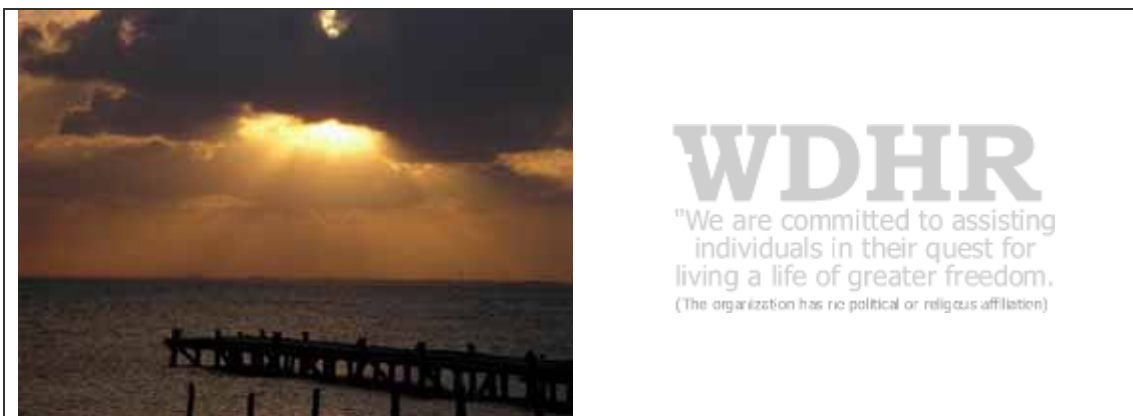




Volume Two: Issue Forty Seven

August, 2009



From the Editor

Hello Everyone,

Someone handed me a note recently on a piece of paper headed "I ONLY OPEN MY MOUTH TO CHANGE FEET!" I didn't notice these words at first thinking it was a business logo/advertisement. Interesting to note that there is a bit of 'foot in mouth' disease going on amidst politicians and other public identities. There is some reference to this behaviour in the article and in Patrick's commentary.

Deidre ponders and explores the strength of love in her poem, *Maybe there is only Love*.

Elwyn from Darwin is a photographer and producer – her 2-minute video, *My Life Gets Better Everyday*, is one of her products. See the link on page 5.

Nell has written a Book Review on Suzanne Segal's experience of what she refers to as 'no-self'. The book title is, *Collision with the Infinite*.

We've doubled the humour in this edition, so hopefully we'll all get a laugh!

Finally, Patrick brings us as up to date as is possible on the state of earth matters, the economy, politicians and individual responsibilities. On a personal note he suggests 'avoid asserting yourselves' and be prepared to forgive yourself as you traverse the path ahead. Leadership and guidance is in our own hands.

The Editor

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Shock jocks and others...

by Janet Corbett

Synchronicities are interesting! Making something happen though is their purpose... perhaps.

Recently here in Australia, there has been outrage from Prime Minister down to the ordinary everyday Australian. A 'shock jock' and his sidekick had allowed a 14-year-old girl to be wired to a lie detector, at the request of her mother, on live radio in Sydney. The purpose was to ask her about her sex life. She reluctantly was 'bullied' into 'telling the truth'. The truth probably was not as expected. She confessed that she had been raped when she was 12. As a result, the girl has been given counselling, the pair inviting the stunt on their program, have been taken off air for a period of 'time-out' and he has lost his lucrative post of co-hosting *Australian Idol*.

"What sort of mother would have their child strapped to a lie detector at any time let alone on prime-time radio?" "What sort of adult would agree to agree to it?" "What sort of program management would allow it?" These were the kinds of questions scrambling out of minds via the mouths of those who heard the replay on television news channels. For the right reasons I feel, it was being responded to as unethical. However, interestingly it was generally felt that more rules should be put in place as to what kinds of material cannot be aired. It felt as if people expressing such a view (politicians in general) were placating their disgust so that they could get on with their lives having 'done something practical about it' – i.e. found a solution.

As I heard this I wondered if this were not a bit like the Ten Commandments – thou shalt/thou shalt not. I also wondered if those government officials making the suggestion were not thinking that the masses could not handle the truth – that every child knows what is right, therefore every adult does too. It might have been, therefore, a good time to make this point, but alas the opportunity has been lost. No doubt there will be another.

