ignorance and disorder reign. They help those who travel from this world to the cognition of Tao.

*** * ***

A young man was looking for a Master Who could help him understand the meaning of human existence on the Earth and cognize the mysteries of Tao.

He heard about the Master Heavenly Heart and decided to find out whether what was said about Him was true or not.

And it was said the following: “He is never in a hurry and never rushes anywhere. He stays all His life in one place but knows everything about everything. He is everywhere and acts only when Tao orders Him. He walks, remaining motionless *inside*. He speaks, maintaining *inner silence*. His peace is transparent, and this allows the Greatness of Tao to be manifested through Him.”

The young man found the modest dwelling place of Master Heavenly Heart.

He saw the Master sitting near a lotus pond and being submerged into the Unity with Tao.

The young man did not have the ability to see Tao and Te, so he decided to make sure that the true Master was in front of him.

He came up to the Master and asked Him:

“Master, can You be wrong?”

“What do you want Me to say in response?”

“If I say: ‘No, I’m never wrong!’ — then you will... worship My words and My body instead of working yourself to achieve the Mergence with Tao.

“If I say: ‘Yes, I can make a mistake’ — you will torment yourself with doubts about what I could teach you and about My knowledge of Tao — and then you will go to look for another master.

“Yet I will answer to you the following: ‘If Tao wishes, I can make a mistake. But it will be that mistake with which Tao will fulfill Its plan.’

“Is it enough for you?”

“In order to cognize the Primordial Source of everything, Great Tao, — your aspiration for Tao is needed, and not miraculous properties of a master! Your success depends on your personal efforts! Even the Greatest of the Immortals cannot make a disciple En-

lightened! You yourself should work, transforming your essence!

“First of all, you need to master the peace of mind, submerging it into the spiritual heart. Then you will live without being tormented by the crowd of thoughts; you will not be burdened by many things, and a series of mundane events will not overly involve you, nor enslave you!

“Clear the space for Tao in your spiritual heart! This will be the start of the creation and growth of the Heavenly Heart!

“The one who has mastered the peace of mind and become the love that originates in the spiritual heart — obtains the first achievement: the vanity of thoughts doesn’t overcome this person, wild outbursts of desires have no effect, and love for all creatures and Tao leads this seeker through life.

“If you want, tomorrow we can go to the mountains to start learning...”

“Master, why do we need to go to the mountains if you possess the power of Tao and Te and can move the mountains right here?”

“I wouldn’t like to bother other creatures by moving mountains because of your insignificant desire to see a miracle or because of your laziness that prevents you from making personal efforts.

“There is an easier way: we can begin to move our bodies to those mountains.

“We will set off, and every day you will see how the mountains become nearer, and how the distance, which separates us from them, reduces.

“This is the same with the Spiritual Path: no matter how great is the Master, His disciples themselves must traverse the road! Many times I passed this Path next to My disciples; I won’t give Myself the trouble to pass it again with you.

“The Enlightenment is not a gift from a Master to a disciple. The disciples should gain wisdom, love and

power on the Path to Tao through their intense work and indomitable courage.

“Learn to work diligently and recapitulate what was already done! String the pearls of wisdom, given to you, on the thread that connects them!

“All that you will master on this Path may become your property only if you learn to use this wisdom in the life of your body and soul.”

Parable about Passing Through Walls

*“The life and development of the Subtlest¹ are
eternal and infinite.*

It is the Deepest Base of everything.

On It the material world exists.

It acts without violence.

*... The gate from the world of matter to the hidden
world is open when one stays in calm.*

The understanding of this truth comes in non-doing.

*... By strictly following the primordial Path of
transformation of oneself as a consciousness,*

one can cognize the Eternal Origin.

This Path is the Path to Tao.”

Lao Tse — Tao Te Ching (6,10,14)

A boy named Wen worked as an apprentice of a potter. He was an orphan.

He, supposedly, should be glad about the kind of work he had, about the everyday food he received, even though it was poor, and about the roof over his head...

But Wen did not like this monotonous life: he did not like to make the same pots and bowls every day from morning to night.

¹ Tao.

He was doing it well, he was trying his best, but he dreamt about another thing...

He wanted to be a disciple of a Master of Tao, and not of a potter!

He wanted to leave that small world of the workshop with high clay walls, which separated him from the rest of the world! He wanted to break free from the monotonous circle of life!...

... Once the potter caught Wen doing something strange. The boy molded a human figure out of clay, dried it a little, then submerged it into the water — and it disappeared...

“If I too could disappear, if I could dissolve and become invisible — I would run away from this place and find a Master of Tao,” — thought Wen.

In these dreams, he was found by his owner. And the punishment, of course, was not long in coming.

The potter was beating Wen with a bamboo stick and became more and more exasperated by the fact that the stubborn boy was not asking for mercy...

And Wen, trying to hold back his moans, was imagining that his body... would dissolve, disappear now in the air in front of the amazed potter... He knew that the Immortal Masters of Tao could do this: They disappeared and then reappeared elsewhere!...

At that time, a man appeared in the yard. About how he passed through a well locked solid door or through high clay walls around the workshop, and got inside — the angry potter and Wen speculated much later...

It was Master Heavenly Heart. He said:

“Let this boy go with Me! I’ll pay you the price that you will name.”

“... Uh... He is a very good worker and I appreciate him,” — the potter started.

He stopped punishing Wen and began to think frantically about how much money he could ask from the strange traveler. He increased the highest price ten

times, expecting haggling, and called it out... For his total surprise, the visitor calmly laid out the named quantity.

From that moment, Master Heavenly Heart no longer paid any attention to the agitated potter, as if he did not exist, and talked with the boy only:

“Pack up your things, Wen!” — He said. — “You wanted to learn what the Immortal Masters of Tao know. If you go with Me, I’ll show you the way to the Abode of Tao.”

... Everything had happened so fast that Wen did not have time to wonder that the unusual Traveler knew his name... He hastily packed up his meager belongings.

Wen was still a bit afraid that this miracle was only a dream and that he would wake up soon and open his eyes... before a potter’s wheel...

But Master Heavenly Heart was real!

So Wen set off with Him.

Thus he became a disciple of Master Heavenly Heart.

* * *

Many years passed. Wen’s new life as a disciple of Master Heavenly Heart was not easy, but it gave him incredible happiness of deeper and deeper cognition of Tao and Te!

... Once Master Heavenly Heart talked with His disciples who had been cognizing under His leadership the Radiance of Te and the Infinity of Tao for many years.

That time He was explaining to them about the death of the body, and the disciples were listening to Him attentively:

“Those who never think about the moment when they leave their bodies forever — may find themselves

confused, especially if they leave their bodies unexpectedly and under adverse circumstances.

“You’ve already known that souls continue to exist after the separation from their bodies.

“When the soul is dressed in its body, people are used to calling this *life*. When the soul leaves its body forever, they call this *death*...

“But when we put on our usual clothes — we are not less or more alive than when we take them off...

“Souls without their former bodies continue to exist in the state to which they were accustomed while living in their bodies. That is, they find themselves among the souls similar to them in the worlds of corresponding coarseness or subtlety. Coarse and evil souls live among those who hate and do violence. On the contrary, gentle and tender souls live in the abode of peace and caress...

“Those Who have learned to live permanently in the Mergence with Te — acquire Oneness with Te.

“And Those Who have consolidated themselves in the Mergence with Tao — obtain the Highest Abode of All the Perfect Ones.

“In youth, it seems to us that we have an infinite quantity of time ahead... Thoughts about life and death usually visit us at the end of our earthly travel. But it’s not wise! In old age, a person almost has neither time nor energy for spiritual attainments! Therefore, it makes sense for us to be always ready for the *transition*.

“With the loss of the body, a soul loses its ability to change itself. That is why, every moment of life in the body should not be wasted!

“For Those Who have cognized Tao — the death of Their bodies is not something terrifying! It does not take away Their achievements and wisdom!

“Thus the Perfect Ones, Who have flowed into Tao, leave the material world.

“The one who has cognized the Infinity of Tao — can accustom himself or herself to the life in the Mergence with Tao. In this case, this person will feel no fear when the time to leave the body comes. Having left the body, He or She will submerge into the Bliss of Tao!

“All of you have already started learning to enter the Mergence with Tao. And you know that Tao is endless and omnipresent.

“This is a great achievement to live in the stable Mergence with Tao.

“How can this be mastered? You can, for example, in meditation, perceive Tao as the Infinite Wall behind the anahata of your material body. And you can lean against this Wall, merge with it, and disappear in it.

“To achieve this, you, as souls, need to have the same level of subtlety as Tao.

“Moreover, since Tao is omnipresent, this Endless Wall is right here...”

Master Heavenly Heart leaned against the invisible Wall consisting of Peace of Tao and having no boundaries on the left, on the right, above and below... With the movement of the Arms of the Soul, He entered the Mergence.

Now the body of Master Heavenly Heart was filled with the Transparent Calm of Tao. His body became like a protrusion from the Infinity of Tao to the world of matter. It allowed the Master to be present simultaneously in both worlds: in the world of the Creator and in the world of the Creation.

Having showed this exercise, Master summed up:

“This is, more or less, how you can learn to live now. If you meet the death of your bodies in this state, this will mean that you haven’t learned from Me in vain!”

... After a while, when the disciples, tired from the new exercise, were having a rest, Wen asked Master Heavenly Heart:

“Will You teach us to pass through the material walls?”

“People have invented many ways of creating and destroying different walls... They either build walls to protect themselves from the weather or attacks, or destroy those defensive walls which were created by others...

“Today I’ve showed you the Greatest and Indestructible Wall of all walls!

“And if you ever need to go through the material wall with the body, I will surely teach you to do this.

“That Mergence which I showed you, you should learn to achieve not only while walking in meditation around the pond with lotuses, but also in any place. You should strengthen this Mergence and make it the habitual state in your life. Besides, you should learn to submerge into this state immediately, including under adverse circumstances, although it will take much time to master this.

“Only that one can unite himself or herself with the Great Power of Tao who has transformed everything within himself or herself into the Calm of Tao. For you, this is still a distant future. But remember that for those who have worked hard on this Path — nothing is impossible anymore!”

And Master Heavenly Heart disappeared, having moved slightly His Arms of the Soul and stepped back into the Infinite Wall consisting of the transparent Peace of Tao.

... And His disciples began to master the meditation shown to them.

* * *

Years passed...

Wen was a successful disciple.

On the instructions of Master Heavenly Heart, he himself founded a small monastery in the north part of China and began to teach there what he had learned from his Master.

