

# Divine Parables

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These Parables were narrated so that everyone reading them may experience the presence of God and open oneself to the true life in Him – in His Beauty, Harmony, and Love!

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# Contents

Andrew the Apostle.....	5
Parable about the Prophet.....	5
Parable about Non-Burning Flame.....	8
Parable about the Voice of the Heart.....	11
Huang.....	17
Parable about the Golden Flower, the River of Love, and the Immortal Gardener.....	17
Sulia.....	22
Parable about Love.....	22
Parable about the Master.....	25
Symeon the New Theologian.....	32
Parable about Monasticism and Silent Meditation ..	32
Yamamoto.....	41
Parable about the Painter.....	41
Radek Volynsky.....	44
Parable about the Grand Pharmacist and the Philosopher’s Stone.....	44
Eagle.....	55
Parable about Winged Heart.....	55
Sarkar.....	63
Parable about Fakir and the Divine Fire.....	63
Matthew the Apostle.....	70
Parable about the Sailer Savior and the Promised Land.....	70
Afterword-Comments:.....	77
Thoth-the-Atlantean – Essence of Divine Alchemy.	77

Vladimir Antonov – Psychical Self-Regulation and Spiritual Growth.....	79
<i>Chakras and Psychical Self-Regulation</i> .....	82
<i>Anahatic Psychotype</i> .....	84
<i>How to Achieve This Practically?</i> .....	87
Recommended literature .....	90

# Andrew the Apostle

## *Parable about the Prophet*

*Jesus said: "He came, but not many recognized Him...  
He spoke, but not many heard Him...  
He taught, but not many fulfilled His Teachings..."*

From the memories of Andrew the Apostle

A Man sent by God-the-Father came to the Earth.  
And He saw that people wallowed in sins, that vices had multiplied in the souls, that good manners had been forgotten...

And the Man saw that the Teachings about Divine Laws had been abandoned, and the knowledge about the essence of the Scriptures created by God had been lost.

Just as one can cover with beautiful clothes the dirt and ugliness of the body, so people can try to cover the vices of souls with the words from the Scriptures, which are spoken but not *fulfilled*.

Everyone speaks about the Law; everyone teaches about the Law... Yet they merely say words and do not *fulfill* even what they say...

People do not see the Light and do not know that they live in the darkness...

The Man did not know how to change what He saw... For He knew if He started to speak, His speeches would be lost among the false speeches of those who spoke about the Law but did not know it and did not *fulfill* it...

And then the Man took off His clothes and went to the desert... And He lived in the desert and listened to God, and God spoke to Him.

And a rumor spread about the Prophet Who lived in the desert and listened to God but was always silent.

And people started to come to see that Man and wondered at Him...

They began asking Him questions and wondered to whom He would answer.

One man came and asked:

“What harvest will we get this year?”

Another man came and asked:

“When will my son get married?”

And many others came and asked:

“When will my daughter-in-law give birth?”,  
“How can I multiply my treasures and protect them?”,  
“How can I make a maid love me and marry me?”...

But the Prophet kept silence. The words that He wanted to tell people were burning His mouth; His heart was overflowed with God’s Love. He kept silence for ten years...

The rumor about Him spread wide, and more people were coming to see Him. They wondered because all prophets had said a lot, but this one... had said nothing!

The Prophet kept silence. The words that He wanted to tell people were burning His mouth; His heart was overfilled with God’s Love. And He kept silence for another ten years.

And His silence attracted people more than the speeches of others...

A young man once came to Him. He did not want to get any profit from the answer to his question. He

simply asked: “What word is hidden behind Your silence?”

And then the Prophet said: “Purify yourselves!”

And people began coming to Him to be purified from their sins.

One man said: “I was angry yesterday! Purify me!”

Another one said: “I cheated in trading telling a lie! Purify me!”

And the third one said: “I was proud and indulged in vanity! Purify me!”

The Prophet kept silence. The *same people* came again and again, repented of the *same* sins and went home to sin further...

The Prophet kept silence...

“Why do You not want to purify us?” – people asked.

The Prophet answered: “Purification won’t come until repentance cleans out the vice of the soul, so that a similar sin cannot become possible from that moment on!”

And the Prophet became silent again...

There was only the River of Living Light. All thoughts and deeds were visible in Its Flow. The Prophet stood in the River of Living Light and waited for those who would come to be purified... The River was flowing, and time was passing...

And people listened to His silence, the silence of the Soul. And there were those who understood Him. And they came to be purified.

The fire of shame for their sins was burning them. They could not raise their eyes and were ashamed to speak. The fire of shame was burning them – and this fire burned away the vices of souls washed by repentance.

The Prophet washed with pure water those who came to receive the purification. And there was no sign of condemnation in His eyes.

The River of the Sacred Light was flowing, and people entered Its Waters and were purified from vices, so as not to sin anymore!

And the Prophet said: “It is impossible to reject all vices of the soul at once. Stay and learn how to purify yourselves! All bad qualities of the soul must be washed away and replaced with love – with a flow of giving love!”

Besides, the Prophet said: “I am baptizing you with the Waters of the Flow so that you can receive the Baptism in the Fire of the Father! The One Who will come after Me will bring the Fire of Divine Love to the Earth! Only if you receive purification of the soul before His coming, you will be able to cognize the Divine Fire!”

Thus taught the Prophet called by people John.

### *Parable about Non-Burning Flame*

*Jesus said: “There is Non-Burning Flame! It is the Power of My Father!”*

From the memories of Andrew the Apostle

There was a man and he was kind. He wanted to help people who lived in affliction and grief, poverty and illnesses... He sought ways to help them to transform their hard and sad lives but could not find such means...

