



**Volume Two: Issue Twelve**

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This is a photograph taken in Epcot, one of the Disney theme parks.

Epcot takes you on a journey into the imagination. It is in the imagination that we create or invent our own wondrous worlds.

Thomas Edison (1847-1931), an Inventor said that, "To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk." This was written in stone on the ground just alongside the house of Figment. What also could be said is that to have a good imagination one needs to be child-like!

**From the Editor**

Welcome to the final edition of the WDHR newsletter for 2005.

To say it has been an interesting year may be understating it. We have had natural disasters of unprecedented magnitudes and yet we have been in "the eye of the storm". Many may have experienced a sense of real support in their personal lives and at the same time real challenges.

Patrick spent the first part of the year in South Africa where he ran courses that had not been attempted before. One of these was called, *Tomorrow is Up to You*, and another was *Yes...Yes...Yes*. Recently it was the groundbreaking, *The Journey*. It certainly has been a big year for us all.

In celebrating *The Journey*, we bring to you in this issue the first part of a two-part essay. We also welcome a contribution of a poem from Michael Corcoran. Patrick, in his commentary, overviews the year ahead and an article of currency reveals just how this part of the world is changing in its response to acts of atrocity. As well it reveals how solidarities beyond borders and politics are beginning to form. Or at least that is what can be read into it!

Enjoy ... and a very happy Christmas to all!

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## Journey to *The Journey* ...

*On October 22 2005 nineteen adventurers from three continents left on a journey. They would meet in Paris and travel together from there. The following is a brief encapsulation of the stops along the way to the much-anticipated course in Mexico.*

Every incredible journey through life is comprised of steps taken that determine or define the kind of life we experience. We know so well the quote from Lazaris, *The steps of getting there are the qualities of being there*. We also can mull over the concept that when we 'get' to wherever there is, we realise we have always been there, we never left!

Recently nineteen journeyers returned from an amazing trip around the world. It began more than 12 months previous with assignments in preparation. Our connection to each other originally was held through our Aloe Vera plants that through ritual were connected to Patrick's. I understand at times his plant took a bit of a battering but he inevitably found ways to maintain the connection to each and every one of us. This preparation was the first step.

The departure day came. Many challenges had arisen up to this date – emotional and physical in the main, so it felt quite an achievement to arrive at the airport intact and ready to take the next step! Our first stay was to be in Paris, the city of romance and intrigue, where the Australians would meet fellow journeyers from South Africa and Austria.

Visiting The Louvre was one trip we took together as a group. The must see here was Leonardo Da Vinci's works of art. Although few in number there is something about his work that encourages you to pause and reflect. *The Da Vinci Code* had made the long corridors of The Louvre with walls and walls of paintings famous. One could imagine Robert Langdon and Sophie Neveu's escape. In the clutches of darkness and echoes these underground tunnels filled with history provide a perfect vehicle for now bringing to light and exposing through coded message a well-veiled secret. The time, at the end of time, is right.

From Paris we flew to New York, the financial capital (with London) of the world. By night it is showy, by day it is busy. History here has everything to do with wealth creation. A skyline of tall buildings appears to lay testament to that fact. Its icon, the Statue of Liberty, stands much taller than imagined on the Hudson River. She is utterly and breathtakingly magnificent. Much like Leonardo's paintings, she seems to have weathered centuries of denial.

Next stop was Orlando. Here we immersed ourselves in lands of fantasia and the imagination. Walt Disney's theme parks rekindles that other world, the world of the magical child, the world that one really doesn't have to travel too far to remember, but somehow does! Here Figment inspired us to open our senses and realise the power of imagination with fun and laughter. In this theme park we could also soar through the

"Do not seek to follow in  
the footsteps of those of  
old - seek what they  
sought."  
Matsuo Basho

skies touching treetops or at least appear to, and for those daring, we could pilot a spacecraft through many challenging encounters in space. In the Magic Kingdom we roller coasted through the stars, road magic carpets and got involved in Experiment 626 witnessing Stitch's chaotic escape from a regime of order. Characters, candyfloss and fudge lined the main street, u.s.a. How little and child-like could we be?