That evening, Wen again recalled the lesson on the acceptance of the death of the body through the direct achievement of the Blissful Mergence with Tao. This filled his body with Great Peace...

“But still what a pity that the Master did not teach us the ability to pass through the material walls!” — he thought. — “This would be very useful now!”

The invasion of nomads swallowed their province, and the monastery was captured...

Wen fondly looked at his young disciples. They were sleeping on the earth floor of a dungeon and were sure that he, Wen, would save them...

A cruel leader of one of the detachments of the attackers decided to show to all the locals the strength of the new power. He wanted to show that his “gods” were “more powerful”. For this purpose, Wen and his disciples should be executed tomorrow in front of all people...

Wen did not fear the death of his body. He was sure that he would be able to meet it as his Master taught him. But his disciples... They didn’t have enough time to master many things!...

... Just five years ago, Wen had founded his small school. He had gathered there children-orphans left without parental care. He had become for them a strict father, a caring mother, and a wise teacher. He had taught them ethical principles, reading, writing, and the development of heart love for all beings. He also had taught them to make pottery. The lessons of the potter were not learned by Wen in vain. The ability to work hard and to do things needed for people had helped his little abode to always have the means of subsistence.

But all that he could teach to his pupils was only the initial stages of the Path of the cognition of Tao. He did not have time for more.

Wen again recalled the words of Master Heavenly Heart: “If you ever need to go through the material wall, then I’ll surely teach you to do this!”

Wen even smiled at the brightness of the memories... It suddenly seemed to him that he was, as before, next to his Master...

And, verily, Master Heavenly Heart filled all the space around with His Presence. And then His intangible Light became visible to Wen: thus the Immortals can manifest Themselves.

“Yes, you’re right, it’s time to fulfill My promise!” — Master Heavenly Heart said.

“There are several ways of passing through the material walls,” — He continued. — “Now it makes sense for you not only to penetrate the masonry with your bodies, but to be far away from this place.

“Come here to Me. Do with Me what I’m going to show you...”

... Wen repeated exactly the movements of consciousness, being in the Mergence with his Divine Master. His hands touched the prison walls...

He suddenly saw the smiling Face of Master Heavenly Heart... on the other side of the wall... The corridor appeared between his hands and the Hands of Master Heavenly Heart...

The disciples of Wen woke up:

“Master Wen, why is it so bright? Is it morning already?”

“Here is Master Heavenly Heart! Go to Him!...”

The disciples saw Master Heavenly Heart and passed through the corridor opened by the Power of Tao. Wen passed last — and the passage closed up.

They found themselves in another monastery — in the south of China.

The Shining Light and Master Heavenly Heart disappeared.

Han was coming joyfully to meet Wen and his disciples. He was one of the old friends of Master Heavenly Heart. Here, in the southern part of the country, there was a monastery created by Him.

*** * ***

The next morning, Han found Wen near a house wall. He was trying to go through it, repeating the same sequence of yesterday's movements. He tried to do everything exactly. But the difference was that there was not the smiling Face of Master Heavenly Heart on the other side of the wall!

Wen repeated his attempts again and again until the laughter and the gentle voice of Han interrupted his efforts:

"There is one small condition about which you forgot. This condition is the Will of Tao! The actions of this type can be fulfilled only in accordance with Its Great Will! Only under this condition, the unbelievable and impossible may take place!"

*** * ***

The same morning in another part of the country, the guards found an unknown man in the prison instead of the monk Wen and his disciples.

Because the other prisoners were absent, He was brought to the leader of the detachment to be executed.

"Where are the others?" — the commander of the invaders asked the guards.

"They are where you can't find them!" — Master Heavenly Heart answered instead of them.

“Who are you? And how dare you speak without my permission?” — without holding back his anger and indignation, the commander shouted.

“I am the One Who knows how things are created from the formless and how they disappear in it. I am the Perceiver of the Will of Tao and Te. I have come here to stop this senseless cruelty!”

“Well, then you are the one who will have to die!”

“It is impossible!” — Master Heavenly Heart replied with a gentle smile. — “You can’t kill Me because I am Immortal!

“However, you, as a soul, are immortal too, although you don’t understand this yet. This is why, you are the one who will die again and again as a body until the knowledge about the soul and the love for Tao becomes for you more important than the life filled with a thirst for power and material things!”

... Having decided that a mad monk was before him, the leader did not want to listen anymore and gave the order to kill the prisoner. He was very annoyed by the fact that everything was not as he expected...

Yet when the guards tried to execute Master Heavenly Heart, their weapons passed through His translucent body without causing Him any harm. The guards became horrified, and their leader felt his complete feebleness...

Calmly smiling, Master Heavenly Heart said:

“Never show your strength over the vanquished!

“Cause no harm to innocent people!

“And tell your superiors what you have seen and heard!

“Fulfill all that I have said — and only then you will be able to live your life with dignity!”

*** * ***

After this incident, the nomads, who seized the majority of China, did not cause harm to spiritual

abodes anymore and honored the wisdom of Those Who cognized Tao.

This continued even when those nomads later came to power in all of China.

It happens that the one who is considered defeated may be stronger than the conquerors.

The spiritual knowledge about Tao and Te remained in China and passed from one generation to another, from Masters to disciples.

And always there were those who were willing to devote their lives to this cognition.

Han

Parable on Power and Love

In ancient times in China, there lived a boy named Yunshen.

From childhood, he dreamed of becoming an invincible warrior, unequalled in sword-wielding and able to defeat any opponent with or without the aid of weapons.

At that time, martial arts were in great honor. One skillful in battle was admired by all.

Yunshen studied for several years under several famous masters who owned different styles of combat. But he wanted more.

He participated in many competitions, perfecting his skills. He always tried to notice and learn anything new.

But one day, Yunshen lost the fight with one opponent, who was far superior to all participants of the contest — by his cool demeanor and power. His skills impressed the young man.

Yunshen asked him:

“Who trained you in the skill of warfare?”

“I had a mentor who has no worthy adversary. His name is Shenli. But do not dream that you will be able to learn from him and become stronger than I!

“It’s not reason to walk to him. His treatment to students is violent. And he shows these special techniques, only to six disciples elected after years of prior training. The rest of them are just kicked out with contempt, called unworthy of power and waste of time.

“He lives in the mountains and requires austerity and complete obedience from the students. He takes the very few to study.

“Every six years, he arranges competitions for those who want to learn from him and selects a few people for preliminary study.

“And for the closest disciples — after several years of study — he conducts the final exam. First, they fight among themselves. The winner of all will fight against the teacher himself. And whoever bests the teacher — he will be the successor and will lead the school.

“But still none of the students could surpass him.

“And when the best of the students is defeated, Shenli expatriates him as well.

“I learned from him not long, but I do not envy those who were stronger than me and stayed to study further.”

... This story interested Yunshen, because, even if after a short training in combat skills the student of Shenli differed so much from all those Yunshen met before — how great is the skill of the teacher and his best students!

And he went in search of the mentor Shenli. It was fortunate because just this year he selected candidates as students.

... In the qualifying contest, Yunshen won one combat after the other and had become the best. He was among the selected few who were accepted by Shenli for training.

* * *

But the joy of this success began to fade quickly.

Living next to the coach was filled with a cold sternness such that enjoying anything was impossible.

The better success the student achieved, the harder he was criticized so that pride of achievements could not arise in him.

The body pain of blows received during training was a mere trifle compared to the pain, which was caused by the communication with Shenli.

Yunshen long time could not get used to how the mentor ridicules any mistake of a student! And it happened always, whether it was at mastering methods of combat, or when cooking, or cleaning the school grounds. His caustic verbal comments were stronger and sharper than the sword blows!

The friendships between students, mutual aid — were punished at the school. Each would be responsible only for himself. But damage to anyone because of envy or resentment — was instantly nipped.

Only cold unflappable calm under any circumstances, an iron-hard self-control with no emotional outbursts was cultivated. Steel will was to send any blow or to parry any attack.

One day, Yunshen allowed himself to ask the teacher: why ridicule and humiliate the offending student? Is it not simpler to speak privately about this? Everyone is striving to become better!

Shenli replied:

“It is necessary! If insults and humiliations bring the student out of balance, he is not a warrior! He will lose the fight, giving in to emotions, if his opponent were to offend him!

“This world is cruel, and only the fittest can win in it!

“And each of these lessons is always useful for everyone, not for just one!”

... Gradually Yunshen developed an iron will and endurance. He ceased to feel compassion for those who were near. He no longer tried either to protect from the wrath of Shenli other students, or to try to help them. He calmly looked at how, broken and unable to withstand the test, the student left the school. “Well, such is the fate of the weak! Perhaps, this will be my fate...” — calmly thought Yunshen.

Yunshen used to comply in peace when Shenli mocked him, turning his slightest weakness into a subject for sarcastic comments. This continued up until such errors were eliminated completely.

He had accustomed to the despise of cold silence of the mentor, to rare and dry words of approval, which could not even be rejoiced, because the atonement instantly overtook the student’s extra emotions.

... So Yunshen’s skills in the control of his body and arms during training increased manifold.

But, it took six years. And, the last exams at Shenli’s school approached when the best student had to be selected, who was to fight against the mentor.

Yunshen became this best by winning all the fights between students.

The fight between the instructor and the student started. Yunshen suddenly realized that he is stronger than his mentor, he saw how to defeat Shenli... But for a split second, he allowed himself to stop and feel sorry for the one who taught him all this... At the same moment, he was plunged to the ground by the blow of Shenli...

“Wimp, away from here! You have not learned anything in all these years! How much efforts I spent on you — and all in vain! And you could be the best! You were tempering your spirit and learned to have the will invincible! You never will become the winner, because you have not learned the law that the strongest can be only one! You still are governed by the emotions of an insignificant little man!”

... Yunshen felt the familiar flow of hatred in speech of the coach. But it seemed to him that Shenli felt great relief that he had not been defeated by now...

... Well, that was the end of study at the Shenli...

Yunshen bowed and walked away.

Mentor spat after him and turned to the other students, who were now dreaming to take his place...

* * *

Many weeks Yunshen went without a goal, not knowing where to go. He knew, he had mastered the great skills of warfare, but it did not bring him satisfaction.

The dream of his youth was, like, achieved... But it was crowned by a defeat, not a victory...

Something important was not understood...

He also thought: was it right that he spared Shenli?... But no: he understood that he did not want to take his place, becoming the same as Shenli...

But how and why to live now?