Contemplating along these lines afterwards, I considered the opportunities afforded us all in everyday life to find the truth within rather than react and respond to events/words spoken/happenings with indignant righteousness, as occurred above. Yes, deal with what is at hand appropriately, but a metaphysician does know that reality is an illusion masquerading as truth according to a mindset, through his and her training in being de-hypnotized. There are many tests it seems along the way to see just how far we have come. Or is it to see how we now handle this, that and the other! No doubt everyone is exactly where he or she needs to be right now and it may just be a matter of a little fine-tuning here and there. Our world is assisting us if we can see that.

Movies in particular are an amazing vehicle from which to observe what and how we now think/react/respond, when we view with our metaphysical hat on.

Everything that
irritates us about
others can lead us to
an understanding of
ourselves.
Carl Gustav Jung

In the main... the root
of a problem is buried
beneath a set of
superficial
circumstances.
Jonathan Cainer

What I find wonderful about this is twofold: that not only growth can be observed in us, but, the bigger screen (a lived reality) – the world we live in – does not have to be the only stage upon which we learn and grow. In other words, not everything now has to be physically experienced before we learn and grow. We can see through different eyes and learn from this.

Soon after this five or so minute interlude with contemplation I discovered and experienced a further 'shock jock' encounter. You see the focus, without it being of me initially, has allowed me to make a new discovery. Patrick in his seminar was saying we either evolve or devolve – something of import to know as we move further beyond time.

On this occasion though, I felt as if one's main frame wiring was being altered. Could it be that in some instances (not a compulsory rite of passage) a 'shock' is felt to the system that either loosens or connects the wiring to a truer place for now?

Synchronicities can be such fun when one actively participates in joining the dots, if only as a part of a step to a new level of awareness.

A bit of Humour ...

There's a moral here somewhere!!! *The Editor*

The Chemist Clerk

John was a clerk in a small chemist shop but he was not much of a salesman. He could never find the item the customer wanted. Peter, the owner, had had about enough and warned John that the next sale he missed would be his last.

Just then a man came in coughing and he asked John for the best cough syrup. Try as he might John could not find the cough syrup.

Remembering Peter's warning he sold the man a box of laxative pills and told him to take them all at once. The customer did as John said and then walked outside and leaned against a lamppost.

Peter had seen the whole thing and came over to ask John what had happened.

"He wanted something for his cough but I couldn't find the cough syrup. So I substituted laxatives and told him to take them all at once," John said.

"Laxatives won't cure a cough," Peter shouted angrily.

"Sure they will," John said, pointing at the man leaning on a lamppost. *"Look at him!"* He's afraid to cough...

Human beings, who
are almost unique in
having the ability to
learn from the
experience of others,
are also remarkable
for their apparent
disinclination to do so.

Douglas Adams

Poet's Corner ...

Maybe There Is Only Love...

by Deidre Le Patourel

'Maybe there is only love beyond torrent anger and beyond chronic fear,
Maybe beneath any false smile and below any slight wonder love feels near...
Maybe under skies of tints of hazy gray and under rain of hard and solid ice,
Just maybe, maybe...love is the only right side of the dice.

Maybe with each song I hear and with each wind that passes my small and
quaint ear,
Maybe there is memory...perhaps of love that causes a soft tear...it is ok...☺
For under pain and anguish and depression of which we may at times feel,
Maybe the only feeling is love, because maybe, it is the only one that is real!

And when I feel my heart sound a true beat, something that is new and never
on repeat...

I can choose to listen and, to lose...to lose myself in my deepest yearning,
indeed not to lose at all!

Or will I feel the beat...and fall...

The fine line of the mundane...and of fulfilling the yearning....

Burning so strong inside me it is like there is no sense,

At the same time...the completion feels so dense...

And the days tick on in this clockwork cartoon world,

And maybe our judgments once judged are not that absurd...

For perhaps if we look and we feel some faint and powerful secret running
through it all,

Maybe before you once felt you were great and now at times you feel small...a
piece of a piece of a piece...