That kind man discovered that there was Non-Burning Flame. This Flame is similar to the flame of a fire and yet is different, because the Great Power is



contained in It. This Flame is brighter than the light of the sun and yet does not burn anyone. And whatever you wish can be fulfilled by this Great Power...

... Once the kind man heard that a Great Teacher came to the Earth from God-the-Father and that in this Teacher there was Non-Burning Divine Flame.

And all that this Teacher said came true. He touched the blind and said: "See!", and the blind began to see... He touched the lame and said: "Rise and go!", and the lame rose and went... He was endowed with the Great Power to raise the dead and to heal the sick. This Teacher knew the secrets of life and the secrets of death. He preached the Knowledge from God-the-Father about how people should live on the Earth.

The kind man decided to find this Teacher and to learn how one could acquire the Power of Non-Burning Flame in order to help people who lived in suffering and misery.

He traveled for a long time, and his Purpose guided him. And finally he found the Teacher.

And the kind man saw the Teacher walking and the Non-Burning Flame shining in Him! The kind man looked closely, his eyes blinked, and there was no Flame... He looked again, and again he saw the Bright Flame in the Teacher.

The Teacher wore simple clothes. And He spoke simple words as if He was not a Great Messiah at all!

But the Light of Love was streaming from His eyes. He spoke softly, but His every word touched the heart and was remembered by the soul.

And the kind man went together with the human crowd that followed the Teacher and listened to His speeches. The kind man saw how He healed and said to the cured person: "Go and sin no more!"

And once the kind man decided to ask the Teacher to give him the Non-Burning Flame so that he also could heal the lame, recover the sight of the blind, raise the dead, alleviating the sorrows of people in this way!...

And the Teacher answered him: “Here is the Flame! Take it!” But the kind man could not take it, for he did not know how. And then he decided to stay with the Teacher and follow Him with a few other disciples. And he learned from the Teacher for many years...

Time was passing... And the kind man began to see the entire Sea of Shining Flame. But could not take it...

And the Teacher told him: “Only that one can carry this Flame who has become It! Only the human heart can contain the Sea of Non-Burning Flame! Only the Transfigured Man can turn into the source of the Divine Flame on the Earth!

“But this Flame exists not for healing bodies and returning souls to flesh. These miraculous healings are but Signs of the Power of the Heavenly Father, so that people can know whose Flame shines and whose Will creates!

“Bodies are not eternal! They are like clothes that the soul puts on when it comes to the Earth. And it takes them off when it comes back to life without a body, and it gets new clothes when it comes to the Earth again and again... This continues until the soul, having taken off the clothes, becomes so pure and beautiful that it deserves to enter the Abode of the Heavenly Father, which means that the soul has become the Light of Love identical to the Light of the Father!

“The Non-Burning Flame shines on the Earth so that people can see the Light and want to transform themselves! The Non-Burning Flame shines so that they may know how this transformation happens: the love of the heart becomes that Light which is the Path to the Father!”

And the kind man understood that it is not the body that should be healed but the soul, so that those who do not see the Light of the Father can see it; so that those who are paralyzed by vices and weaknesses can stand up and enter on the Path that transforms souls and leads to God-the-Father!

For a long time the kind man developed Love, Wisdom, and Power, so that his spiritual heart could carry the Non-Burning Flame!...

... And one day the heart of the kind man became filled with the Divine Non-Burning Flame! For the only vessel on the Earth in which Divine Flame can exist is the heart transformed by Love!

... And now the kind Man was walking the earth, and the Non-Burning Flame was shining in Him. And He sought hearts that were ready to receive that Flame...

And a rumor was spreading that there was a Teacher sent by God-the-Father to the Earth. This Teacher knew the secrets of life and the secrets of death, and He preached the Knowledge from God-the-Father about how people should live on the Earth...

### *Parable about the Voice of the Heart*

*Jesus said: “Do not look with disdain at this man,  
for it is a great feat to start transforming  
evil into good inside oneself!”*

## From the memories of Andrew the Apostle

There was a man. He was neither rich nor poor. He did not differ too much from other people who lived around him. He was neither young nor old...

And this man was not strong-willed...

Although there were seeds of kindness in him, they did not sprout...

This man lived as everyone around him... He was ruled by whims and vices... And he was fettered by fears and weaknesses... And he did not feel good. His life went on as a dull procession of days. And there were neither joys nor achievements in it...

Every evening this man thought: "Well, tomorrow I will act better; I will not yield to my weaknesses and vices any more!"

But "tomorrow" came, and again he was ruled by whims and vices, and was fettered by fears and weaknesses...

... One day the man thought: "Why can't I live how I want to? Why am I acting not in a way I know I should act? Why do my vices rule me and my fears fetter me?"

He began to think and found no reason not to live as he believed it was right, not to act as he considered appropriate.

And then the man started to ask God: "My Father and Creator! Why can't I live how I want to live? Why can't I act as I think it is right to act? Why have I become a slave to my vices and whims, to my fears and weaknesses? What is the reason?"

God answered him: "There is no reason for this! You are free to act as you want to!"

Then the man said: “So, please, advise me what I should do to stop my vices and weaknesses ruling my life.”

And God answered: “Each time before doing or saying something, listen to the voice of your spiritual heart and act as it will tell you! Then you will be able to control your weaknesses and fears and get rid of vices and whims!”

And the man decided to follow God’s advice.

The next morning he got up with a strong determination to ask his spiritual heart for advice before doing or saying something...