Yunshen... was just walking. Emptiness of indifferent and cruel world surrounded him from all sides. And it made life... meaningless.

Lifeless mountains were all around. The blue sky was cold and indifferent. Blades of grass looked on the edges of mountain trails as submissive and contemptibly weak...

“The world around you looks the way you’re doing it yourself!” — he heard a soft, deep voice.

Yunshen saw the Master of Heavenly Heart, Who went to meet him.

Certainly, Yunshen did not know Who was in front of him. But the Strength and Peace of the Traveler were so great that it was impossible not to feel them.

The Stranger continued:

“Your world is empty, because your heart is devastated and does not know love!”

“Who are you to lecture me?”

“I am the One Who could be your Teacher. But you’re not ready to learn yet, although has learned much already.

“Failures teach us more than victories.”

“Well, then defeat me! Let’s get to the sword!” — Yunshen said, thinking that he had met his adversary.

He offered the Master of Heavenly Heart his second sword, because Master was unarmed.

“I do not need weapon to win,” — said calmly Master of Heavenly Heart.

“But how can I fight against one unarmed?”

“I am not unarmed! Try to cut me by any weapon — and you will see how far you are from the perfection in the knowledge that you possess!”

... The fight was unusual. Yunshen dealt severe blows, but the Master of Heavenly Heart reflected with palm any impact, and the sword could not even touch His hand, possessing an unknown Power.

And then the Master of Heavenly Heart did not reflect the impact — and the sword of Yunshen passed through His body without causing any harm.

“Love triumphs even where nothing else can win! Those who are *One* with Tao, cannot be killed, and nothing can harm Them! Their Love is infinite, and It coincides with the Ocean of Tao!”

“I would like to be your disciple!” — Yunshen said and bowed to the Master.

“My name is Master of Heavenly Heart. I will teach you, but not now.

“You liked the fact that the air at the behest of the Consciousness can become dense, like a shield, and human flesh — permeable, like water! But this is... just a spray of the Ocean of Power!

“Now you must find out what love is, and learn the lessons of love in the life of this world. Then — come to Me, and I will teach you Love Which is the Creating and the Enduring Power of Tao!

“I’ll wait for you, Yunshen!”

*** * ***

Yunshen was used to performing the job perfectly: he learned — over many years of study — discipline in the execution of each task. His will was the will of the winner, which reaches any set goal!

Yunshen set a goal — to find out: what is the “worldly” love.

He remembered everything he knew about kindness and love. He went and tried to be kind to those who, according to his ideas, needed it. For example, he lived for a few days in the house of a lonely old woman and has done all the work, which required strong men’s hands.

Now he liked to bestow people with a disinterested help.

... Soon he got to the big city. There he found a hotel where women — for a fee — gave men pleasure and affection.

He lived there for more than one day.

“It was very nice, but can it really bring to the Perfection? Is that the love?” — Yunshen thought.

Once, when Yunshen came out of that hotel, he saw the hostess and a very skinny and pale girl.

The hostess told her:

“Do not make me laugh! I will not take you for the work! Your bones will not be attractive for any visitor!”

“But maybe I could wash the floors or dishes?” — the girl uttered gingerly.

“Go away and do not disgrace my public house! It is — for solid clients!”

... The girl sadly lowered her eyes and began to leave.

Yunshen felt sorry for the poor girl: “Apparently, she is long hungry! And not all is well in her life!”

He called out to the girl:

“Wait a minute! What’s your name?”

“Siuli.”

“Come with me, let’s have lunch over there!” — he pointed to the tavern.

Siuli looked up in surprise:

“I have no money, sir! I have nothing to pay...”

“That’s why I invite you. Do not worry, I’ll not hurt you!”

... They ate rice...

Siuli tried to eat slowly, and almost did not take her eyes away from the bowl. Only sometimes she, for a few seconds, raised her eyes to Yunshen.

“Do you have any relatives?”

“Yes, in the city over those mountains my uncle lives. He does not know that I’m all alone since my father died. I know the way there...”

“I’m going there too!” — Yunshen said.

“Would you like, sir, to be so gracious to let me go with you? Uncle must be a good man, and I could give you the debt.”

“You do not owe me anything, Siuli! And I could walk with you to your uncle. The road over the mountains is hard and not close. I’ll take you with me, but on one condition: you will tell me what you know about love.”

“That which you have done for me, sir, can also be called love! You are ready to help a completely unknown girl!”

“I do not think that love — is so easy! For many years, I was taught how to forget what is kindness and compassion. But I, it turns out, can still remember it. And it is very nice!

“Better tell me about yourself: if I help one whom I know — I will not confidently assume that I have known what love is!”

Siuli smiled for the first time since they met:

“You, it seems, know how to joke, sir! But currently, I have little to say. I know calligraphy and how to

draw. My father taught me, and he was a good artist. But he was ill for a long time before his death, and, for the debts, we have lost all our property. And now, if not you, I would die of starvation.”

“And my name is Yunshen. I know how to fight with any kind of weapon and without weapons. Today, this city will hold a contest. I will win the prize — and we will have enough money for the journey! If you want, I’ll buy you accessories for writing and drawing.”

“I do not allow myself to ask you this: it’s very expensive!

“But why do you believe that you will win all?”

“I know only one Master Who can defeat me. But I do not think that He will now challenge my prize, because you and I need money for the journey!

“Our meeting with that Master is still ahead, and you will help me to realize it!

“And please, do not dignify me as ‘sir’: because you’re not my servant, and we have a long road together!”

* * *

And, in fact, Yunshen has won all. Siuli, closing her eyes in fear, just waited until the end of competitions.

Under the enthusiastic cries of the crowd of spectators, the prize was delivered to Yunshen.

“Well, now let’s go to the market!”

Yunshen bought food and everything they needed on the way: because they had to travel over the mountains. Then he gave Siuli the opportunity to choose the brushes, ink, and paper.

They stopped to spend the night in the hotel — to the next day early in the morning to go.

“Today you did not tell me anything about love...”

“Can I answer without words?”

“How?”

Siuli quickly made a remarkable drawing, on which was written the hieroglyph “thanks” and the branch of a blossoming peach tree.

Yunshen looked long at the picture. It seemed that even the empty space on the paper was full of tenderness, and each flower petal was opened like a kiss away.

Yunshen knew how the power of the soul can be collected in a single lump, to then be sent as an irresistible blow on the enemy.

But here, in this picture, — too, it was a special power of the soul, which, however, sounded like... a gentle melody...

... When in the morning, the owner of the hotel had seen the drawing, he asked to stay it in lieu of payment. He told Yunshen that such a great artist had never before stopped here.

Yunshen wanted to contend that it was not he — the artist, and that he will not give up the drawing, but Siuli passed ahead and whispered to him:

“Let him take: the drawing will hang here for many years in memory of our meeting. It will please many people! And I will draw more! And do not tell him that I drew: you will not be believed!”

They left, leaving the drawing to be placed in the hotel.

“Why did you not permit to say that it is your creation?”

“Once previously in my life, I tried to sell my drawings. But I was accused of stealing them, and they took away everything. Woman is not supposed to be able to do something that should make a man...”

* * *

They went to the pass by the mountain trails. Already by noon Yunshen had seen that Siuli began to lag behind.

“Now I’ll catch up!” — she cried every time when Yunshen stopped to wait for her.

Soon Yunshen realized that unaccustomed to travel Siuli has worn her feet to bleeding in straps of wooden sandals.

“Why did you not say at once?” — he shook his head to Yunshen. — “Now we have several days when you cannot walk!”

He scanned the surrounding area and found the leaves, which help in the healing of wounds.

He seated Siuli on a flat rock and bandaged her feet.

“Now hang on my back, otherwise we will lose a lot of time.”

“No-no! I’ll try to go myself!”

But Yunshen urged Siuli to obey. She grabbed him by the neck and clung to his back. He picked up her legs under the knees. So they continued on their way.

*** * ***

One night, instead of the story about what love is, Siuli said:

“I love you, Yunshen! And now I myself know exactly what love is! But I can not explain it...”

He kissed her lips.

“You are a good mentor, Siuli! Thanks to you, I gradually understand it myself.”

... The next morning, they went again over the mountains. The sky was singing them songs of love, gentle mountain flowers smiling at their happiness, the wind played with their hair and caressed their faces with transparent kisses. The world around was filled with happiness! Life now had the meaning, since it was lit with love!

Yunshen recalled the words of the Master of Heavenly Heart: “The world around you looks — the way you do it!”

“What a wonderful world is, if it is full of love!” — Yunshen said.

... During this time, Yunshen told Siuli how he studied under mentor Shenli, and how he met the Master of Heavenly Heart.

He offered to find the Master of Heavenly Heart, instead of going to the uncle of Siuli. She agreed.

“Do you think that I, too, can learn from Him?” — Siuli asked with some trepidation.

“I think so: He suggested me to cognize what is love, and you have given me this treasure!”

* * *

Once in the mountains, they were found by a heavy downpour. It caused landslides and avalanches.

Having noticed the safest place, Yunshen dragged Siuli there — and in time: hail of stones and clay fell on the spot where they had stood.

“Hurry! Over there we can be saved!” — Yunshen pointed to a steady jut of the solid stone monolith ahead. They rushed there, but all the time Siuli was slipping and falling. Then Yunshen asked her again to climb on his back and clasp his neck. Up to a safe place, they were only a few meters away, when the trail under Yunshen’s legs collapsed... He held the ledge with great difficulty, the hands was slipping. They were hanging over the precipice. And suddenly he realized that Siuli, to save him, released her hands. A small fraction of a second — and he grabbed her with one hand, almost fell into the terrible abyss... He gathered all his strength of consciousness and body into one — and accomplished the impossible: they were able to get out...

He was now grateful to Shenli for that strength and agility, the instant reaction and the ability to see the space around, which Shenli taught him!...

They reached a safe ledge and were able to take shelter there from the rain, wind, and streams of stones and clay, falling from the mountain slope.

Yunshen hugged trembling Siuli and realized... how fragile and insecure was the happiness that was granted to them by Heaven in the last few days...

Questions about the purpose of life and death stood before him...

If before his life and the lives of other people seemed to him as only insignificant episodes in the life of the Land under Heaven — now the life of this fragile and delicate girl meant to him so much!

And what would happen, if he did not catch her?

And where would they be now, if their bodies would have died?

What will the Master of Heavenly Heart be able to teach them? Does He have the answers to these questions?

And the main question: how to find Him?

* * *

Much time Yunshen and Siuli spent in search of the Master of Heavenly Heart. But it was to no avail.