Yet in between, perhaps where this faint line lies we can see each other –
maybe for the first time...

So will we run - for how can we fathom to be the same as that man on the
street?

Will we feel guilty and go to the shop in a different direction in defeat?

Will we love, because we do, and will we stop thinking for a second or two?

And when people around us seem to have not given themselves much,

Will we embrace in our own lives, not for better or for worse, but OUR lives –
lives are lives, and such is such...

What is this veil to break through really in loving on neutral grounds?

I would prefer that I had Kings and Queens whom drew in their own cement, in
their own sanded bounds...for to draw our own bounds we may be free....but
to draw them from others desire of us...who are we???

And with some stress and some survival too, as that can be part of human
resilience which rings true,

I feel I sense a love so strong – a love that can reach all of you

But you see it is my love and we all are not the same....

Although within that strangeness and that dichotomy, we are after all, in the
same game!

Imagination is more
important than
knowledge.
Albert Einstein

It is easy to become distracted from what we truly feel and want,
It is easy to side track ourselves into a togetherness that we later may learn is a
repeat of the same chant...

And I feel I am searching still, and so I choose to write in prose,
For if I wrote the words with full stops, I may be cutting my growing rose...

Yes it is frustrating at times and fuck it is beautiful too,
But how about it all being as it is, and me being me and you being you...?
So I look at the TV and I listen to what people want to attain – it seems around
me, at times, it is the constant comparison between success and fame...
And then the news comes on and oh how bad the world is and there is no hope
but to fear,
To fear and to protect ourselves from a world we are not even clear –
So where am I going with these words I hear my head say?
The bottom line really...is that LOVE may BE the only way...

Ever thought that we are in a cargo and we all sell love tickets for fun?
Ever thought this is our Disney land, for Disney too had himself his own song...
Ever wanted to jingle your toes so much and get up and dance?
Ever thought 'why not' let him or her in because I feel like some romance?

And ever considered you are yummy just the way you are?
Ever considered the sun shining bright on you screaming 'You special star?'

With love...maybe there is only love...Imagine that!!! And imagine you imagine
making it real...



When you let the past
or future obscure the
present, you are
creating time,
psychological time -
the stuff out of which
drama is made.

Eckhart Tolle,
The Power of Now

[Elwyn Watkins latest video:](#)

[Mylifegetsbettereveryday.htm](#)

Book Review...

by Nell Whiteside

Thanks Nell for this review (slightly edited) sent to the Editor in December 2007... With all the current work being done now in metaphysics about being aware of being aware, being conscious of being conscious, knowing you are not your mind and not giving away one's power to the intellect, it was felt this an interesting experiential book to include in the newsletter right now.

Segal, Suzanne, **COLLISION WITH THE INFINITE**, A Life Beyond the Personal Self (1996) New Age Books.

Stephan Bodian, in the **Foreword** to the book starts by saying, 'There is only one reality, one truth, one consciousness that peers out through your eyes and my eyes right now.

It is the ultimate subject of all objects, the ground of being in which all manifestation arises and passes away and of which all apparently objective existence consists.

Yet as the esoteric traditions make it clear, it is an indescribable mystery that cannot be known through the mind. The separate self that yearns to realize the truth must first be seen for what it is - a compelling construct with no abiding existence - before we can awaken to the recognition that we are nothing other than this mystery.

In every era, a few rare individuals have appeared to remind us, through their unshakeable conviction and clarity, that who we really are is the ungraspable itself.'

Suzanne attended many TM courses and became a TM teacher for a while, then gave it all up because she became disillusioned. Several years later, in the spring of 1982, she had a sudden awakening at a bus stop.

'...what I had previously called 'me' was forcefully pushed out of its usual location inside me to a new location that was approximately a foot behind and to the left of my head I could see my body in front and very far away ... The thought did arise that perhaps this experience of witnessing was the state of Cosmic Consciousness Maharishi {her TM teacher} had described. Witnessing continued even during sleep...'

This state however, was accompanied by huge fear...