Every day his old father said harsh words to him, grumbled and swore. The father used to say that his son was a useless person and that the whole generation of the sons of man lived in a wrong way. He also enumerated all his offences and sorrows and accused his son of everything of which he was and was not guilty...

This morning the father, as always, began to swear at his son, uttering offensive words.

And anger welled up inside this man because of the bitter, accusing words... And he was on the point of saying, as usual, poisonous words in response to his father but remembered God’s advice.

And his heart had time to whisper: “Do not say offensive words, for your father loves you: he grieves over your troubles! You, too, love him! Hold back your angry words and ask his pardon!...”

And in reply to his father’s swearing, the man bowed and said: “Forgive me, father!” And the anger went out. Then the man embraced his father and left to his work.

The father was very surprised... and stopped swearing from then on.

... In the evening, this man was coming back home after hard work. He bought a lot of food and was thinking how he would taste those delicacies... He was quite inclined to gluttony...

On the way home, he came to the house of a young widow who lived with small children. This woman had had to pay him a debt but could not save enough money...

For a long time he wanted to tell her that he would forgive her debt. And that day, at last, he decided to do this. So he came to the house of the poor widow and told her that he would free her from the debt. The widow bowed low to him and thanked him. The man was about to leave, but his heart whispered quietly: "Give the children the food that you bought for yourself! It will bring them joy!"

It was hard for him to carry out this advice of the heart. But when he gave the delicacies to the children, and they started to dance joyfully, great joy rose in him as well! He was walking home easily, overfilled with happiness! And his heart was singing with delight!

Not every day could that man hear the voice of the heart, and not every time could he fulfill what the heart whispered to him. Yet day by day he tried more and more to live how his heart was telling him. And with every passing day his whims and vices ruled him less, and his fears and weaknesses fettered him less. And the seeds of heart love sprouted in the soul!

... Once this man was walking and saw a lot of strong and malicious men beating a young good lad. All the people who were passing by just increased their pace, averted their faces, and stepped aside in order to avoid being beaten themselves.

And our man was not really courageous. So he also wanted to pass by as if it was not his business... But his heart did not whisper this time, it screamed: "If you do not help, they will kill this good man! But you can save him!"

However, the man was afraid and could not overcome his fear... He could neither leave nor help...

And the heart kept screaming: "Save him quickly!"

The man started to call God, because he could not overcome his fear. And he called Him not in a whisper or inwardly but at the top of his voice: "God! Please, come here! God! Come here!"

People, who were passing by, stopped with surprise. And those who were far away came near too. So, from all around people ran to this place, stopped and looked, trying to understand what had happened and what God had to do with this. And such a big crowd gathered that the malicious people got frightened, left the young man and disappeared quickly.

And the young lad stood up from the ground and thanked the man: "You are so brave! You saved my life!"

The man was going home, and the heart was shining like the sun in his chest, saying: "Love is stronger than all fears!"

... The time went by, and life of this man became more joyful and easier.

Once on Sunday the man went for a walk. He was walking and met the widow whose debt he had forgiven... She smiled at him tenderly and bowed low.

And the man was captivated by the sight of her beauty... He was often attracted to women, though he considered his lust as a great sin.

The man began to avert his eyes as not to look at her but remembered about the heart and asked its advice.

And the heart said: “Look again and decide sincerely if you like this woman or not.”

The man looked at her, and everything in him sparkled with love!

He answered to the heart: “For me there is no one better than she is! I would give her everything!...”

“So, why are you grieving? If your desire is about giving to another rather than getting for yourself, it is not lust! It is love awakened in you! Go and tell this woman that you love her!”

And the man did. He came and said: “I love you! Be my wife!”

All friends and neighbors around him began to say: “How foolish this man is! His business has just taken off, so he could find a rich bride! But he took a widow with small children!... This widow would not refuse him even without marriage...”

But the man was listening to the song of the heart: “Happiness you give, happiness you get! You cannot buy happiness with money!”

His heart was shining brighter and stronger with love! And it transformed the words and actions of this man!

And soon this man got married to this woman. Their mutual heart love began to illuminate their whole life and warm their house! They started to raise their children together and to honor their parents.

And the man thanked God: “My Father and Creator! Your advice has transformed my whole life, has brought happiness to me! Now I have defeated my



vices and whims, overcome my weaknesses and fears!”

And God answered him: “The one who has learned to hear the voice of the spiritual heart will be able to accomplish even more than that! For the voice of the heart is the voice of Love! And all that is created and done with love comes from Me! For I am LOVE!”

## Huang

### *Parable about the Golden Flower, the River of Love, and the Immortal Gardener*

Many legends were composed about the mystery of the Flower of Heart. Some of them call it the Flower of Life; some speak about it as about the Golden Flower, others assert that it is the Flower of Immortality. All these names are not casual: they reflect the blissful aroma of this Flower and slightly lift the veil of the mystery that surrounds it...

... Once there was a man who lived in a small valley hidden in the mountains. He lived easily and lightly! Many people called him saint; others called him monk; others called him the Enlightened.

Yet he neither spoke nor thought about himself in that way.

Sometimes he called himself a gardener, although he did not have a garden. He cultivated just one single flower: the Golden Flower of the Spiritual Heart, the Flower that grants Immortality.

This man lived simply. He lived and rejoiced at the existence that he contemplated! He was a friend of the mountains where he lived, of the winds, which passed over his small valley, of the grasses and flowers, which bloomed there in spring and beautified his abode during the summer. He was a friend of the stars, which smiled at him at night, and of the sun, which shone during the day. He was a friend even of the clouds and snow, which covered his dwelling place in late autumn and in cold winter.