None of the local residents had even heard about Him.

Once Siuli said:

“If the Master of Heavenly Heart is Immortal, He can hear our thoughts and knows our intentions. Apparently, we do not understand correctly something. When we understand this — He Himself will be next or we will find the way to Him! It costs nothing for Him to come to the place where He is needed!”

“Yes, you’re right, Siuli!

“Try to formulate: why do we want to find Him? Imagine that He is now standing in front of you and you talk to Him.”

“I always wanted to learn to paint so that an spectator, seeing the picture, hears the birds singing in the silence, also the rustle of leaves, and even to perceive how fragrant flowers are. And — looking at the portrait, one could see the character and thoughts of man who is drawn. And — seeing the image of the mountain brook, one could strive together with it in the valley and reach the sea. And — for the beauty of the Earth, from the dizzying heights to the depths of the sea, to be seen for the souls!

“I want Love to live in each line of a drawing and be illuminating to those souls which know how to love.

“But do I maybe dream of the impossible?

“My father told me that One, Who has cognized Tao, creates Beauty, drawing it from the Infinite Source!

“He said that Tao can manifest Himself in the Creation — with the help of Those Who have cognized Tao.

“I did not dare admit even to myself that I dreamed to be like Those Immortals Who can tune people’s hearts to Love and turn them away from evil thoughts and deeds...

“And now — it’s your turn, Yunshen! Speak, as if the Master of Heavenly Heart hears you: why do you want to learn from Him?”

“Before, I wanted to be a warrior and did everything for it. But I met the Master of Heavenly Heart and learned how imperfect were my skills!...

“He instructed me to cognize love. And you gave me the knowledge of it!

“But I have realized also how fragile and insecure is that which we love in the Creation and try to keep!

“You and I need to cognize that Love that is connected to the Power of Tao — to understand the purpose of life and death, action and non-action.

“I would like to serve Tao by everything that I already know, and that I can continue to learn!

“It is said that there is a spiritual alchemy that transforms both the body and soul. And — all that is cognized as the internal energies in the art of combat, those are only small traces of that Knowledge, which opens the *Great Ultimate*.”

... They fell silent.

They were surrounded by an amazing sounding and transparent Silence! It was like the whole universe listened to their words and intentions...

But nothing happened.

... Yunshen and Siuli continued their quest and their journey.

*** * ***

One morning, Yunshen said:

“Today I had a dream. It was like floating in the most subtle and gentle Fire. And my every movement in this Heavenly Fire joined this Fire Space with the space within my body. And the Master of Heavenly Heart smiled and said something to me, but I cannot remember His words...

“Perhaps, we ourselves must seek the Truth and, as far as possible, help others to do the same.

“Since we cannot find the Master of Heavenly Heart, let’s open a school for children. You will teach them to read and draw. I’ll try to teach how to make the body healthy and clean.”

“How can we teach, when we ourselves do not have the Knowledge?”

“Let’s suppose that we are now able to share a little: only with that which we ourselves have already

learned. But in an effort to help others — love lives! After all, you taught me this!”

... And then Yunshen and Siuli felt like clear air around filled with the Great Silence and Peace. In the area around, there was the presence of the Living Light-Love. Then, this Light gained a huge form of smiling Face, beaming with Tenderness. Then the outlines disappeared, and the Master of Heavenly Heart stepped to them from the Light. His body acquired a visible and tangible form, like an ordinary human body. And yet — this body was unusual: it was filled with unshakable Calm and emitted the Light.

The Master of Heavenly Heart said:

“I am pleased to welcome you, Yunshen! And I am glad to introduce Myself to you, dear Siuli!

“You both have very quickly and successfully passed the tests and lessons, which the soul must pass to enter the Path of Cognition of Great Mysteries of the Creator and the Creation!

“You both have found the heart love, which is needed on the Path of cognizing the meaning of life and cognition of Tao and Te!

“Now the ancient Teachings of Tao is forgotten by most people. People do not remember about the rectitude that was taught by Lao Tse! And man is looking for how to win and excel others — in wealth, strength, ability to fight...

“But the power of the consciousness must not serve this! Dangerous is the way of striving for strength, power, and glory that now people seek for! The strength, growing in a rough and ill, — distracts from the real meaning of life!

“Not many, who were starting their search of the force, may, in the end, cognize Love!

“Thinking about how to destroy, attack, kill... — how much time these people spend in vain for it!

“Having understood this, you can come closer to understanding the Laws of Tao.

“Human lifespan on the Earth has become short. But people waste their lives! They are finding the pleasure for themselves... — in fighting each other! Then they grow old and die, not comprehending why they came here and where they go! Bodies become decrepit, minds weaken... — and earthly lives pass in vain, without bringing to the Truth!

“All ‘morality’ is now reduced to worshiping dead ancestors and sacrificing to them...

“Yes, surrounding with care and respect for the elderly — is commendable, as well as taking care of wives and properly raising children!

“But the worship to dead, who were unaware of Light, — this cannot bring to the Light!

“There is a benefit for themselves, for their own families. There is a benefit to the entire state... But even for the rulers among people — there are higher laws! The decline of the ethic foundations by people and their rulers — could lead the country to ruin...

“Clear Teachings of Lao Tse now is studied only in some monasteries...

“And how much distortion is in the interpretations of the Teachings of Tao! Mentors teach of emptiness and non-action, but they do not know, do not understand that which they decided to teach!

“I would like to return to the pristine purity the doctrine of Tao to people on the Earth!

“The great alchemy of souls is needed to bring them to the cognition of Tao. This is a huge labor for souls and bodies. Understand: if the bodily energies are rough — the Light of Tao is incognizable. To reside and act in a body which contains rough energies — this is the way to gain a foothold in the rough and heavy state of a soul!

“The Light of Te and Peace of Tao are the *Subtleties in the Great!* Tao is the *Subtlest* of everything in the universe! Therefore, cognition of Tao is sometimes called the comprehension of the *Great Ultimate!*

“And you now have to work hard on soul and bodily energies to transform them and make them similar to the Light and Fire of Te, and then — to Transparent Calm of Tao!

“There are simple basics of the spiritual knowledge.

“Just as the meaning and spelling of hieroglyphs are needed to be able to read and write — so the basics of the structure and life of a soul and a body will be needed for you to explore, to master the Path of cognition of Tao!

“Tao takes in Him Those Who have reached His Great Peace.

“Tao also creates everything by the Fire Power. And He maintains and operates — through the Great Te.

“To start on the Path of Knowledge, it is necessary to purify and disclose the spiritual heart that allows the soul to cognize the worlds of Light, Purity, and Subtlety!

“It is necessary to know and to clear the seven centers in the body and meridians, connecting them. This will give the ability to manage your emotions and other movements of the soul. This can be achieved by means of specific exercises.

“When the bodily energies have become pure, also when the soul has become the mistress in the space of inner silence of the developed spiritual heart, when man is now effectively managing his or her desires and emotions — then it is possible to start and more! Those are the great accomplishments of the soul!

“I will only lightly outline the milestones of the Path.

“It is necessary to:

‘Connect your love and Love of Tao.

‘Connect the will of the soul with the Will of Tao.

‘Connect thinking with the Wisdom of Tao.

‘Connect the fire of the soul’s love with the Fire of all Te.

‘To serve all beings of the Land under Heaven by those skills that you have obtained.’

“Do you agree to devote your earthly lives to this?”

... Yunshen and Siuli said “yes” in high regard.

... So the studying started. It is revealed to those who fully dedicated their lives to cognition of Tao and serving Him!

Mahavira

Parable about the Creator of the Crossing

A boy named Vir was sitting next to his grandfather and listening to his stories about ancient heroes.

More than everything else, Vir loved this time, when they stayed alone together and his grandfather told Vir ancient legends and tales.

“Tell me about the *Creator of the Crossing!*” — Vir asked. It was his favorite story. He had heard it many times, but again and again asked his grandfather to narrate it. It seemed to him that this story someday might become reality. And right here, to this room in their home, the Immortal Teacher would come and say: **‘Vir, now it’s your turn to become a Hero!’”**

Grandpa looked affectionately at his grandson:

“You know this legend by heart! Well, never mind, listen:

“Once upon a time, people and the Great Divine Immortals lived close together.

“People sometimes asked the Immortals about what was needed for them — and the Immortals helped, fulfilling their petitions. It was so, because

people asked Them about what they really needed. They did not disturb the Immortals with the fulfillment of their idle desires.

“In those times, the Immortal Divine Teachers taught people to use fire, to write words with the help of letters, to treat diseases and so on.

“But the most important thing that the immortals taught people was how to become like Them, that is, Loving, Wise, Omnipotent, and... Immortal.

“And there were Those among people Who mastered this! They then went to live with Immortals, among Them!

“But there were also people who only wanted to obtain the Great Divine super abilities. They also learned from the Immortal Masters. But they wanted to have the power and authority not for serving the Great Primordial Consciousness, Which has created everything, and not for helping other beings in their development, but for... controlling the processes in the world in accordance with their desires and for their own profit.

“They did not understand that which is most important: the developed perfect Love is what allows the Immortal Masters to live in Unity with the infinite in time and space Great Ocean of the Primordial Consciousness. And only that Consciousness alone has the ability to create everything material in the universe and control it.

“The Great Immortals saw the uncleanness of the intentions of those people and strove to help them to change. But the perverted minds of those people did not want to clear themselves from personal selfish desires. Using the power of consciousnesses, those people wanted, for their own profit, only to control other people. Additionally, they began praising themselves before people, saying that they alone could communicate with the Immortals and pass petitions of people to Them. And they called themselves *priests*.

“Their influence on people became great. People began to seek advice and help only from them and not from the Immortals.

“The power of those priests strengthened gradually. But they did not have the ability to perceive the Divine, because the Immortals do not cooperate with people who have egocentrism.

“Many bad things were done by those priests to strengthen their own power and profits. But the saddest thing of all was that they replaced the real learning from the Divine Teachers with rituals...

“Then the Immortals decided that They should not help people anymore, as They had done it before. Let people themselves be convinced of their own wrong choices on their own mistakes.

“And the Perfect Immortals moved away from the material plane and separated the invisible Divine world from the material world, in which embodied mortals lived. The Immortals began living where sights of ordinary people could not penetrate.

“From that moment, the Immortal Teachers helped only kind and loving incarnate people. The rest were given to their own difficult destinies, which they themselves chose, allowing priests to lead their lives...

“A lot of misery and suffering was in the material world where embodied people lived... And this encouraged some of them to start finding the way out of this situation.

