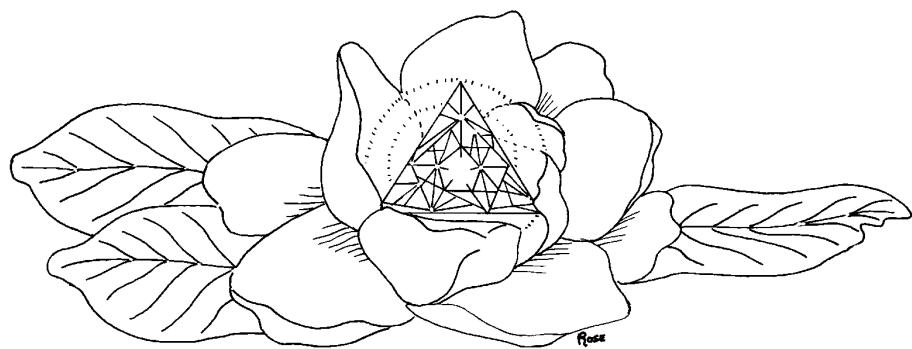


ThoughtLine

November 2003



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December 7, 2003, Sunday 7:45 PM

December Community Meditation Meeting

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Group Meditation New Moon Cycle Seed Thought

October 25 Through November 23

When the shutters of selfhood are being fastened everywhere, when fires are extinguished in the darkness, is it not the time to reflect about the Beautiful? *Fiery World #177*

November 23 Through December 23

The material goal which all who love their fellowmen and serve the Hierarchy must ever have in mind and at heart is the defeat of totalitarianism. *Externalization of the Hierarchy p. 700,701*

Unveiling The Jewel

The evolutionary purpose of Virgo is to protect, nurture, and ultimately reveal the light and beauty of Spirit at the core of all forms and beings. One of the steps we attempt in the closing is to see evidence of Virgo's mothering work in the outer community. A joyful omen that the Mother of the World is beginning to lift her veil to us, is the recent announcement that science has succeeded in creating synthetic diamonds. The slow refinement of carbon into a gleaming, translucent diamond has been esotericism's quintessential symbol of the divine light and beauty waiting to be unveiled in all of us. *Esoteric Psychology I* (p.227) states the divine Plan is "hidden in the geometry of a crystal and God's radiant beauty stored in the color of a precious stone." D.K. assures us that eventually we will see the "...long road that the diamond has traveled and--by analogy--the long road that all sons of God traverse, governed by the same laws and unfolding the same consciousness." *Esoteric Psychology I, P.227* In *Telepathy and the Etheric Vehicle, P. 91*, we are reminded that "the truly illumined man and all who have taken the three highest initiations are always referred to as the 'diamond souled'; they in their totality constitute 'the jewel in the lotus'--that twelve petalled lotus which is the symbol and the expression of the potency of the planetary Logos."

The diamond is the model for the gem our own consciousness can become, and is now physically within our creative power to quickly synthesize. This new development, if we carry the symbol forward, suggests ***transformation in the new age can be exponentially accelerated.*** Last year, we aligned with the invocation of the Balinese after the bombing in Kuta, to help

them "bring Beauty to our world." Synthetic diamonds are stunning encouragement that the Mother is listening, regardless of the many problems that still remain.

At the Aries Festival earlier this year, we shared Master R's comment that to aid the Ashram of Synthesis, a whole new order of wisdom devas is coming into the world who have synthesized 1st, 2nd, and 7th Rays. Could synthetic diamonds be some of their handiwork? If so, they may help us unveil our own jewels in record time.

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Last Virgo, Tom suggested the UN was another place the Mother of the World was attempting to manifest. The UN provides a constructive matrix where polarized parts of the world can safely explore their common ground, as well as new ways of being together in new combinations. In the last year, the Mother's endurance at the UN has been sorely tested as the organization has been ignored, financially shorted, undermined, rejected and even bombed. Nonetheless, the Mother continues to incubate the Plan's simple formula of First Unity, then Peace, then Plenty. This past week, the U.S. military made it clear to President Bush that despite all of their previous, separative bravado, they now recognize they cannot continue to go it alone in trying to stabilize post-war Iraq. Their current personnel are inadequate and cannot be maintained beyond next March. They have called for UN backing and for the military to be reclassified as a multinational peace keeping force. The U.S. is in the process of making up with France so as to reopen the door to UN involvement in the solution, which would be a big step in the direction of the Plan. A perfect opportunity to add our subjective power to these developments is coming up at the equinox, Sunday 9/21, when

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the UN will be celebrating International Peace Day. Arcana will be supporting this activity with a Los Angeles Heart Meditation at the Getty Museum at 2pm if any of you would care to join us.