Sometimes animals or birds came to him; they were his friends. Sometimes people who needed help and healing visited him. And he helped them all; he never refused to help anybody.

He lived for a long, long time. But one day his Flower was grown, and it was time for him to leave; he went to the other Immortals and became the Gardener, Who sows seeds and cultivates shoots that produce new Golden Flowers.

He left for people the memory of the Golden Flower that grants Immortality and of the Source of the River of Love that flows and nourishes growing Flowers.

... The mystery of the Golden Flower attracted people. They climbed the mountains to find the Flower of Immortality. They found different flowers there, tore them off mercilessly and made powders and tinctures, decoctions and ointments... But those potions could not make them Immortal...

Others believed that magical power was hidden in the roots. And they dug them out and killed in vain those gentle creatures...

No one succeeded in finding the Golden Flower. And its mystery remained unsolved...

... But once a young man came to that place. His beloved was seriously ill, and he was told that she was dying. Yet one healer ensured him that she would recover from her illness if the man gave her the Flower of Life.

The young man went to the mountains and found there a beautiful flower. Its corolla was so gentle that the young man thought it was the Flower of Life! He knelt down before the flower but could not tear it off. The compassion for life did not allow him to ruin this beauty!... The young man lowered his hands and whispered: “Forgive me!” And it was not clear whether he said this to his beloved or to the flower...

At that moment a Voice sounded: “The one who respects life deserves to be helped!”

This Voice was the Voice of the Divine Gardener, Who could appear in any time and in any place as any of the Immortals.

He Himself consisted entirely of Light and Peace. Bliss emanated from His every movement and word.

“I am glad that you had mercy on this flower!” – He said.

“But the girl that I love is dying...” – the young man whispered.

“You were told to give her the Flower of Life. But it is impossible to tear it off and bring it somewhere! It is only possible to grow it from your own heart love, nourished by the River of Love!”

“But my beloved is dying right now... And I do not have enough time to help her...” – answered the young man.

“Do not grieve, I will help you. Over there, there is the Source of the River of Love. And a tiny pure brook is also streaming over there. Fill your hands with its water and tell this water from your spiritual

heart: 'I love you!' Then pour out this water on the flower and say to it the same words: 'I love you!' After a while dewdrops will appear on the petals. Collect these dewdrops from the flower, and this will be enough to cure your beloved! And while you are waiting for the dewdrops to appear, enter the River of Love and try to understand the Laws of Love according to which a person can live happily on the Earth!"

The Gardener explained to the young man how to dive into the Flow of the Living Light of the River of Love and disappeared.

The young man stayed in that Flow for a very long time and listened to the Living River; singing streams of it were telling him about the mysteries of life, about the laws of Tao.

And he understood how love transforms a human life and that a person who does not have love in the heart cannot enter the River of Love! Souls in which the light of love does not shine are not capable of touching the Flow of Living Love; that is why they are deprived of happiness.

On the other hand, those who live, giving their love, live and grow in the Flow of the River of Love where Light, Joy, and Bliss are streaming! And only these people can be happy!

And when the young man realized all this, being filled with happiness, and transformed himself, he could see transparent droplets on the petals of the flower. He picked them up carefully and went to his beloved. She took the medicine of the Gardener and was cured.

... They lived in peace and happiness, since their lives were passing in the River of Love!

... When their son grew up and became a young man, he decided to thank the Immortal Gardener for

the wonderful healing of his mother, for the life He gave her, and in that way to him too.

So he took the road to find that small valley in the mountains.

He climbed higher and higher and admired the beauty that was opening to his sight. Majestic mountains greeted him with their peaks illumined with the sun. Gentle wind, which was flying over the vast expanses, embraced him. Flowers, which beautified a valley, gave him their fragrance. He was walking, and stars smiled at him at night, and the sun lit up his every day.

He found the small valley in the mountains where the Immortal Gardener lived once and the Source where the River of Love originated.

He thought then: “I would love to cultivate the Flower of Life and then tell people about the Way to the true happiness!”

And at once he saw the Immortal Gardener. The Gardener said: “Let it be as you wish, for you are dreaming not only of your personal welfare but of the welfare of others! I will show you how – out of the Silence of Tao – the Flower of Life opens in a human spiritual heart! I will show you the Depths from which it comes out! And then you can grow your own Flower and tell people about the mystery of the Flower of Life – the Flower of Heart, which grows from Infinite Tao and opens in a human soul! You can become the Gardener too!”

# Sulia

## *Parable about Love*

There was a man. Once, he heard the words: “God is Love!”

And he decided to go and search for love. He began to listen to what other people were saying about love.

\* \* \*

He heard such things:

... “I love meat!” – one man said. He slaughtered a lamb, roasted it and began to eat its body...

... “I love hunting!” – another man said. – “I can hit any bird on the wing! And I can find any animal in the thickets, kill it and strip its skin off.”

... “I love to wear furs!” – one pretty girl says.

... “And I love flowers!” – another pretty girl adds... She puts bouquets of flowers in vases and looks with delight at how they are withering and dying... And they do not know about her “love” at all! And what a pity that the flowers doomed to die became a symbol of love and beauty!...

... Another man declares:

“I love my woman so much and my passion for her is so strong that if she betrays me with another man, I will kill her!”

... “I love glory more than all women!” – the commander says. – “For the moments of glory I can give everything!” And he chooses enemies for himself and sends his army to die. He takes away others’ lives for the sake of the moment of his glory...

... “I love power!” – the emperor says. – “I myself create laws for this country! Everyone must be obedient to all my desires! Everything will be at my behest: I will grant mercy or execute, I can establish peace or start a war!”