“... So, once a kind and strong young man decided to help those who were unhappy by all means! He intended to return the opportunity to communicate with the Divine Immortal Masters to those people! He wanted to find the way into the Abode of the Immortals, into the world of the Primordial Consciousness, so that all people could traverse this Path after him and obtain the highest happiness in the Abode of all the Perfect Ones!

“His aspirations were so pure and sincere that the Divine Immortals sent the Divine Guide to meet him, since those who have not learned yet to see and orientate themselves in the subtle worlds can’t find the Path to this Abode on their own. And those who have not become like the Divine Immortals cannot enter there.

“This Immortal Divine Guide was as old as the Earth itself. But His body was young and full of strength. He carried in Himself Love, Joy, and Peace — and radiated them to all directions. The Divine Light of the morning sun streamed from His body.

“The young man asked the Immortal Guide to show him the Path to the Abode of the Perfect Ones so that he could open this Path to other people.

“The Immortal asked the young man:

‘Do you agree to spend the rest of your life traversing this Path?’

‘Yes!’ — the young man answered.

‘Will you not become scared when you face difficulties that await everyone who dares to transform himself or herself from a usual man — into the Man-Hero, who gradually becomes Divine by the qualities of the soul?’

‘I will not be scared,’ — the young man answered. — ‘And even if the fear becomes too strong for me, I will remember about those who are unhappy for whom I decided to overcome this Path. I will find strength to overcome the fear!’

‘Will you not become proud, obtaining power and knowledge? Will you not want to control people instead of helping them?’

‘If I wanted to learn to control people, I would become a disciple of the priests instead of seeking the Path!’

‘You answer well! I’ll try to teach you!

‘First, you need to learn to be the soul consisting only of caring love! It is so, because the Divine subtlety can grow only from this state!

‘To traverse the entire Path to the attainment of Divinity, you should grow as the soul and reach an enormous size that allows containing inside yourself the whole Earth and much more!

‘And then you should learn to dissolve yourself completely in the Mergence with the Greatest Divine Power!’

“... For many years the young man had been mastering the stages of the Path under the guidance of the Immortal Master. He passed through many tests. His practice resulted in that transformation of the soul which allows penetrating into the subtlest worlds — up to the Abode of all the Perfect. He started learning to enter that sacred Abode where the Divine Consciousnesses live in the Great Unity, forming the Great *Whole!*

“And when his training was close to its end, he asked the Immortal Guide:

‘Now let me teach this Path to all people!’

‘Good! But before you go to people, build the crossing over that turbulent river!’ — the Immortal Guide said. — ‘I’ll wait for you on the opposite bank. Come to Me! And then I’ll tell you how to create a *Spiritual Crossing*, by using which, people can move from the bank of sansara, where suffering is, to the Bliss of Nirvana, where only One Creating Ocean of God — the Primordial Consciousness of the universe — is!’

“They came to the powerful mountain river that was carrying its waters, seething over the stones. This river was wide. And even in that place where the water reached the knees, the strength of the flow could knock one down, but there were also sites much deeper, with waterfalls and whirlpools.

‘Here you should build a crossing!’

“With these words, the Immortal Guide raised a huge fragment of rock to the air. The stone, having become weightless by His Will, was floating duteously through the air, while the Immortal Guide was correct-

ing slightly its trajectory with His hands. Then He determined the place where the stone should be put and returned its weight to it. After this, He did the same with the next stone...

‘Well, like this, more or less, you need to act’ — the Immortal Guide said, observing His own work. — ‘But you will have to do this using only your personal power and not the Divine One. I’ll wait for you on the other side of the river until you finish building the crossing. And then I’ll teach you the laws according to which you can help people.

‘While you are helping people, you will learn to interact with the Great United Power, through Which everything in the material world can be created and transformed.’

“The Immortal Guide made two steps on the newly laid stones — and then His body became weightless. Barely touching the foam of the rapids with His feet, He easily crossed the river. On the other bank, He disappeared in a flash of Light...

“... The young man began to work.

“At first, it went easily, because nearby there were many flat stones suitable for the construction of the crossing. And the flow close to the bank was weak as well. This is why, he did all the work in the shallow water very quickly.

‘Why did the Immortal Guide ask me to do this work instead of teaching me to make stones weightless and move them with the easiness He had?’ — he thought... At that moment he stumbled on a slippery underwater stone, was washed away by the rapid stream and carried far down the river...

‘It seems that I have to be more careful,’ — the young man smiled, realizing his mistake. Having come out of the water, he returned to the place of the construction.

“He began his work anew.

“Once again he took a large flat rock, from which he wanted to make the next step, and walked.

“He easily passed along the way that he had already done before, confidently feeling with his feet every firm footing.

“Thus he reached the spot where he had slipped and had been washed away by the stream. Yet this time, he did not lose his balance and was able to place the next solid footing.

“... The young man worked long and diligently. More than once he stumbled and was carried away by the flow far down the river... Not once he struck against the rocks. Not once he swallowed water. In spite of all this, his determination did not leave him.

“Every time he fell, he stood up and continued his work. At last, he built the solid crossing!

“And when he finished, the great joy filled him: the path over the turbulent river in the world of matter was built! ‘Now the Immortal Guide will tell me how to explain to people the Path towards the Great Ultimate Happiness, that is, how to cross the ‘turbulent river’ and pass from the sansara to the achievement of Bliss of Nirvana!’

“... Right beside him, the Immortal Teacher appeared.

‘You have worked well: you crossed the river yourself. But *your crossing* turned out to be... too easy...

‘The spiritual Path is the *Crossing* from the material world to the world of the Primordial Consciousness. This Path should not give the possibility to those who do not want to walk it very much, but are just full of curiosity, to traverse it without effort...

‘That person who hasn’t worked by himself or herself but received everything ready, who hasn’t stumbled and hasn’t fallen — will not find the wisdom and strength!

‘The one who passed the *Spiritual Crossing* should only leave marks, milestones, on this Great Path in order to help others.

‘Look how many different ‘anchors’ and ‘ropes’ exist that do not allow the embodied people to break away from the world of sansara! Someone has a beloved one who does not want or cannot traverse this Path, but this person cannot leave them. Someone has unfinished worldly affairs. Someone has a desire to traverse this Path but is too scared. There are also those who really want this but are too weak; they will not reach the other bank because of lack of power...

‘Yet no one should remain in the middle of the *Spiritual Crossing!* It is like standing for a long time in the middle of the turbulent stream of this river! It is necessary to move forward or, at least, backward!

‘Everyone who started making the *Great Crossing* but then realized that it would be impossible now, will come back to the bank of sansara, being enriched with good experience, i.e. the knowledge about the traversed part of the Path.

‘To prepare people so that they can master, at least, a part of the *Crossing* is also significant. This, too, will be one of the tasks of your Service.

‘It is very important, at least, to let people know that the *Crossing* exists and that it’s possible to overcome the whole Path! Then their efforts, even the smallest ones, will make sense for their self-transformation!

‘But only that one who is not afraid of difficulties and who starts again and again overcoming the Path will be able to use the *Crossing* created by you!

‘What does it mean ‘to master the *Crossing*’? This means to know all the steps of the Path.

‘In this case, if one stumbles, one can repeat again and again what was already cognized, strengthening one’s previous achievements until the soul finally transforms itself into the Great Love, and the Fire of

Nirvana becomes the Fire of one's new Divine Spiritual Heart. After this, such a Heart will serve other seekers as the Gate to the Primordial Abode of all the Perfect!

'Now I'll go. I have finished My work: I have explained to you the Eternal Path that allows perfecting the souls. But you will stay here, in the material world, and learn to help people.

'You too are becoming the *Creator of the Crossing*. And you have to find and prepare those people who can overcome the whole Path! You will lead them as I led you!'

"After these words, the Immortal Guide disappeared. It was as if the tiny particles of His body vanished in the air...

"And the new *Creator of the Crossing* went to people to teach them what he had cognized.

Lin

How to Take in Beauty Along with Me

One person had seen the beautiful flowers that blossomed in the valley. He was filled with enthusiasm! He wanted to take and carry away at least a piece of this beauty, to possess it!

He tore off the flowers as much as he could carry. He brought them home and placed in vases... But very soon, deprived of their roots, they died...

"What a pity that the beauty is not eternal..." — grieved that person.

* * *

An artist had found himself to be in the same valley with beautiful flowers. He was admiring the marvelous beauty that had appeared before him. And he had remembered the delightful view!

He had imprinted in the soul both the beautiful play of colors in corollas of bloomed flowers, and the whole valley, and bluish pierced by morning sunlight haze of light mist in the distant mountains...

He took away with him this beauty — as a great treasure! He hurried home, trying to remember everything and sketch what he saw!

And really — he was able to convey in his painting that beauty!

Subsequently, many people came to enjoy the picture. They were happy, admired!

... Flowers faded, times a year replaced not once, but the memory of the beauty was living in the picture and pleased, ennobled people — even centuries later!

* * *

A Traveler passed through the same valley. He was also fascinated by the amazing beauty created by God! He had gathered the ripened seeds of the flowers and took them with Him.

And everywhere in suitable places, where ran His way, he sowed the seeds.

And the beauty of the Earth was multiplying. Every year ascended sown seeds were waking up, and wonderful flowers blossomed!

... A Traveler was walking on the land, driven by God, and sowed the seeds of Beauty, Wisdom and Goodness in the hearts of people.

And it was not only the beauty of flowers that He had cognized on His way!

He walked on the land and sowed the seeds of ever reviving and developing the great Beauty of the spiritual life that He had cognized and therefore had a right to multiply wisely!

Philip the Apostle

Story-Parable on the Thirst for Truth

Paul finally got lost in the endless desert... Only sand dunes were wherever you took out. Sandstorm was over. But that, which was the likeness of a road, disappeared without a trace...

Now he understood how vain he was to not follow the advice to wait out bad weather and start on a trip later.

It seemed to him that a couple of hours of driving cannot promise danger. Why put off the leaving for a few days, what I can reach today?...

To repair the car, it was not possible...

... From the “today” has already passed more than a week. Three days he spent near a broken and sanded car. Then he decided to go — go, relying on the Will of God. Chances to survive — already almost were none. Water is also no more. To think about how stupid it was to spend the water, which was with him, it was unbearable...

The way that he was going to overcome during a day, became infinite...

* * *

Desert — always is desert... Modern civilization only pretends that it can affect the desert.

In an afternoon — exhausting heat, at night — piercing cold...