Finally, in the esoteric realm, we recently have become aware of two centers where the Mother's accelerating magic is beautifully evident. Both centers are having phenomenal success in helping people to liberate their diamonds within. The first is the Institute for the Development of the Person just north of Montreal in Canada. This center has been in operation for over twenty years. I had the privilege of attending a workshop at the Institute in August 2003, as part of the Conclave action subgroup focusing on psychology. The Institute is a thriving spiritual center on lush green grounds where students get to experience a loving, serving, purposeful, and yet playful community.

The initial workshop at the Institute is called Awakening, referencing the Awakening of the Soul. 150 people were in attendance at the August session, including many with little esoteric background. There were also numerous staff and a large contingent of volunteers. The volunteers are all people who have been through Institute workshops. They have so appreciated their own growth and healing from the work, that they return to the Institute repeatedly, to help others awaken in the same manner. They are unpaid, but get free room and board. The radiant service orientation ubiquitously modeled by these staff and volunteers is a big part of the nurturing, transformative atmosphere. Their continuous positive attention and support, help participants to feel accepted, and safe. They can then risk opening up, and the healing begins.

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The founder, Annie Marquier, is an inspiring, dynamic lecturer who radiates light, compassion and endless humor for the human condition. She masterfully combines a whole array of cutting-edge psychological, healing and meditative techniques and organizes them all within the framework of the ageless wisdom. While remaining absolutely true to esoteric principles, she uses a minimum of esoteric terms, keeping her language and metaphors absolutely accessible to all who attend. In three and a half very full days of individual and group work and sharing, our group bonded, and tasted the joy, fun, community and healing possible at the level of the soul. It was awesome to see so much warmth, fearless authenticity, and good will generated in so short a time.

*Continuous positive attention and support,
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healing begins.*

Our parting assignment was to create three miracles during the coming week

as testament to our deepened link with our hearts and higher minds. Whoever was able to come back, re-gathered for a party the following Thursday. Most had no shortage of miracles to report. As we took ourselves less seriously, so did others around us, lightening up both family and work relationships. Some even had chronic health problems go away. We found ourselves magically less reactive, calmer, more appreciative, more ready to laugh and more thoughtful. Serendipitous events abounded as the group had embodied leaving the victim stance behind. Rather than resisting unpleasant tasks or incidents, we followed through on a group declaration, and not only accepted such events, but looked for the humor, soul lessons and growth opportunities the universe was offering us in these situations. To our delight, we repeatedly found them. This makes sense since, "Energy follows thought." The carefully orchestrated instruction and group

work, carried out in a loving atmosphere, had released some blocks in our lower vehicles. The work also had shown us simple, reliable methods to access the higher mind in any situation. This type of group intensive graphically demonstrates the rapid progress humanity's soul can now make given the right support.

Living Unbound

Annie has written two books which are now available in English through her website: www.idp.qc.ca. Flyers with the book information and website address are also on our entry table. The first section of Annie's latest book, *Living Unbound*, covers the esoteric principles behind the Awakening seminar just described. It provides wonderful insights on the glaring differences between the lower and higher mind, and how to easily discern which mind we are in at any given time. The second part of the book examines limiting psychological structures most of us have lodged in our lower minds that limit the soul's access to our personalities. The book gives many examples of how such negative structures form, and then offers ways they can be diffused. While seeking to release blocks in the lower mind, the book also focuses on strengthening our recognition and use of the higher mind and spiritual will. D.K. quotes are frequent.

The Power of Free Will

Annie's first book, *The Power of Free Will* carries a strong recommendation from Gordon Davidson of the World Service Intergroup on the cover. It examines the many ways our culture encourages us to be victims, and how to overcome this unfortunate conditioning by developing the spiritual will.