Like Robert and Sophie in *The Da Vinci Code* we were on an adventure, an adventure into the unknown to be further revealed during our stay on Isla Mujeres, Mexico. Also like Robert and Sophie we were uncertain for a time how we could get to the next stop, CanCun in Mexico, the all important stop before our final destination. Hurricane Wilma had battered this coastline just before we left and Air Continental, our carrier, was not yet flying there. Determination and application prevailed and with much hard work from a few able people and an attention clearly focussed on what we individually wanted, we did arrive in CanCun. We were on the first flight of tourists since the hurricane and as you can imagine, we were eagerly welcomed. A short ferry boat ride and we were soon standing on the steps of Hotel Cristalmar, both battered and spared from three and a half days of constant hurricane force winds.

The staff were a little apprehensive and at the same time appreciative that we made it. Perhaps apprehensive because this resort was not reflecting its usual beauty in their eyes, and appreciative because we brought both life and some economic recovery so soon after. This was to be our home for the next two weeks. Next month's issue of this newsletter will reveal more about what this was about!

*The Editor*

If I have seen farther it is  
by standing on the  
shoulders of giants.

Sir Isaac Newton  
Mathematician &  
Physicist  
1642-1727

## Looking into the eye of atrocity ...

*by Jan Melanie*

There are times in our lives when something happens outside of ourselves that truly awakens something deep within. One such event has touched the psyche of the Australian in recent days, whether one has been listening or not.

A young man by the name of Van Nguyen has been on death row in Shinghi prison, Singapore for many years. He is an Australian citizen, born and educated at St. Ignatius, one of the top schools in Melbourne. Today, December 2, he is to be hanged – in fact right now as I write this.

The following is a story of co-incidences in many ways, that is, co-incidences of awareness and opportunity. Over the past week as I have turned on the television or radio, spurts of information have infiltrated my mind. I wasn't aware that this was going to be something that touched me deeply in fact I would rather not have known being the coward that I am.

My position has always been that I am opposed to capital punishment – the judgement, the coldness, the absolute power over another's life. So initially I would rather not have heard or known anything about Van Nguyen's impending death by hanging. But alas, there is no point in keeping the darkness in the dark, sometime, somewhere a light will be shone for all to see, hear, feel or be touched by. This is one such story.

The first bytes of information that came to me were from commercial television stations. Across the country people's opinions were being sought. Voting lines were open to cast a vote as to whether they thought Van Nguyen should hang or not. I've always wondered about the validity of such knowledge. Opinion rarely seems to exist without a past. The outcome was yes in the majority, although when this vote was broken down the youth of this country were overwhelmingly opposed.

In the meantime federal politicians of all persuasions were expressing their disgust for what they considered a barbaric act. All attempts made to have the decision reversed were repelled. The argument – “we respect your right not to have capital punishment, please respect ours”.

Is this a case where two cultures have different beliefs about what is right and the stand off to reach any sort of agreement or indeed be open to change is embedded in a rigid and inflexible righteousness?

In the meantime our state premier was heard on radio to express the view that “after all he was a drug runner”. Mike Wran, the premier in question, has been running a one man vigilante type state for some time now. In his attempt to wipe out crime his focus is severely on punishment. He relies heavily on opinion. It tends to keep the population at large happy.

As the day drew nearer the intensity gathered. I was still doing my best to avoid it but it is surprising how much you can take in whilst avoiding something!

Van Nguyen is 25 years old. A couple of his friends from Melbourne travelled to Singapore to visit him. The girls had previously put all their efforts into leaving no stone unturned in an attempt to have him released. All efforts fell on deaf ears. Right now they had to accept that the decision would not be reversed. I listened to what they had to say before they left Australia. Calmly and with strength they stated that their resolve was to be the best companion they could possibly be to their friend when they met.

Next I watched and listened to an interview of these young women after visiting Van Nguyen, and this is when I really started to take an interest. They said he had accepted his fate and he was appreciating every single moment he had. He asked that they cry in front of him if this is how they were feeling rather than cry after leaving. He also said that because he knew when he was going to die he could appreciate even more every moment of the life that he had. Apparently Van Nguyen had made an impact on fellow prisoners and prison wardens alike. There is a gift for humanity somewhere in this.