Cars and camels for tourists and travelers, the hotel with a hint of European comfort — all this remains as in another world.

... Mirages in the desert...

He revered stories of mirages as fiction. For he himself, as a famous writer, did not neglect sometimes the similar.

Now these “fictions” pursued him. How many times he saw as if a lake surrounded by trees — and walked out with the last forces to it...

He tried not to believe mirages. But, all the same, went to where he imagined salvation. It was necessary to at least do something! Just sit and wait for death was not in his nature.

* * *

One evening he spoke to God: “If you want to take me out of here, do it right now! But if my life has the meaning and is needed for You — show me the way of salvation!”

Paul did not even really know what God he was referring to. How much he has read in books!... And he himself has written about the beliefs and religions of many different nations...

But now — to Whom he cried with all the soul?

He even almost laughed at this thought.

But the confidence that this is the only right way, strengthened in him: “There must be One Whom is called the Heavenly Father, the Creator!...”

Paul asked to show the way or terminate his life right now.

He did not insist. He just asked to give him an answer, way out... into life or into death: “Let Him decide. If He exists, the Merciful and Almighty, — let me know the answer!”

He went to sleep with the thought that, most likely, no longer to wake up here in this world, in this desert.

... But it was morning and nothing has changed.

The cold night was replaced by the scorching heat...

He walked and walked, without hope, simply walking, losing his last strength from fatigue and endless, as a desert, thirst.

* * *

Suddenly he saw footprints in the sand — the recent traces of human feet!

There was no one around. But this could not be a mirage: the tracks were here, at his feet, he could touch them by hands!

Paul cried, collected all the remnants of the forces.

Hoarse cry, escaping from the parched throat, seemed for him weak and miserable. He screamed again, calling for help to the person who has passed here recently.

Desert answered him with silence.

He went on the trail of an unknown person. It was the last hope.

Paul tried to think about that God... still manifested Himself! He, Paul, asked to show the way — and now he knows the direction!

It was getting dark, and Paul was not able to catch up the unknown traveler.

Hope almost left him: in fact, to see the traces, which still stronger was sanded in the dark, was no longer possible.

But another miracle happened: he saw in the distance a fire!

Paul strained his last strength, repeating to himself, like a mantra, a phrase from some book about deserts that *mirages do not happen at night*.

The fire did not disappear.

* * *

Paul approached the fire in the infinite thick darkness...

Finally, he entered the circle of light from a small campfire.

A man was sitting by the fire. He was not an Arab. He could be called European. He was dressed in light clothes, a woolen cape was above it. If now on the site of Paul was that former Paul, easily sneering over all people, — that “old Paul” would say that the stranger was dressed in a costume as some actor depicting a hermit in the desert in the days of the early Christians.

But now Paul was in no skepticism or irony.

The stranger nodded calmly to Paul in greeting and looked up at him with his quite amazing eyes, in which one could plunge — and seem to drown, disappear.

The man gestured to sit by the fire.

He pulled out of the folds of clothing the clay bowl and handed it to Paul. The cup was suddenly filled with water...

Not quite knowing what happened, Paul said with dry lips:

“Can I drink it?”

“Yes, you can quench your thirst,” — the stranger’s voice was just as amazing as his eyes. It sounded as if the infinity of Peace... But Paul felt all this by only some part of himself, which this voice, coming from the *depths* of the unknown, raised here and enveloped with the gentle presence of something mysterious...

... Paul remembered how one day he would like to interview one Indian who lives as a hermit in a mountain cave. He then spent a lot of effort to make a sensational report about the Indian yoga. But the hermit did not answer his questions. He only said to Paul: “You’re not ready yet!” And then sang a single sound mantra...

The way it sounded — it was the sound of an infinite Silence. It did not look like nasal chanting mantras of “gurus” that he had encountered in India at every step. Something on this subject, Paul wrote in his diary, but then for some reason, almost forgot about this episode in the bustle and whirl of life...

The stranger’s voice was like that sound, but he said the most common words.

... And now Paul... drank, drank, drank... He waited for all that water to deplete, but it did not end...

“You can stay at the time: the water will not end and will always be, when you need it,” — the stranger said with a smile.

Paul, with some difficulty, pulled away from the bowl and put it, still full, next to him.

Then the stranger held out his hand to Paul, as if giving him something. Paul stared at the graceful palm, lit by the light of the fire, a few seconds, until he saw that the bread rests on the palm.

Bread — it suddenly appeared!... Or rather it could be said that the bread... has become visible...

Paul took still warm hunk by slightly trembling hands and thanked. The stranger nodded in response.

Fatigue and something else, such as a thick transparent peace, enveloped Paul from all sides, and did not allow being surprised or frightened. Everything was... as if usual. It was as if every day he drank water from the bowl, in which it does not end, and ate materialized bread.

Then the Stranger offered Paul to rest.

“Can I ask You a question?”

“Ask”.

“Are You — a hallucination?”

“Yes, I thought that of all the questions, you have accumulated, you would ask exactly this!” — He laughed loudly and held out His hand to Paul, on which He had just materialized the bread, — so that Paul could touch it.

The hand was amazingly beautiful, with thin graceful fingers. The skin of the Stranger was covered with the smooth golden tan of man with white skin, who spends much time in the sun. The Stranger was of the flesh, which could be touched.

“Yes, this My body now — it is the material reality,” — He confirmed. — “But there is also another Reality. And due to the fact that it is not material, it does not cease to be the Reality.

“But better we will talk about it tomorrow. Now you are most in need of rest.”

Paul lay down by the fire. The Stranger covered him with woolen cape as a blanket.

Paul fell asleep almost instantly...

* * *

In the morning, opening his eyes, Paul tried to understand whether all seen by him was a dream, or the fruit inflamed by thirst, hunger, exhaustion of imagination or, still, a reality...

Amazing Stranger was in the same place.

He welcomed Paul in silence — by a slight smile and nod.

Paul greeted Him in English, and thought for a moment about what language they were talking yesterday... Paul from childhood was fluent both in English, and French, but recently English was closer to him, he also wrote his books in English.

“You ought to wash,” — said the Stranger in English.

“Or would you prefer to speak French?” — He said in the same pure, as well as English, French.

“I prefer English.

“But to wash... here — where?”

The Stranger held out His hand in the direction of a large stone. The stone with some tension and a

sound like cotton, suddenly split. From the resulting cracks, water started to flow.

Paul again was drinking, drinking... Then he bathed with cool clear water that flowed now in a small shallow basin near the stone. Gradually was formed a small lake...

“Clothes can also be washed.”

Paul did as said. He then laid washed out to dry clothes on the stone from which the newborn source flew.

* * *

Paul returned to the fire in a woolen cape of the Stranger.

Meanwhile, the Stranger laid out on a makeshift table made of pure linen — pieces of bread, nuts and fruits. And yet — bowls with water and juice.

Paul came up to this table. He turned to where he washed, checking: whether the marvelous source disappeared? But the stone with running from it stream of clear water was at the same place. Next was a small lake. On the other bank of it — appearing as from nowhere antelopes quenching thirst. They started at the look of surprised Paul.

“Do not scare them, they want to drink. Sit down at the table, breakfast is ready. And then we can continue the conversation.”

Paul came and sat beside Him.

“How do You do all this?”

“And how Jesus fed thousands with a few loaves?”

“But that is a Christian legend...”

“But I thought that you are a Christian. That’s you even are wearing a cross... Or is it — *so simple*: an ornament or amulet, like the Pagans do, ‘to be on the safe side’, or ‘from an evil eye’?”

“You’re almost right. Although I was baptized as a child, but — of me was not very good Christian, I still am questioning and read the manuscripts of different nations about their ‘gods’ and beliefs...”

“Searching for Truth — is not a sin! Reading and learning — it makes sense! Even Jesus has spent years of His life for the cognition of the different faiths of different nations — before He began to preach the Truth.

“And your baptism — does not matter... Another Baptism should be taken by the soul!

“However, now — the meal.”

And He looked by inviting gesture to the arranged on a clean cloth treats...

Paul was absorbed in satisfying hunger and thirst, and almost did not think about how wonderfully everything changed since last night...

*** * ***

When the breakfast came to an end, the Stranger still remained silent. He ate not a lot and slowly. Then Paul as if heard within himself the question:

“Did you want only to satisfy hunger and thirst — or you need the continuation of life for something more? Why would you like to live in this body: what to know, to understand, to make?”

The Stranger said slowly aloud the words that Paul had just heard inside himself-soul.

Paul thought. All life, like a film strip on fast-forward, appeared in front of him to remind him of his childhood with radiant perception of beauty and goodness, studying at the institute, the growing skepticism, career of a journalist and writer... His latest book — “Itineraries of a Lone Traveler” had a success... Then there were the fight for the circulation and quality, quarrel with the publisher... What he wanted, when he wrote the book? Money, fame, benefit of what he re-

veals unknown for people? Are needed for someone, in actual fact, all his arguments about the secret teachings of ancient Egypt, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, religious myths and legends of various nations? All this seemed so important a few weeks ago. But now...

“Your next book could be more interesting. You now have the opportunity to ask about the important for you and get answers. You may ask.”

“Who are You?”

“It is not the best question to start with. My name — Philip. The rest you will learn gradually.”

The next question froze on the lips of Paul, and he did not dare to say it aloud: “Are You — the Apostle, Satellite, and the Disciple of Jesus? But how is this possible: two thousand years ago — and now... alive?”

But Philip still answered this non-pronounced question — again as if by a voice that Paul heard inside. And then He repeated again the said, slowly and quietly uttering the words:

“Why do you think that this is impossible? You yesterday were looking for a meeting with the One Who will reveal to you the Path to the true knowledge. I use the word *Path*, because it’s impossible to reveal the Truth to another soul directly, just as it is impossible to quench your thirst by giving a drink to another man instead of you. Each should discover the Eternal Truth himself or herself. There can be only a little help in finding this Path by others.

“You aspired to God as well as here in the desert rushed for mirages. One mirage in life was replaced by other, but no one has brought you closer to the Truth. And a number of distractions pursue you from all sides so that you could get lost or even forget about the Goal.

“If lots of people follow along in a certain direction, it seems to them that they know where to go. But this is not always right...”

... Paul understood that the pronunciation of thoughts aloud was not necessary to communicate with Philip. But Philip has used it only as a confirmation: that in mind of Paul were no doubts in understanding of what he perceived as the answers.

Paul used to be very fond of the question on the possibility of telepathy, but he did not think it could be done so easy with himself.