If you have any plans to be in the Montreal area, do yourself a favor and treat yourself to the Awakening seminar. This class is the Institute's initial course for all students and is given several times per year. Following

Awakening, there are a whole array of other fascinating workshops to help diffuse limiting psychological structures and further explore one's creative and spiritual potential. The workshops are quite inventive and utilize both left and right brain techniques to accomplish their goals. Some of the key processes involve lively lectures to lay the mental foundation for the work, guided holotropic breathing, evocative music, guided meditations and visualizations, daily journal work, playful exercises to reconnect with one's inner child, lots of supportive attention from staff and volunteers, beautiful grounds, delicious organic vegetarian food, challenging group experiential assignments and regular small group and voluntary large group sharing. In one class, students work with a trapeze. In another, they go into a nearby forest for a day and a night to explore the soul's journey as symbolized in Tolkien's ***The Lord of the Rings***. In another, they hone their relationship skills. In several, they work progressively to anchor the spiritual will. Development of one's artistic side as a highly efficient means of communing with one's soul, is the focus of yet another class. They even have a class to help us become more cognizant of our relationship with the Solar Logos. The seminars are given in French, but there is a whole team of translators that do amazing parallel translation for anyone who would prefer to hear the material in English, which is a magical process in and of itself.

The second center is in the U.S. in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. It is called the University for the Study of Human Goodness. Its training branch is called TRP Enterprises which stands for Totally Responsible Person. Their website is www.UfHG.com and brochures about the center are also available on our entry table. This group has had extraordinary success in showing people how to apply the Bailey teachings to their daily lives. They have found their group's ongoing service project their greatest teacher and surest avenue

for soul infusion. Having started with no money twenty years ago, they first developed a center for the terminally ill. They quickly found that when they needed to clean a 200-pound man's bottom, they were grateful for whoever was willing to help them and, at that moment, could care less about the other person's faults. Working together to aid other souls in pain soon allowed each group member to see the other servers' soul light, which resulted in greater tolerance and eventual disinterest in each other's faults.

Next, the group decided they wanted to model to the larger community what they had learned together about the power of purpose, responsibility, service, non-criticism, and refusing to be a victim. They opened a restaurant and a university, attracting sizable grants, donations and a loan. They also did much of the construction work themselves, training themselves as they went. They now have trained over 70,000 people and have a one-year residential program for those who want to make goodness a priority in their lives. The restaurant and university are staffed by unpaid volunteers, including very willing children and teens as they are able. Even the founders take their weekly turns washing pots, bussing tables, and possibly being supervised by one of their young new students. The students at the university pay no tuition but give service hours regularly at the restaurant.

*May the Mother of the World
nurture all such serving groups to
help humanity unveil its diamond
soul.*

A number of local esotericists have just attended one of this group's Totally Responsible Person seminars given in Southern California. They have found the training in recognizing their own favorite victim statements, and those of their spouses, children, coworkers and friends to be life changing. They also have been very inspired by the TRP group's utter surety that their success has been largely due to a very strong group norm to only focus on each others' assets, refusing to indulge in any negative criticism, whether in speech or in thought. This non-critical norm, in combination with the physical service project and study of the Bailey books, has created fertile conditions for their group soul to blossom.

TRP also has been very helpful to a number of groups in facilitating their discovery of suitable service projects, including how to organize, staff and fund these projects. They do not charge a fee for this service, though they do ask groups to cover their airfare. Their own service projects continue to grow and are well funded. The group has received various prestigious awards and are also well known and respected by the larger community.

May the Mother of the World nurture all such serving groups to help humanity unveil its diamond soul.

Miki Webb, Virgo 2003

Ω
Choices

Coming out of Libra, we thought that a few observations looking toward Scorpio, which is where what comes down in Libra gets scrutinized and tested, were in order.

We have all heard the comment, “You are what you eat.” Being esotericists and, therefore, being aware of the various planes and levels of consciousness, we think of “eating” in a more inclusive way, and we would say, “We are what we embody.” Also, after a few years of experience on the Path, many of us have come to realize that there is a big difference between knowing something, that is having an intellectual awareness of a fact or an idea or principle, and being the embodiment of that something. Our Path, the next pitch that immediately faces us on the mountain, is in fact, that very stretch between what we know and what we have embodied, created or, you might say, **revealed**.