*"Witnessing continued for month.... something changed again: the witness disappeared', and the experience of **'no self'** began and continued for many years, accompanied by the fear.'*

She continued,

'The 'I' that you read on the paper refers to no one, but it is impossible to tell the story without using words like 'I', 'me' and 'mine'.... The experience of no-self brings with it a cessation of personal history, removing forever the 'person' to whom these events relate.... With this annihilation, there occurred the realization that a 'me' has never existed who is a doer behind what appeared to be 'my' life.... Although experiences continue to occur, they no longer refer to a someone, a 'me'.... Thinking never precedes action or speech. Everything has an immediacy that is empty of personally directed intention.'...

"In terms of his connection with *intent*, a warrior goes through four stages. The first is when he has a rusty, untrustworthy link with *intent*. The second is when he succeeds in cleaning it. The third is when he learns to manipulate it. And the fourth is when he learns to accept the designs of the abstract."

Carlos Castaneda
The Power Of Silence

For about ten years Suzanne went from one psychotherapist to another - her 'condition' was never understood. She even did a Ph.D. in Psychology/Psychotherapy in an endeavour to understand. Then,

*'I began to seek a spiritual perspective on the emptiness of personal self ... these efforts paid off handsomely when I discovered Buddhism. There were entire volumes written about **anatta** (no self) and **shunyata** (emptiness)... In Buddhist circles... it was seen as the goal of every person who embarked on the Buddhist path The Buddhist texts explained ... what remains in the state of no-self are empty functions ... what speaks is the speaking function, what thinks is the thinking function...'*

Then she wrote to various spiritual teachers, such as Ram Dass, Jack Kornfield, Gangaji, and consulted with others such as Jean Klein, Christopher Titmuss and Andrew Cohen, who encouraged her by indicating that her profound spiritual awakening appeared to be the state of freedom that all spiritual traditions describe. The clearest acknowledgement of her experiences came from the writing of Ramana Maharshi (Advaita), a teacher who suggested it was the wintertime of 'no self' and that joy would come.

After much intellectual exploration, her state of consciousness changed...

*'the experience that not only is there no personal self, there is also **no other**. In other words, I was about to shift permanently into unity awareness...'* *'From that day forth I have had the constant experience of both moving through and being made of the 'substance' of everything.'*

'Everything occurs simultaneously - form and emptiness, pain and enlightenment, fear and awakening. Once seen, it seemed so incredibly simple. Fear's grip now broke, and joy arose at once.'

In due course she realized her ever-present fear...

'I finally saw what had been in front of me the whole time. The fact that 'I' no longer existed, that there was no person anymore, gave way finally and completely to the realisation that there is nothing that is not myself. What remains when there is no self is 'all that is'.'

'Maharishi's description of the three stages of awakening - Cosmic Consciousness, God Consciousness and Unity Consciousness - now appeared to be incredibly relevant.'

'The dramatic shift to Unity Consciousness was also self-evident. However, I still found myself wondering what Maharishi had meant by God Consciousness.'

After reading a line written by Jorge Luis Borges about Shakespeare, *'In him there was no one'*, Suzanne entertained the possibility that God consciousness was really the consciousness of being no one.

'The individual self is nothing but an idea of who we are. Ideas are ideas - and nothing more. An idea cannot be the doer or creator of anything; it can only be what it is - an idea.'

And so she continued to explore outside of self, questioning all her learned perceptions...

'...the value of performing spiritual practices, studying ancient texts, or even living a 'spiritual' life... which imply the existence of a 'me' who can do the practice and eventually accomplish a particular goal'.



'Further, most spiritual practices presume that awakening is someplace else and must be reached or attained. But we are always the vastness - always! It is the naturally occurring human state.... All ideas about accomplishing spiritual awakening are based on the assumption that there is a someone, a you, who can perform the practices and accomplish the goal. But this someone doesn't exist'...

'There is no experience whose presence is an indication that you are not the vastness. Therefore, there is no need to get rid of anything'...

'As soon as one embarks on a path to somewhere, the awesomeness of what is, here and now, becomes unavailable.'

'In this life, awakening did not occur because the mind stopped. No psychological or spiritual technique was involved, nor was there any locatable or apparent cause.'