Philip continued:

“Why do you think that the appearance in the resurrected body on the Earth after large time is not possible? You yourself believe in the reality of the resurrection of Jesus in the deified material body, right? You even wrote an entire article on the ‘Shroud of Turin’, which captures the negative of bodily form of Jesus at the moment of dematerialization of His body. And you yourself argued that the One Who was able to dematerialize His body — easily could recreate the body again...

“Why do you think that He did not want to teach others the same?”

“And have You mastered this?”

“Yes, but not immediately.

“And now tell Me: who are you?”

... The usual question caught Paul unawares: it seemed to him that Philip knew everything about him, even He read his articles.

“My name is Paul,” — Paul decided to compete with Philip in brevity.

“Why are you here — a person living on the planet Earth? Have you thought about this?”

“Yes, I thought... I thought that we all are here to learn...”

“Good answer!”

“Yes, I was looking for the Truth! I expounded in my books all that I saw, learned, and considered as the significant. I included into them also my thoughts

about what I saw, about the people encountered, heard about the legends...”

“What will happen with all your knowledge, when the body dies?”

“It will remain in my books... Perhaps this can help others in their search...”

“What do you think: have you lived before being born in this body? And will you live without a body after its death? And will you be born in a new body to continue to improve?”

“It’s not fair! You promised to answer my questions, but instead throw me with questions whose answers I was looking for and did not find!”

“I help you to learn to find the right answers! I have still only begun!

“You read many times right and wrong answers to these questions, but did not feel, did not recognize the Truth! You many times passed the Truth!

“All *external* knowledge is only the husk! It is possible to believe or not to believe... But this “belief” does not change anything in man!”

“Christianity rejects the knowledge on reincarnation. Hinduism...”

“And you yourself? I’m aware that you’re familiar with the modern doctrines of different directions of faith, including of those people who call themselves ‘Christians’. You read, too, the books of many other different nations... But I ask you: what do you think about this — you yourself?”

“I thought, it would be right for the new incarnation to be — for one who made mistakes, ... for one who started to learn, but did not know all... I think it is more reasonable, than the eternal torment of hell or eternal bliss of paradise. It does not seem logical to me a death, for example, of a baby: if its life was cut short, almost before it began... There must be an opportunity for it yet!...”

“Perfectly! Brilliantly! You’re already making progress!”

“But people do not remember their past lives. And those minority, who argue that they recall, — cannot prove that this is not a fantasy. And the Bible and other books do not explain...”

“Did you think about the meaning of your life and lives of other creatures, of the interconnectedness of souls, who come to the Earth, about God, if He is, to be fair, is not it?”

“Yes, You have well formulated my thoughts. I did not understand why various people so differently worship a Higher Power, God, claiming that only their faith is true, and that only “their God” indeed exists. But there are those who recognize the multitude of Gods or Saints...”

“You would like to receive a ready answer from the books. But you were looking from the *outside*. But the Truth must be found *within*.

“The first, and you did this, — one needs to set a goal and look for it. There are so many those who are not interested in the meaning of life, they just go with the flow, in accordance with their instincts and reflexes... But there are other people who are willing to spend a lifetime searching for the Truth!

“The second thing to do is the direct cognition of the Truth through personal experience. The entrance to these states you have *inside* you.

“Jesus pointed the Path for approaching the Creator: ‘God is Love!’. That is, He can be cognized only by becoming soul-love by developing oneself as a spiritual heart.

“Krishna also taught about it: “Only love can contemplate Me in My Innermost Essence and merge with Me!”.

“To cognize oneself as the Atman and Higher ‘I’, to cognize the Primordial Consciousness and to flow into Him — one has to become a developed and loving

consciousness! Christians-Hesychasts believed that this stage — that is, the transformation of the me-soul into the spiritual heart — is the most important.

“The knowledge that you get from the level of words, rather than on the basis of the experience of the soul, — remains *external*, superficial knowledge. It is only information for thinking, it is useful, but... But the Truth can be really cognized only through your own experience! This is the knowledge gained as states of consciousness in Union with the Creator.

“Initially, these moments are brief. But it is possible to reach the level of knowledge, about which Jesus said: ‘I and the Father are One’.”

“Have all the Apostles managed this?”

“Many. Some of Them — quickly, others took more incarnations.

“But not only Jesus and His disciples have cognized this.

“Those, Who have mastered the Mergence with the Primordial Universal Consciousness, the Great *United We*, Which is called by people for the sake of simplicity as *God*, — Those can draw knowledge directly from the Source of the Universal Love, Wisdom and Power, Who are now at Their disposal. All the knowledge, stored in the Absolute, is provided to Them upon request. And this is limited only by the ability and experience of that Consciousness, which perceives this Knowledge.”

“Do You want to say that Those, Who have attained the Mergence, may also have restrictions?”

“I mean that the possibility to improve is boundless! This applies, too, to the Evolution and Life of the *One*, consisting of the Multitude.

“But for a person to start this Path, he or she needs to work hard.

“To replace one’s savage instincts by the Divine Awareness is not possible quickly.

“Souls gradually climb the ladder of development: from the lower forms of consciousness — to the top. This evolution begins in the tiny droplets of consciousness, growing, being fastened to the crystal lattices of minerals. Then the germs of souls grow, being connected with the plant’s and then animals’ bodies.

“Only man, who matured in a long series of incarnations, is able to improve oneself-soul — consciously. You have now already not the first incarnation of looking for the Truth, and you now have real chances to succeed.

“You are a vegetarian. You chose this according to the conviction that man does not want to commit the murder of any innocent animals. This is — a serious first step on the Path of goodness.

“You are doing Hatha Yoga. However, you were doing this as exercises for health. But even in this version, it has brought good results. The energies of your body are clean and are in very good state, when compared to the average majority.

“You are prepared to try and take the big stages of the spiritual Path. Do you want it?”

“Can there be any doubts? Yes!”

“To begin, you need to explore the intangible for usual vision, but very real structures of the organism: chakras and meridians. They allow one to trace the relationships between the soul-jiva — and its material body.

*** * ***

Philip started training Paul.

He explained how it is possible to move the concentration of self-soul through the chakras and meridians. Paul really felt, how the state of the soul changes from simple immersion, for example, in the chakra anahata: peace and love becomes natural, dominant thoughts disappear.

A few days Paul has devoted for clearing these energy structures.

The second task was to learn to live by the spiritual heart. Here Paul had to work much longer: in fact, the habit of constantly thinking about something — accustomed to life in the head chakras.

But Philip explained:

“It is necessary to master the continuous existence by the spiritual heart. It is the overriding basis for a correctly developing soul!

“The spiritual heart must become much more than anahata chakra, located in the chest of the body, where the spiritual heart began to grow from.

“The ability to be a soul-love, which has become much more than the tangible body size, fundamentally changes the status of the person. This is the first stage of the spiritual Path. Even just doing it — makes achieving the paradise as the natural state!

“And this step also opens the door to the secret world of the Divine Reality!

“The entire esoteric Path is needed for only mature and wise souls.

“But the ability to live as a soul-love — is adequate for every soul, it does not hurt anyone. It will bring all souls to the light and joy of life, even when life of the body lasts. And after the death of the body — it provides the life of the soul in blissful harmony of the paradise!”

*** * ***

Paul now spent a lot of time in meditations, filling by the soul-love the space above the Earth’s surface.

Endless desert, which before seemed to him such a ruthless and brutal, now... gave him the opportunity to expand the spiritual heart more and more, covering the entire space.

His previous attempts to “meditate” — sitting cross-legged and concentrating in the head or eyebrows, looked now as a funny game of a child who tries to show something, about which it does not know anything...

And Philip was gradually revealing to Paul the new horizons:

“Now you already have the understanding that you are a soul, not a body, endowed with the mind and organs for communication with the outside material world. Now you have the opportunity to cognize also that God is also the Reality. I will help you to gain first experience of direct perception of God.

“But for this it is necessary to feel the reality of life of the soul, without the limitations of perception, that overlap the material body.

“A soul, when incarnate, is connected with a body. This bond forms during embryonic development. Having been born in the material world, a person learns — through the body — to see, hear, feel, think. A child begins to interact with the world of matter with a help of this tool — the material body.

“But the soul can do all the same without having a body. It can see, hear, feel, think in other planes of existence in the Absolute.

“There are the enormous potentials to control matter from the Divine plan of life! But this is for you — the long perspective. Walking on water and materializing the bread or the water — this is possible for only the soul which has realized its Unity with the Primordial Consciousness, God! To do this, the soul, free from the limitations of matter, must learn to live and act in the subtlest layers of the Absolute.

“Not all the Divine Souls have reached the immortality of Their material bodies. Not many have mastered the full deification of Their bodies, like Jesus. And taking the body from the material world — it is not an ob-

ligatory feature of achieving the Mergence with the Creator.

“So, the main conclusion: the incarnate man-soul can communicate with God!

“Now, about — how.

“Let us return to our practical work. I promised you the experience of such interaction with God.

“To do this, the soul must be developed as a spiritual heart, that is, as love. If not — all is confined by fantasy, mental images created by the mind. This is the ‘stumbling block’, which stopped very many beginners in their spiritual search.

“So, the most important step on the Path — it is the development of the spiritual heart.

“Feel yourself in the anahata chakra as a whole, like in a room. Now open the window ahead — and clean the ‘room’ of all trash and shadows.

“Next, let your love, as a gentle light, shine and illuminate the space ahead! As well as a spotlight or the headlights of the car at night illuminate the space in front of you — so love of the soul can illuminate and caress space and all the living in it! At first, illuminate the visible by body’s eyes space, and then farther and farther ahead...”

... Paul loved the night driving of a car on the empty road... And now he was very apt to feel the light that illuminates the space in front! It was like a heart’s light is now illuminating his way through life!

Philip continued:

“Now in a bodily primary abode of the spiritual heart — the anahata chakra — it is possible to turn back the face of the soul. You can open another window — into the space of the Divine Light.

“Try to look back from the anahata chakra — just like staring ahead... Do you see the Light?”

“Yes.”

“Come into that Light! Immerse yourself in It, as in the vast Ocean! Dissolve in It, going as far as possible...

“Now try to look *from* the Light to there where in the body you have lived before...

“And again — let it be only the Light!

“You were willing to take from God the experience of death of the body. Now — a part of this experience: the life in the Divine Light without feeling the body. If the body dies — then you’re... you remain! And you continue to live in the Light, being It, is it not?

“Being in this Light, you can feel It between the fingers of the hands of the soul.