In addition, we gradually come to realize, if we are being honest with ourselves, that a large part of what we eat or embody is not what we know, but what we desire; for, somewhat frequently we suspect, it is our desire, rather than our knowledge that motivates and directs that incredibly powerful engine of embodiment, or you might say the mechanism of creation, which results from the coupling of our imagination and the lower mind. It is true that energy follows thought, but thought does not always get its impetus from knowledge. The simple facts are: a) We

do not always embody, that is will into our lives, that which we know, and b) It is our desires that account for an awful lot of what we do create—that is, give life to through our livingness, or “embody” and c) Much of what we embody we do without any conscious awareness of it at all.

Think of how many times we sort of “wake up” or come to, as it were, in strange, not to say amazing, situations and have no idea how we got into them. I know that we have all had these kinds of experiences. Think for example how weird it would be to wake up, or come to in a prison cell, convicted of some serious crime. Well, corny as it may sound, we choose our way into those bags.

When you get right down to it, Life, that is being, or living is all about choices. This is sort of what the Wisdom means when it talks about the spider spinning the web of its life out of the silk of its livingness. Not as poetic, I suppose, but you get the idea.

Anyway, we are choosing our **way** through this incarnation, just as we have chosen our **way** through countless other incarnations, and as always, we are making the **way** as we make the choices. This is not a very profound or insightful utterance, I suppose, but think about how we go through our days sort of on automatic pilot, just kind of bumping along without much consideration about our direction or about what we are doing or not doing, or more accurately, choosing to do or

When you get right down to it, Life, that is being, or living is all about choices.

not do, because friends, conscious or not, we are choosing practically every moment of our day.

When you get right down to it, it's about choices. Evolution, that big mysterious concept, is simply our learning to become aware of the choices we are constantly making. First we began realize that we are choosing. Next we learn the often appalling, to say nothing of painful, lessons concerning just what is motivating or causing our choices and then gradually we gain control by bringing the motive engine of the soul, our spiritual will, to bear. Finally we began to make deliberate, conscious choices motivated by the principles of the 5th Kingdom, and we start the long trek out of the darkness toward the Light, out of the unreal toward the Real and eventually out of death and into Life.

These are the reasons why the notion of Free Will, an essential aspect of human consciousness, is so crucial to our liberty, to our very existence. The concept embodied in the word "Human" signifies the ability to freely choose. When we say, "This is a human being.", we are signifying that this being has the power to freely determine his own way. It is this fact that discriminates between the 4th Kingdom and the 3rd Kingdom, in whose bodies we still get around, more clearly than any other.

This fact is also why systems of control — either overt through the force of arms or power, or covert through the force of fear, the use of the lie, or the use of psychic manipulation of one kind or another — that force or impose the views of one on another, that limit or take away a person's right to

exercise free will, are dehumanizing. Some of the most insidious and effectively repressive, of these systems are virtually invisible and operate on a line of least resistance. These are social, economic and religious systems which, initially, were probably put in place by force or fear, but which have been in place so long, they have gained cultural status.

Examples abound, but perhaps the easiest to see are the race lies that proclaim the superiority of one race over another, the myths of male superiority and female inferiority, and the notion that only those who subscribe to certain religions are God's children, the others being infidels, heathens, or what have you. These kinds of cultural systems are part of the Great Illusion. They constitute the substance of a number of the veils that hang between humanity and the Kingdom of God. These illusions split humanity into benighted pieces. They deny the light of essential divinity and free will to each side, for in the very instant that one acts to deny the free will of another, one denies his own free will.

When we say, "This is a human being." We are signifying that this being has the power to freely determine his own way.

How long will it take us to see this simple fact? No matter how diverse the differences in form, we are not separate from our brothers and sisters. We are our brothers and sisters.

The solution to these splits in reality — as Dr. King continually pointed out — is not that one side or the other needs to unite in one massive block against or in opposition to the other. This is the old way. This is the way of force and coercion. It supports the illusion of separation. It results in revolution not evolution as the painful history of millennia reveals. This is the path of the old cultural habits, the path of least resistance and when

followed, it would, as it always has, simply weave more tightly the veils of separation.

Humanity does not need separation. Humanity needs bridges, bridges that pierce the veils and unite the pieces. We need bridges that will connect Black, Brown, Yellow, Red and White, Catholic, Moslem, Protestant and Jew. Humanity needs bridges that will generate a union that allows all sides to see the diversity of God's presence and to learn to discriminate between the forms God assumes and the essence of God which would in turn let us see that, as Dr. King said, "We are all God's children."