“Be patient toward  
everything unresolved in  
your heart and try to love  
the questions themselves.

Do not search for the  
answers for they cannot  
be given to you now  
because you would not be  
able to live them. And the  
point is to live everything...

Live the questions now.”

Rainer Maria Rilke

Had the Prince of Darkness been walking alongside Van Nguyen for some time, advising and guiding him to appreciate his life in the acceptance of death?

Then I heard that his lawyers, all three QC's had visited him for the last time the day before his execution. They too were interviewed after their visit. How did they feel? What was it like to see their client for the last time? They responded with great admiration for Van. They all were truly humbled by the man. Each commented on how amazing this young man was. One could see and hear that these men of law were truly affected and rather than showing the façade of the defendant lawyer, each one appeared truly to be speaking as one touched by a level of love so deep and profound. This condemned young man had made a huge impact.

The night before the execution, an ABC television current affairs program spent some time productively setting the scene for what had happened and what was about to happen. It is here that I learned more about the background.

It was said that one family has for the last 40 years ruled Singapore. They have the trappings of a democracy with a Prime Minister and members of parliament but it seems that their role is to enforce a severe doctrine of control. For instance, more than four people gathered together can be considered a demonstration and if charged there are severe consequences. Also, death is mandatory for drug running. One only has to be in possession to incur this wrath. There is no independent judge in this juridical system to hear and assess any defensive argument. If caught you are guilty and guilt by law is a death sentence – death by hanging.

Very little had been said in the last week about the circumstances that led Van Nguyen to attempt to bring heroin into Australia. He was in transit through Singapore when caught in 2002. It seems as one would suspect, that his motivation was money. His twin brother was in financial difficulties and Van decided he was going to help him out. Perhaps he wasn't being entirely altruistic as one would suspect he would gain something for himself. To add to the fray it also seems that his family's safety had been threatened if he did not carry out this act. He was 22 years old at the time.

Reason is not the motivation for the impact this case has made in this country. No mention has been made of fairness or blame. Rather, it has been the act of an atrocity against another in the name of a law that has deeply touched citizens in this part of the world. There is a cloud of emotion and thoughtfulness hanging over us.

In Melbourne the night before the execution, Amnesty International organised a show of support with hundreds of candles displayed in a symbol of peace. Vigils were held all over Australia. It has been a long time since a cause has more or less mobilised a nation to stop, pause and reflect. Unprecedented sentiments of grief, angst and hope have echoed across the land. Emotional vigils never before witnessed have naturally occurred throughout the land of milk and honey.

God, grant me the  
serenity to  
accept the people I  
cannot change,  
the courage to change the  
one I can  
and the wisdom to know  
it's me.  
Nell Whiteside

Finally, this morning at 9 am Van Nguyen was executed. Bells tolled in his home state for each year of his life. Some people attended church services, others stopped and gathered on the streets for a quiet moment of reflection. Outside Shanghi prison supporters and friends stood in silent support for Van. Even Singaporeans opposed to capital punishment were present riding this wave of sentiment in a further effort to impact on their government amidst the regime of strict control. On average hangings occur every two weeks. Currently there are two Africans awaiting their fate at the end of a hangman's noose.

What now? Atrocities in a various form continue to be committed throughout our world. It seems that it is now we are being exposed or is it that it is now we are willing and able to know. How will we respond? It is said that to know is to die – die to ignorance, perhaps even die to complacency. What is the role of judgement in atrocity? Also what impact does a belief in being right have?

In this act of violation it can be gleaned that the world and its people are going through transformation. Maybe, as we in the main inhabit the world of demonstration, we are being reminded of what we once considered rightness to be. Is the need to be right, operating solely in the world of dualism, a remnant of what is holding us back and needs to be recognised before it can be released?

Lastly, what role is solidarity playing? Right now it appears to me that new formations, new connections of what can only be felt deep within to be right, are being made. It matters not where you are from or what your political persuasion might be, there is a sense that human dignity is the one factor that transcends all creeds. Tim Goodwin, spokesperson for Amnesty International recently said that this event has brought to light the need for our government to make a universal stand on the death penalty. That is, they/we need to clarify our opposition to be all encompassing and not just when it suits us. Although it has been a sad day for human rights there is a mood of determination and a mindset of what we consciously regard as acceptable is gaining momentum.