... The man also heard:

“We love God! For our faith we are ready to die!  
For our faith we are ready to kill!”

\* \* \*

The man was terrified of what he had heard...  
And he exclaimed: “This cannot be love!”

And the mountains echoed: “This is not love!...”

And the leaves rustled: “This is not love!...”

And the birds cried: “This is not love!...”

And the rivers murmured: “This is not love!...”

And the surf of the ocean roared: “It is not love  
when somebody wants something *for oneself* and  
sheds blood!...”

And the man went further...

\* \* \*

... Once he saw a kind child in another country  
and asked:

“What do you love?”

“I love my mom, I love my dad, I love this glade  
full of flowers! I love this small river and this forest! I  
love to sing songs and to dance, I love to work and I  
love to play! Everyone is glad about my love! And they  
all love me!”

... The man saw another man in love and asked  
him too... He answered with the words of love that he  
had said to his beloved: “I wish you be happy, my be-  
loved, even though you are with another man now... I

repeat again: Be happy, my beloved! Be happy! Know that I am glad for you!”

... The man saw a grain field and a beautiful garden as if the earth itself blossomed. And he saw the person who had grown all this. The man asked: “What do you love?”

The person answered: “I love the earth! I grow gardens, crops, and flowers on it, and they give me their fruits, beauty, and fragrance in return. The one who grows a garden and gives one’s love to all receives beautiful fruits!”

... The man was walking through the country where there was order and peace and saw well-being in human lives.

The man asked the ruler of this country:

“What do you love?”

“I love this country and all the people here!” — the wise ruler replied. — “And I am ready to suffer humiliation in order to avert a war between my country and another one and to ensure peace in it!”

... And the man went on, listening and observing...

And he saw a Master of Soul, who loved God with all His heart, and asked him:

“Please, tell me, what is love taught by God, how to cognize it, and how to distinguish between what is love and what is not?”

And the Master answered: “In wanting something for oneself — there is no love! There can be only passions, whims, and vicious desires... Love is the foundation of the universe! Love is also the light of the soul!”

And then the Master taught:

“The transparent flow of water is streaming and nourishing everyone; this is how God loves!



“The Earth raises and carries on itself everything living; this is how God loves!

“The sun shines and gives its light to everything and everyone; this is how God loves!

“You, too, should love, always giving your care with tenderness to everyone!

“Love giving itself – this is the light of the soul!

“Cultivate love inside yourself and you will be able to see and feel God!”

### *Parable about the Master*

There was a Master on the Earth. He lived in Unity with God. And people gathered around Him.

He taught those who aspired sincerely to learn about the Truth.

But others only questioned Him idly, without getting any benefit for the soul...

There were lots of people who gathered around Him and asked Him questions:

“How can we be sure that You are a True Teacher, that Your Doctrine is a true one, and that You are better than others who teach and speak differently?

“Some of them teach us that one should take off a cap before entering a temple, others teach that one should keep it on...

“And there are so many various Gods and doctrines! And every follower claims that only his or her faith is true and that those who worship another God and have another way of worship are sinners!

“How can we sort it out? And in what should we believe?

“And what will we get if we worship Your God?”

The Master answered:

“There is God! And He is One for all! His names are Love, Life, and Existence! He is the Creator of everything! He gives birth to all existence, creating it by His Power!

“His names are different because in different languages people praise Him.

“But the knowledge about Him that exists among people is quite incomplete. Many ‘teachings’ or ‘teachers’, having taken a minute part of the Whole, try to say about God only what they know. And what they do not know they declare non-existent.

“Let us blindfold three men who never have seen an elephant, and let them touch it.”

And the Master blindfolded three men. One of them touched the tail of the elephant, another touched the elephant’s leg, and the third one touched the elephant’s trunk. And each of them described how he felt the elephant. But their descriptions were... completely different, although the elephant was one and the same!

Nevertheless, people continued asking questions:

“What is God? Where is He? In which temple should we look for Him? In what should we believe, how should we pray, and what sacrifices should we offer to God?”

In reply the Master repeated simple words that were said from century to century by other Masters. He repeated them so that people could hear and understand:

“God is Love! He teaches how to love and not how to beg or beseech!

“He demands for Himself neither worship, nor prayers, nor sacrifices!

“He only gives. He gives life and love! And all existence is controlled by Him!

“Henceforth, let every spiritual heart become a temple for cognition of Him! Everyone can transform one’s own heart into a beautiful temple filled with love and gratitude! This temple will grow year after year and become boundless with time, because love has no bounds! It grows and expands, being aware more and more of its own presence in all that it loves!”

And if you need to say words, just say: “I love You, Father!” or “I thank You!”

\* \* \*

Then disciples asked the Master about gratitude to God.

The Master answered:

“The easiest commandment, which every person can keep, is the commandment of gratitude. Whatever you receive, express gratitude for it! And do good in response! Then your lives, souls, and destinies will change with time!

“A person who is able to be grateful for everything sent to him or her by God acquires three virtues at once: love, humility and patience. And the one who always aspires to fulfill this – lives and grows in God’s Love!

“And there is no reason for grief since everything created by the Father is beautiful!

“Always thank God for everything!”

“And how should those whose lives are full of suffering act? Do You really want to say that they should thank the Father for their punishment?” – a disciple asked the Master.

The Master answered:

“Suffering can purify the soul and take off the burden of past sins if one repents in a reasonable

way! So, we should thank the Creator for suffering as well!

“It is necessary to remember this, especially when bad events and troubles come into your lives!

“We ourselves cause these troubles! It is not God Who punishes us, but it is our past bad acts that create our problems! And God, on the contrary, helps us to purify our destinies when evil that we caused to others returns to us.