In the case of the cultural myths regarding gender superiority and inferiority, the solution is the same. Both victims of the great Lie, woman and man became separated over the centuries. The separation destroyed the character and essential divinity of each. Each was and to a large extent still is caught in the web of the lie. Neither is able to exercise self determination.

As we need bridges that unite the world's races and religions, we desperately need a bridge that re-unites woman and man. Just as we needed to re-build the antahkarana, we need to re-create the union between the sexes. We need a union that recognizes gender as part of God's diversity, a union that recognizes the essential divinity and dignity and innate right to self determination of every human regardless of gender. Woman and man always and only co-exist, each giving meaning and value to the other. When the true role and co-existing value of the feminine and masculine is finally recognized again the unity of the race will be achieved.

Only the foolish and benighted think that it is possible to avoid choice and remain human.

But it remains for us to see and to understand, that a person who, for whatever reason, is denied the right to freely choose his or her path, that person is being denied the essence of being human. The person is reduced to the animal state.

A primary objective of the Forces of Retrogression is the enslavement, actually the elimination, of humanity through the elimination of free will. The elimination of one's free will is the root crime of classism, of gender or sexism, of racism, of ageism and all such lie based, freedom sucking phantoms that stalk the landscape of human life. On a global scale, the denial of free will is the root crime, apparently invisible to our present appointed leaders, of a world power like the United States shoving, by force of arms, its version of democracy or freedom or economics down the throats of any other country. It dehumanizes the people of the country.

Well, as we can see, in a human life, choice is a law, a constant. It is an unavoidable constant, I might add. Of importance is the realization that only the foolish and benighted think that it is possible to avoid choice and remain human.

As I have mentioned, when we finally get around to it, or down to it, its about choices. When we start taking a closer look at this choice business, we learn that many of our choices, as I indicated, have been and are now made on the basis of the line of least resistance. If we were a river, that would mean we would cut through the soft parts of the land, and swing around the hard parts. In the river of a human life, following the line of least resistance is akin to following old

ingrained habits. It does not matter to where following the path of the habit will lead one, even if, as is often the case, it leads to disaster of one form or another.

The Colorado river is instructive in this case. Over countless millenniums, this river, by following the path of least resistance, has created The Grand Canyon. There is no doubt that if one has had an opportunity to see this magnificent canyon, one would conclude that it is truly one of the wonders of the world.

A few years ago I spent a large portion of a week walking along and sitting on the rim of this canyon. One day, by virtue of being caught in and marveling at the canyon's particular beauty, I was literally incapable of doing anything else. I found myself late that afternoon, as daylight was draining into the sunset, just sitting there enthralled by the shifting colors, and the changing shapes of fantastic beings and great warriors that would emerge from and fade into the canyon walls.

I could hardly tell the etheric realm from the dense physical. The canyon appeared to actually be alive, to be a living moving breathing being. I was seeing the Deva of the Canyon, you might say.

Well, as I sat within this magical world, it suddenly occurred to me that, although Grand, although expressing truth in a frequency of beauty that was literally stunning, the message was, the truth was that this was a canyon, a beautiful alluring place but a canyon, out of which it would be very hard for anyone to get.

It was one of those flashes, you know, one of those moments of insight. There was a message there and it had to do with choices and with following the path of least resistance. By emulating the river, by following the line of least resistance, many of us have made canyons of our lives

We have lives of material comfort, and happiness. And it is true, many of us have beauty in our lives. However, what matters most to us, it seems, is that to follow the line of least resistance is the easiest path. It requires the least amount of effort and is comfortable.

The path of least resistance leads into the country of the well known. It leads one into that comforting palace of familiarity, and I might add, deeper and deeper into the Grand Canyon of the Great Illusion. It leads eventually, if I may use the words of the Master M. to "the cemetery of the spirit."

My assumption is that these are concepts about which we have all heard many times.

We may even have become familiar with them to the point where we hear the words, but fail to register the

meaning or significance any longer. I sound them once more because of the demands of the time.

I have just two things to say here. One of them deals with this path of least resistance. Very bluntly, following this path will not get one up the mountain. At best it will send one off into horizontal byways for entire incarnations. At worst it will carve a canyon of illusion out of which it will be very

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difficult for the pilgrim to get. The Path between the two ways is vertical, not horizontal. It requires choosing “the way less traveled by.”