"Truth never damages a  
cause that is just."  
Mahatma Gandhi

"What we believe to be  
right about us may in fact  
be what is holding us back,  
and what we may consider  
to be wrong with us could  
indeed set us free".

## Poet's Corner...

### THE JOURNEY

*by Michael Corcoran*

It is not the sound of trumpets  
Which calls me from my sleep  
But a silent whisper  
Rustling in the dry leaves of memory.

It is not the ice of a winter wind  
That drives me to the hearth  
But a cold draught  
That chills my thoughts of home.

It is not the smell of baked meats  
That urge me to find a place  
But the sweet sense  
Of a long devoured repast.

It is not the warmth of blankets  
That urges me to pause for sleep  
But the vigor of knowing  
The feast of dreams to come.

"Wonderful things start to  
happen when you dream  
outside of your sleep."  
**Richard Wilkins**

## Current Events

by Patrick Desplace

A while ago I mentioned that the world would have to lose its "Innocence" in the sense of naivety! Many "doings" of various Governments worldwide is being exposed. For example, torture of prisoners by the British and the USA is now becoming blatant; Malaysian Police torturing Chinese women by stripping them and making them squat and jump up and down is now hitting world news; as well the U.S. and U.K. planning to bomb Arab Radio stations is now exposed!

This is only the tip of the iceberg. It is not new. The British were known for torturing IRA prisoners. Torture, humiliation, assassination, wrongful appropriation of wealth by governments has been common practice for centuries.

The Terrorists are supplying Western Governments with a formidable tool: they can now legislate to muzzle up those who would speak up on what is happening. Under the latest legislation in Australia, this article could be considered as subversive!

It is said that, "The Truth shall set You free". It is also going to create shame, fear and sometimes despair. However, the people of the world, no matter how they are conditioned and prepared slowly to comply and submit, will eventually say "NO". Then we will have civil wars in most developed countries.

The Year 2006 could be indeed the Year of "Revelation". You will find the truth behind what is happening in our world. This will happen at about the time when, in desperation, the internet will be severely censored. I recommend you read *"The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion"*. This book is readily available on the web, or I am willing to e-mail you a copy if you request it. Please note that the Protocols have nothing to do with the Jews. The South Africans are aware that The Zionist movement has nothing to do with Judaism!

The "Eye of the Storm" is nearing its end. March/May should see us in the full swing of major changes: Financial, Political, Earth/Climatic and Pandemic. If a plan (not yet revealed) to release "Spores" in the atmosphere to breakdown pollutants (hydrocarbons and carbon dioxide) goes ahead, we can expect a major side effect indeed. The spores will mutate and the population of the planet (including the fauna) will be reduced by more than half.

On a brighter side, the people of the World will form meaningful "Solidarities". Relationships that have served their purpose will breakdown, making the space necessary for more meaningful encounters to evolve. There will be a return to nature, to "The Goddess" energy, and the Mist separating us from the world of Magic will begin to dissipate.

"He who controls others  
may be powerful, but he  
who has mastered himself  
is mightier still"  
Lao-Tzu

I wish all of you a wonderful time over Christmas - Interesting times lay ahead of you. May you make 2006 the most glorious year of your life so far...

Love Always,  
Patrick

## Contact Us

Next month's issue will feature an article on Resonant Causation as well as a further article on The Journey. As far as the latter goes it would be appreciated if someone or two fellow companions on the Journey were to send in their views: the experience, the impact, the revelations.

Please send correspondence and submissions to me, Jan Melanie, at the following email address: [jan@accessit.net.au](mailto:jan@accessit.net.au)

Hopefully, everyone who wants to be receiving the newsletter is already. Recently on The Journey though, it was revealed that some do not know about it, or are not on the mailing list and would like to be. Perhaps we could all take responsibility for checking with our newfound family if they are aware that there is a newsletter and would they like to receive it. Also, if you are running courses, make it a habit to let people know how they can be placed on the mailing list.

Finally, a very merry Christmas to everyone. May the magic of Christmas touch each and everyone and may Santa bring more magic into your life and your world than you could possibly imagine...

With love from the Editor.