“Yesterday I lanced an abscess on your body. The pain that I caused to you was for your good. I caused it to heal your body. And you thanked Me for healing! Are you not surprised that you thanked Me for that pain? You knew that it was for good, for healing of your body, that is why you thanked Me.

“Let us be able to accept pain from the Principal Healer of all souls with gratitude!

“Having come to the Earth, we have to pay the debt of our vicious past. And we will live in good, only if we are not in debt to anyone!”

“But with what can we pay the debts of the soul?” – that disciple asked.

“With love!

“There are three very simple precepts: Love! Give thanks! Do good! The one who always aspires to fulfill these precepts lives and grows in Love of the Creator! And love is capable of overcoming all the problems of life!

“If we always live thanking and giving, we wash away our bad past with our love!”

\* \* \*

The disciples asked the Master:

“Some doctrines assert that man is Divine, others claim that man is nothing but ashes, an accumulation of sins. In what should we believe?”

The Master picked up a seed from the earth, put it on His palm, showed it to the disciples, and said:

“Here is a seed from a tree. Some could say: it will become a tree. Others could say: it is just a speck of dust carried by the wind. Who is right?”

“A seed has everything to become a tree! But until it germinates, roots itself, and transforms its entire being from a sprout into a tree, from a possibility of existence into existence – till then it will remain just a speck of dust carried by the wind...”

“It is the same with man. He or she can become Divine not only because that person has seeds of Divinity inside, but because Divine Love has rooted in him or her, has grown, and has become a Tree, transforming the entire nature of that person!”

“A seed can grow transforming itself into a tree. And man, too, can grow transforming oneself into God! Everyone has this great possibility!”

“But this is just a possibility!”

\* \* \*

Once new disciples asked the Master:

“How can we verify that by following Your Teachings we will cognize the Truth? And why should we believe Your words?”

The Master answered:

“Here is honey from honeycombs. It is sweet. But no matter how much I speak to you about its sweetness, and no matter how firmly you believe My words, this will be of no use to you! Yet you will get to know that it is sweet only when you taste it!”

“It is the same with Knowledge! You will not get much benefit if you believe Me or someone else blindly, or if you worship a book, which contains Knowledge, instead of worshiping God!

“You should trust your experience! And words will remain words...

“Let’s imagine a person sitting in a dark room. No matter how strongly this person believes in the existence of light, this cannot make the room lighter.

“But if that person, having understood that light exists, starts to act, he or she might be able to light fire for oneself, as someone lights a candle in darkness. And then this person might be able to see a door in the room and leave it.

“Only the one who searches and goes will find a passageway! And only that person will open the door to the boundlessness of Light!”

“But yesterday You told us that faith would save us. And today you are saying that there is no need to believe. How should we understand You?”

“I was talking about that faith which combines love for the Creator, confidence in Him, and the memory that He is always near you!

“When you know that the loving and caring Father is always here with you and with everyone, and that He gives you everything you need, and you thank Him for this – this is faith!

“By His Love, Wisdom, and Power everything is created! And everything is under His control! And if something goes not as you want it to, there is a significant reason for this.

“Knowledge is a fruit of love and faith. It grows when you make efforts and act properly!

“If you do not see that there is Light and yet you want to acquire the higher vision, you should believe

and work! Faith is a support on this Path! Because if you do not believe that there is Light, you will not be able to cast off your chains and leave darkness!

“But if you believe blindly, faith will not heal you. Only through hard work on yourself as a soul, will you be able to transform darkness into Light!

“Without faith you can’t stand firmly on this Path! Yet in order to gain Wisdom, you should pass from faith to Knowledge!

“And only after having walked the entire Path, will you be able to cognize the Truth! The one who has cognized the Light of the Creator will not doubt or be afraid anymore! That person will make efforts to become this Light and to learn to dissolve oneself in It!

“But the one who can only doubt and fear should wait. It is not the right time for him or her to go on a journey!

“Later I will narrate how I traversed this Path, what I found, and how I came to the Unity. And the one who aspires and is ready to make efforts can try to pass after Me!

“There is Purpose!

“There is the Path!

“There is Truth!

“There is Light on the Path!

“Yet everyone should go by oneself to come to Unity with God!”

# Symeon the New Theologian<sup>1</sup>

## *Parable about Monasticism and Silent Meditation*

*Teach me Inseparability, oh my Lord!  
Let me fill my flesh  
with Your Unearthly Light,  
so that You always will be with me  
in life and death!*

*Teach me Oneness, oh my Creator!*

The prayer told by Symeon

Once there was a young man. His family was rich and noble. He studied successfully different sciences. Everyone expected him to make an excellent career in the Imperial Court...

But his heart's desire was another. He did not want or look for riches! And he did not strive for glory and honor! But he often thought about the meaning of human life, about God and about how to understand the Divine mystery of existence.

He asked his father's permission to retire to a monastery for the studies and for the purification of the soul.

The father was very angry with such a request of his son! He said to him:

“You are young! But only people in their old age go into a monastery to pray for forgiveness of their crimes! Change your mind! All other roads are open for you!”

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<sup>1</sup> This parable is autobiographical.



The young man answered him:

“But why do you think, father, that only in old age, at the threshold of death – one needs to know about God and the meaning of life? What if my life is doomed to be short, so that I will not have time to find out – why do I live?”

“I want to know about the meaning of life, about God, but not about how to please a sovereign or noblemen or how to occupy a higher position! I don’t want either to multiply your riches tenfold or hundredfold!”