A statement from D.K. about the frequency the Christ will bring when He next appears among us might be appropriate here. “It is the Fire of Love which He will bring; it is the message of the purificatory fire which He will sound; He will not teach anent the waters of purification, as has hitherto been the symbolic imparted truth; He will impart the fire which burns and destroys all barriers in man's nature, all separating walls between individuals, between groups and between nations. Are you prepared as individuals, as disciples and aspirants to submit yourselves to this fire? *Discipleship In the New Age Vol. I P. 722* One would think that The Teacher is talking here about the Spiritual Will. It is this energy that chooses the “Way less traveled by.”

The other aspect of choice which I think is of paramount importance is the universally held notion that we can avoid making choices. One would think that what follows is so blatantly obvious that it really does not require explication. However, the fact is that millions of people, including any number of those who count themselves in the spiritual camp, indulge in the fantasy that choosing is avoidable.

The unconscious but very common name for this particular glamour is “Not Getting Involved.” Many of us think that, faced with a challenging choice, that is faced with a situation that might conceivably cause some waves in the otherwise placid lake of one's existence, one can simply not choose. We

think that we can play the “not get involved” card. We think that by “not getting involved”, that is refusing to choose, we can avoid the waves and incidentally the responsibility for them.

Just a moment of detached, objective consideration will reveal that nothing could be further from truth than this notion. Many folks, however, are into deepening the canyons of their lives. They prefer the comfortable narrow canyon view, and simply refuse to even look at things from the rim. The possibility of rim consciousness, of a wider view gradually fades from their lives.

Esotericists, of course, are automatically eliminated from exercising the “Not Getting Involved” option because they know that synthesis is, that separation is an illusion, that life is unavoidably interdependent.

It is quite clear that not getting involved, ergo, refusing to choose, supports the issue on one side or the other. It is therefore quite clear that not choosing is a choice. It is also quite clear that, just as they do from any choice, consequences will flow from this choice.

It is therefore quite clear that not choosing is a choice. It is also quite clear that, just as they do from any choice, consequences will flow from this choice.

I know that I have been harping on this issue for several years now, but it is actually the folks who do not want to get involved that represent the largest obstacle to humanity's forward movement at the moment. The non-involvement of these folks, in most cases, actually supports the repressive, draconian, freedom limiting propositions of the forces of darkness.

These folks are the comfortable planetary intelligentsia. They are the people who have educations. They have the sense of security,

perhaps false, but to them, very real, that flows from having jobs, homes, healthcare, expendable income, and so forth. Ideas like right sharing, right human relations, universal health care, living wages, gender equality, full employment, universal education frighten them. They would rather not get involved in the analysis, the discussion, the reasons for sharing and brotherhood.

Meanwhile, the forces of materialism are very busy generating a steady river of obfuscation and fear laden propaganda that is literally terrifying to the comfortable canyon dwellers. It frightens them to think that they will have to disturb their comfortable lives, so, as they carve the canyons of their lives deeper, the walls that shut out the real world become higher. I have been in canyons that were so narrow, with walls so high that they seem to meet near the top and only the very thinnest line of sky is visible. Some of these canyons where not in Utah or Colorado, but in people's homes.

The challenge that faces us—and by us I mean all the world's disciples, all of the people of good will, anyone who loves humanity and has some understanding of this situation—the challenge that faces us is how to encourage our brothers and sisters to see, in

some cases that tiny sliver of sky, and choose the nobler way. As D. K. has said, "*The work you have to do is to take the knowledge which is yours and adjust its application to the world's need so that recognition of the truth may be rapid. In the heart of every man lies hid the flower of the intuition. On that you can depend, and no eternal or cosmic fact clothed in a suitable form will fail to receive its meed of recognition and understanding.*" *Rays and Initiations* P. 11

We know that if they will look, they will see, and they will choose the Path of Light... because they are, after all, human beings.

In another crisis equally as significant as this one, F.D.R. said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear." I do believe that the choice that faces us now is to throw everything we are and have into the task of somehow getting through to those folks who are hiding in those canyons to help them somehow to wake up and join the human family. I think that this is a task that can be done if enough of us can find the courage and the will to do whatever it takes.

Scorpio, of course, will tell how well we have done.... or not done. It always does.

Tom Carney October, 2003