“Or you can try to hug It — Infinite — with your arms. This leads to a state of blissful joy, delight!

“This Light consists of the mutually merged Consciousnesses of All the Attained.

“You can take Their Desires and Intentions.

“Feel your arms of the consciousness! They — are huge and can be even more, more... They can touch everything by the fingertips or take on the palms any creature.

“In the Christian tradition, this Light is called the Holy Spirit, in Hinduism — Brahman.

“Merged with the Flow of this Light, flow by It through your material body and around it, then — from above — down, upwards, from back — forward, from ahead — back. It is flowing the River of the Divine Love! Learn to always feel in the Communion with this Divine Love!”

... Paul miraculously perceived himself in confluence with the Divine Light, and at the same time... his body was on the sand.

He was now the Part of this Light.

He has realized that what he read in the New Testament: one needs to go by the soul towards God-Spirit!

He was infinitely free and infinitely happy!

But this state did not last long: the fatigue of meditations forced back into the body.

“Well, now you really have got the baptism in the Holy Spirit!” — Philip congratulated him. — “You can now be considered as the real Christian!

“A process of gradual transformation of the soul into the Divine Light is called *Enlightenment*. And one, strengthened in the state of Divine Light, is called *Enlightened*.”

* * *

Between these meditations, Paul again felt like a prisoner of the body. And this saddened him.

Philip once replied to these thoughts, which were not expressed aloud:

“Not all at once! Even you — who had already not small spiritual experiences in your past lives — need time to get used to the new states of consciousness.

“You will need a long time to work on the extension-growth of yourself as a spiritual heart, and on the further purification of structures inside the body and filling them with the Divine Light.

“Only when the substitution of the energies within your body by the Divine Light will be reached — it will be easy to live in this Light all the time. Then the Light will be your Home — the *Home of the Soul*. This Home does not have to be exited, despite the fact that the body is in the material world.”

... Philip showed to Paul every day more and more new methods of work on the expansion of the consciousness as love and replacing energies in the body.

* * *

After a few days, one night, Philip asked Paul:

“Would you like to talk with Jesus?”

“With Jesus? I?”

“What are you so puzzled about? You can not decide? But you believe that Jesus can hear what people say to Him, right? Those, who recite prayers in the temples, can they probably believe that they are heard by Him?

“Many people are crying out to Jesus. It is because they know about Him more than on many Others, Who have reached the state of Christ.

“All of Them and Each of Them may now be called as the Holy Spirit.

“One can selectively appeal to Someone among Them.

“The Creator consists of this Set of the Perfects!

“Their entry into the Creator is similar to the drops of water which flow into the ocean and become merged there with those drops that have flowed into the ocean before.

“These, the Perfects compose the Great *United We!* Someone calls Him *God-the-Father*, someone — *Tao*, someone — *Allah*, but the difference is only in words.

“Divine Consciousness, called the Primordial, — this is the Multitude of the Divine Consciousnesses mutually merged in *One!*

“But Each of Them can act in the Creation, parting Oneself. Just as the wave can rise above the ocean, while remaining an integral part of it, — and Those, Who have attained, can manifest Themselves, remaining in the Unity with the Ocean of the Creator.

“So, would you like to talk with Jesus?”

“Yes!” — Paul said emphatically, understanding that, if he refuses, then he will never forgive this to himself.

Something from his journalistic past flashed as a strange thought: “I did not ever think that it is possible to interview Jesus Himself!”

... There was the Light, approaching from the intangible *depth*. It was like the rising sun... Light approached. In It, was manifesting the image of Jesus.

And now — Jesus, the living Jesus!

He and Philip embraced...

Then Jesus went up at arm's length to Paul. Paul tried to touch His clothes. Jesus was composed of Light, the body was not material.

Jesus said:

“It is not an illusion. This is the reality. Are you still not satisfied with the words of Philip, Who explained to you that the difference between matter and Light — it's only the energy levels of subtlety?

“Why do you need My material body? In order to write a sensational report about a meeting with Jesus? For everyone, who reads your book, begins to seek a meeting with My materialized body?

“Well, look: My body may be the material.”

Jesus condensed His body of Light and sat down next to Paul and Philip by campfire. He continued:

“Miracles, in fact, do not change anything fundamental in human souls! However, I will be glad, if you write about that for each person either praying in the temple, or bustling in a big store, or going by a train, or sailing on a ship — can stand, sit, speak — and not notice that He, with Whom he or she is nearby, is Jesus. I have a lot of times of this happening among embodied people, and they did not recognize Me, did not hear Me...

“It would be nice, if everyone will know that pushing someone by elbows amid the bustle, he or she can alienate, without noticing, and Jesus...

“Within all this time, people, too, have not learned to see in each person a brother or sister...

“If I come, as before, and begin to perform miracles — I certainly would be called a ‘false prophet’!

“But for those, who know Me, — they do not need My body, consisting of flesh.”

“But why did You come in the body then — 2000 years ago?”

“I was sent into this hell of suffering and misery in earthly life — to point medicine and antidotes against them. I did it, too, by presenting people the Teachings about the *Path of Love!*

“Among the darkness of ignorance, I kindled the Lamp of Truth. I have shown the ability to be only Love — even in the hatred and other abominations of human souls!

“I showed people the *Path of Love!* I spoke about the possibility of exit from hell — to the Light of the Creator, to cognition of Him and Mergence with Him!

“The Path of service to God — this is to go where the bad, where you will be hated, killed... And one should be only the Pure Love, continuing to bring to people the Truth of God! Each of the Coming from the Heavenly Father onto the Earth — demonstrates this by His or Her life!

“In words — everything is easier. But Christ must live so — every day and hour, every minute of life on the Earth, not allowing the flame of heart to be extinguished and without breaking the Consubstantiality with the Father!

“Are you ready to start this? After all, just for this our meeting was planned!”

“I do not know, if I can do...?”

“You do not know this, until you try!”

“Tell me, did Your earthly life’s Feat help someone? Was it necessary for people? For they have forgotten everything again!”

“My Teachings have helped many. People need to be aware of the Path to achieve the Oneness with the Creator!

“Those, who then had understood Me, — they went this Path. We had got — many. And many others there were, who just approached and keep going.

“Even when darkness thickens around and there is no hope that the Light will shine — then it is only *love* that saves us from darkness and allows to keep a basis only in God!”

“And that gets up the so-called ‘Christianity’? Crusades? Inquisition? It does not fit into an understanding!”

“Any medicine, when used incorrectly, can become a poison...”

“Even the most useful word or action, if it is not used properly or for evil intentions, — can bring the evil...”

“I’m not talking about the distortions that were added intentionally by those who converted the Teachings of God — into a way to control people for the sake of themselves!

“In the wrong application, the force can become the violence, caution — cowardice, excessive concern — the suppression of development.

“Also, the belief in the existence of God can keep a person from evil. But the criminal leaders of religious movements make people, having fallen under their influence, to be perpetrators.

“Only the mastered love allows one to gain Wisdom to distinguish between good and evil — to a level as God distinguishes.

“And all is so simple!

“Everyone now can become My disciple — directly, without intermediaries!

“I would like you to tell people about it.

“And, to be My disciple, — it does not need to be close to My body!”

... Jesus dissolved His body’s image in the Light... and continued to speak. Paul easily understood Jesus, Who was now just a Light-Love, Light-Tenderness. This understanding was more than just hearing the words.

In the Light, the voice of Jesus continues to sound:

“I am Omnipresent! I can be right now next to each man!

“Everyone can aspire to fulfill the principles of life, offered by God. This will be the true Christianity! Not only I, but many the Attained will help such man!

“Notice: now your mind is completely relaxed, and the silence has filled the spiritual heart!

“God can be perceived only by the developed spiritual heart. Only the soul that has become the love can touch the Divine Consciousness, Which is Love. To this, I have called people ever since — by the words “God is Love!”.

“But this cannot be passed to anyone by means of only words!

“But you — give me a hug! My Light and Love — are waiting for you! I was long waiting for this moment! I love you!”

... There was only Jesus — Blissful Light of God, Who immersed in Himself and dissolved in Himself...

The soft voice of Jesus continued:

“Try to feel that here are Many of Us.

“Here is, in particular, Philip. You will now always be able to recognize Him. And it is not necessary for Him to be physically close to you — for you to continue to be trained.”

... The space of the Divine Light — the space of another reality of existence, stunning first by Its Tenderness, Beauty, Greatness, and Simplicity — it now was clearly perceived by Paul, because He was now in It and being It.

Ever-evolving Consciousness, Divine *United We* — consists of a Set of Perfect Consciousness. It does not know decay and death! But it is full of mature Wisdom and Omnipotence, fused with a gentle and caring Endearment of the Perfect Love!

* * *

The last day of the life of Paul and Philip at the source in the middle of desert had come.

Philip said:

“Time of our joint stay here is over. Stage of your training with the help of My material body is coming to an end. Then you can take help and guidance for your growth without My presence on the plane of matter.

“Did you read about meditation Cross? Fullness of this meditation, including the “Right” and “Left”, you are to cognize later.

“Now, before we leave, we have to do one more thing. In memory of our meeting, we can give to the desert the new oasis. And to be precise — to return the landscape that was here thousands of years ago.

“Water is already here. It remains to sow the seeds.

“Take these seeds of dates and of some other plants that are able to take root here.”

... Paul and Philip walked around the newborn lake, throwing the seeds along the coast.

“Do you believe that here something will be able to grow? Here is just the sand!” — Paul said.

“Where is the source — life can always develop! Animals will come to the water, soon the first plants germinate — and then the soil is filled with power and allow other plants to germinate.

“You now also carry a source of the Truth.

“You will also need to work hard to ‘cultivate a field’ of yourself-consciousness, that is, to cognize the fullness of Mergence with God and to plant the ‘field’ by many seeds. You can grow yourself more and more, and to help others to do the same. You can do it wherever you live and work. And God will harvest!

“That’s all! For our bodies — it’s time to leave.

“You have already started to learn to listen by the consciousness and understand God’s plans!

“The ability to communicate by the consciousness with the Divine Consciousnesses will help you never be without Divine Help and Advices. Not only Jesus and I have come into your life. All the Messengers of Light are always ready to help those who are turning to Them. Call!”

... They embraced.

Then Philip went without looking back. A light breeze was sanding His tracks.

Paul filled the jar with water, folded stock of provisions, left to him by Philip, and went to people...

Three days later, he came up to where the ordinary human life was in full swing.

And he did not have any tangible evidence of all that had happened to him, in addition to that surprising fact that he was still alive.