“I saw dead – young ones and old ones. And the same fate awaits everyone who is alive now! And if a person does not know why he or she lives – what answer can this person give to God when the time comes to die?”

But his father forbade him from going to a monastery. And the young man obeyed his wish.

Yet he did not leave the search for God and the meaning of human life.

Once he went to an elder – a prior of a monastery. This elder was very much honored by people.

The young man was welcomed by the elder and told him about his striving for a monastic life and about the prohibition of his father.

The elder looked at the young man kindly and said:

“Why do you want to live in a monastery if you are not enticed by earthly temptations, but attracted by the love for the Lord? Living in the world, you can do all the same things as you would do in a monastery!”

“Who is a real monk? It is not that one who hides oneself from the world in a dark cell in order not to see or hear anything!”

“A soul realizes itself before God not because it lives inside the walls of a monastery!

“A monk is the one who dedicates all his acts and thoughts to God and seeks passionately to cleanse the soul before the Heavenly Father!”

And the young man asked the elder to teach him how to keep a monastic life while living in the world:

“Tell me, how should I live from now on? What should I refuse and what should I strive for?”

The elder said:

“Give up indulging yourself in everything bad! And to understand what is bad, you can always ask your conscience. It never deceives you!

“Give up laziness and anger!

“Give up the idle talks! Do not speak a word in vain! Restrain your speech by the silence!

“Don’t offend others!

“Don’t be offended yourself!

“Forgive when others are unfair to you! Be meek and ask forgiveness, especially when you yourself have been wrong!

“Jesus taught to love our neighbors! Try to realize this in practice!

“This will be enough for you to begin with.”

But the young man asked:

“But how to pray? I know that monks spend every day before the Heavenly Father chanting prayers, and through this, they obtain grace!”

And the elder replied:

“Well, if you want to be before God incessantly, I’ll teach you a silent meditation that you can practice all the time.

“You must learn to stay in the silence in your spiritual heart! And then – not before an icon, but in your own spiritual heart – light the lamp of love for

your Heavenly Father! And let the *fire of love* always shine in the silence of the spiritual heart!

“Whatever you do, do it with patience and diligence! And do not interrupt your silent meditation!”

The young man began trying to do what the elder told him. And it turned out to be... not so easy! Sometimes he began to see inside himself the shadows of irritation or anger, which he could not restrain in time... Sometimes he noticed how unnecessary words were pronounced by him thoughtlessly or out of place... Sometimes he got offended when others were unfair to him... Sometimes he saw his own laziness or forgot about his silent meditation...

But he did not stop working on himself as a soul.

And so closely was he watching for his thoughts and deeds that he changed in a short time.

And his silent meditation was shining with joy inside his heart! And he made an effort to keep it shining. And since then the lamp lighted in the soul for God was always radiating!

And he came again to the elder and said:

“I feel so good because of the silent meditation – as if God Himself is watching it!”

“Why do you think He isn’t watching?” – the elder asked him. – “God sees and knows everything: each thought and each action of every one of us! At that very moment when you think about God, He is ready to help you with an answer. It is so, because He is always everywhere! And your silent meditation is pleasant for Him, since in this meditation you don’t want anything for yourself but only to glorify and thank the Lord!”

And the young man changed so much in a short time that his father relented and allowed him to real-

ize his desire to go to the monastery to the wise elder for learning.

\* \* \*

So the elder taught him further: “You’ve learned the first silent meditation – the *heart meditation!* And now I’ll teach you the second silent meditation, which consists in the *mergence of the soul with the Holy Spirit.*”

The elder invited him to the temple, where the flow of the sun's rays was coming in through the window, and said:

“Look: this sunlight is like the Divine Light that proceeds from the Father!

“A human body is a temple, and God is the Light! So you should fill your own temple of the soul with the flow of the Divine Light!

“What is this Light? What is Its nature? This Light is Love. It proceeds from the Heavenly Father. And the entrance for this Light of the Father’s Love is the spiritual heart that was opened by the first silent meditation.”

And then the young man felt that this Light was... Living and that this Light was the Flow of God’s Love!

And in that Light he touched the Great Purity!

And – for a moment – he became One with this Light!...

\* \* \*

A lot of time had passed since then. The young man was trying hard to master the second silent meditation. But he could not fill himself once again with the Holy Spirit until he realized that only those could merge with the Flow of God’s Love who themselves became such Love – tender, pure, and giving!

It is so, because the similar can merge only with the similar!

\* \* \*

But living in the monastery, the young man saw that all the same things happened here as in the world: anger, resentments, vanity, and envy... He noticed in other monks those things that he considered unacceptable for a monk. And his confusion was growing day after day!

He asked the elder to advise him what he should do to avoid the feeling of condemnation of what he saw and how to help in such a trouble.

And the elder said to him:

“Who is a monk? That is one who strives for God with all thoughts of the mind and with all the soul!

“But a soul cannot take off immediately all the heavy covers that have adhered to it during many years. These covers cloud the eyes and ears of a soul, hide its wounds and defects, and paralyze it with heaviness, which does not allow a soul to see and feel the Light of the Lord!

“It’s not easy to take these covers off. That is why souls cannot be cleansed and healed quickly!

“That one who can see these covers and defects without condemnation can be a healer of souls.

“I am going to appoint you – instead of me – as the prior of the monastery, for I have to leave soon...

“You are young, but your purity and sincerity before the Heavenly Father guarantees that you will take care of the souls in this house of the Lord better than other people! You can help those who are striving to purify themselves as souls and to love the Heavenly Father!

“If you see that you can remove at least one heavy cover from the soul, heal one of its wounds, or correct one of its defects – do this for the glory of the Lord! From now on it will be your main occupation!