'This life is now lived in a state wherein the Infinite is perceived as residing within an infinity. This is truly a non-experience that defies description, yet it seems to be how the Infinite naturally shows itself to itself. When asked who I am, the only answer possible is: I am the Infinite, the vastness that is the substance of all things. I am no one and everyone, nothing and everything - just as you are.'

For other info, a detailed review of the book and some discussion see: www.nonduality.com/suzanne.htm

More humour...

Last month the UN conducted a worldwide survey. The only question asked was:

"Would you please give your honest opinion about solutions to the food shortage in the rest of the world?"

The survey was a huge failure because of the following:

In **Eastern Europe** they didn't know what "honest" meant.

In **Western Europe** they didn't know what "shortage" meant.

In **Africa** they didn't know what "food" meant.

In **China** they didn't know what "opinion" meant.

In the **Middle East** they didn't know what "solution" meant.

In **South America** they didn't know what "please" meant.

In the **US** they didn't know what "the rest of the world" meant.

And finally.....

In **Australia**, they hung up, because they couldn't understand the Indian accent.

*Since there is nothing
to meditate on,
there is no
meditation.*

*Since there is
nowhere to go astray,
there is no going
astray.*

*Although there is an
innumerable variety
of profound practices,
they do not exist for
your mind in its true
state.*

*Since there are no
two such things as
practice and
practitioner,
if, by those who
practice or do not
practice,
the practitioner of
practice is seen to not
exist,
thereupon the goal of
practice is reached
and also the end of
practice itself.*

Padmasambhava

Current Events...

by Patrick Desplace

Hello there,

The world appears to be on schedule.

- The **weather** will continue to be extreme with more flooding, cyclones and storms. As to be expected earthquakes are increasing in intensity. They will subside however then increase again around September/October. Volcanic eruptions will be almost nonexistent until later this year.
- On the **political scene**, more and more leaders are going to act impulsively and regret their actions and decisions.
- There is going to be convincing evidence that each one of us needs to **assume leadership** of our own lives – no external guidance will get us anywhere – we are becoming individuals too fast. Although we are overdue for claiming our individuality, we are hardly prepared for it – so we will need to forgive ourselves for the mistakes that are ahead. My recommendation is whatever you do avoid asserting yourselves. You have nothing to prove and do not need the validation. No external validation will be forthcoming anyway!
- Here in Australia, we experienced one of the benefits of being a highly controlled state – a **terrorist attempt** against our army bases was flawed. Interesting that the 'would be' terrorists were Islamic Somalians and Lebanese – all Islamic extremists! You may be aware that Africa (Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia etc) is now the breeding ground for Islamic terrorists. It is also happening in South Africa, but more discretely! Beware.
- The **economy** is also on schedule – rather volatile with a bullish trend. If you are trading, use intuition or do not trade. The crunch it seems will be after September and is likely to be the worst meltdown ever experienced – yet Australia and South Africa are likely to do rather well, thanks to a healthy pool of Metaphysicians in both countries.
- The **price of fuel** will go through the ceiling in 2009, now that all the idiots of the world have purchased their Gas Guzzlers and fallen for the trap set in the past few months – cheap large cars and fuel!!

Providence has a way – those who disrespect our resources and habitat are going to revise their attitudes out of necessity – they have had their chance. Note that the resources of anyone who disrespects our habitat is dwindling and will continue to dwindle. The very nature of the word 'resources' is taking a new meaning.

Intuition just has
access to a far bigger
database than the
mind has.
Barbel Mohr

I was and still am hoping we will avoid the predictions of Nostradamus, however we appear to be very much on schedule. Not a very nice way to finish this side of time. Then Nature has a way – perhaps the Earth herself will take the steps to make our transition more elegant. The Mayan calendar is a good indication. If we experience severe Quakes by the end of next year, Nostradamus options will have been averted.

My Love to you always
Patrick

Contact Us

Please send correspondence and submissions to the Editor, at the following email address: editor@worlddevelopment.com

Would love to hear from you... calling on poets, writers, film watchers, book readers, etc. Submissions would be appreciated.



Link to A LI website: adventure-learning-initiatives.com

"Psychological time"..
is identification with
the past and
continuous compulsive
projection into the
future.

Eckhart Tolle
The Power of Now

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