“Teach worldly people to live in peace and love and keep the other commandments of Jesus.

“Teach monks to experience themselves as souls in front of God.

“You yourself will gain wisdom – only if you help other people to obtain purity of souls in front of God.

“You should learn not to condemn but to awaken in souls a deliberate aspiration to get rid of vices.

“The Lord will always tell you what medication you should prescribe every soul!”

And the elder fell silent...

But the young man dared to ask:

“You told me that there is the *third silent meditation*... Please, tell me about it!”

“The third meditation will be cognized by you when you *abandon yourself*...”

\* \* \*

And the elder left.

The young man became the prior of the monastery.

And because of the great responsibility – he always asked God how he should act. And he began to hear recommendations of God and to see the Divine Light – as the Sun!

The Holy Spirit began to flow through him – and his words and actions became filled with wisdom.

And since that moment the second silent meditation became his essence, for the Holy Spirit was in him, spoke and acted through him.

\* \* \*

Time passed by... He helped many people to get rid of heavy covers that stifled souls, shrouded them from the Light, stopped their breathing... He healed many souls' wounds, taught how to correct many souls' defects.

... At that time his father died, and the young man inherited all his estate.

But he did not give his father's riches to the monastery, as many monks dreamt... And he did not cover icons and the interiors of the temple with gold and precious stones... Instead of this, he opened a school for children, a hospital, and a shelter for lonely old people...

And there were monks unsatisfied with this. Those monks lived in the monastery as in the world: they looked for position and rank, for favor of people with power, and for respect from their inferiors... But they did not try to liberate themselves as souls from heavy covers and terrible vices...

They decided to expel their prior from the monastery... They wrote a report in which they stated that their prior was tempted by the evil spirits, because he saw the Light similar to sunlight, heard recommendations from the Holy Spirit, received guidance from God, and composed hymns for Him being out of his mind!

Thus he was expelled from the monastery... And taking off his prior clothes, he left having nothing but the second silent meditation mastered by him.

\* \* \*

And when he was coming out of the monastery gate – old and grey-haired – people asked him: “Who are you?”

And he answered: “God’s monk.”

So he went to the seashore, then found a secluded cave in a mountain, and began to live there.

And he saw God!

And he heard God!

And God was with him always!

And the God’s monk was only with God!

And when he did not leave the Light of the Holy Spirit anymore – the Heavenly Father opened for him the gates of His Abode!

And the soul put on the robes of Christ.

At that moment he cognized the *third silent meditation*, because there was already nothing for him but God! Only God was Everything and everywhere!

Yes, now God was living in the monk and did through him all that He needed...

And signs of God’s Love appeared around the monk...

And people began to call him Saint Elder. And so many pilgrims gathered around him that they built a new cloister near his cave.

And the elder never refused to give them advice and assistance.

\* \* \*

One day a young man came to him and asked: “Tell me, wise elder, for what have you lived your life?”

And the elder replied:



“At first I lived to cognize the heart love.

“Then I lived to give love to people, to teach them to love, so that they could learn from our Creator what *care* is.

“And now God lives in me and I live in Him. And what I do – it is He Who does.”

The young man said:

“Teach me to live like this!”

And the elder began to tell him about the first silent meditation...

## Yamamoto

### *Parable about the Painter*

There was a painter who had an ability to see and depict the Beauty.

This ability surprised other people! They were looking at the same thing the painter was looking at, but did not notice its beauty... They had not noticed it until the painter turned that which was seen by him and by them – into a perfect picture!

The painter was the great Master of Beauty. He touched with the sight of the soul what he observed – and depicted beautiful moments of the Eternal Existence on his canvases. And then a miracle happened: the Beauty unnoticeable before – became clearly visible for anyone who looked at the picture of the Master!

\* \* \*

Once he started to draw a portrait of a thin and unremarkable girl, whom no one had considered beautiful before. And she also felt shy because of her subtlety and tenderness, because of her fragile figure – and always cast her eyes down shyly...

“She is so ugly and thin... but you are going to draw her!...” – people said to the painter.

But he did not listen to those who were saying that – and kept drawing. Suddenly, subtlety, grace, the tender oval of her face, and the depth of her eyes appeared on the canvas, creating a beautiful image.

She observed it almost breathlessly: “This can’t be me... The picture is so beautiful!...”

“I’m only a mirror!” – the painter replied with a smile. – “I only revealed your beauty of the soul to you!

“And now you should live without concealing it from the world!”

\* \* \*

Another day he saw an old woman – and began to draw her portrait. And again people were wondering what he had found in this old woman.

But the painter drew every wrinkle on her hands as annals. And those annals were telling stories about a long and difficult life, about kindness and love for children, who had been brought up with her heart care, about grandchildren nourished with her deep wisdom... And rays began to shine from her eyes towards those people who were around and far away... The light of those rays was like a river that had its source in the kindness of the heart.

Through this portrait, love, wisdom, and calm were telling everyone about a kind life and about a great soul! And a lot of people stood still – in admiration – in front of this picture! And they saw the essence of a life that was not lived in vain. And the love of the great soul embraced them like a gentle evening glow...

The painter represented her life in such a way that people bowed with respect before this old woman...

\* \* \*

Then he painted a dancer. And in the moment he depicted – the dance and the dancer were merged. The wave of hand, the music, and the dancer's eyes – now could be seen and heard on the canvas! And everyone who looked at that picture could experience oneself as a person who is contemplating the canvas and as the one who – in dance – is singing a hymn of love for God!

\* \* \*

The painter drew a drop of early-dew on a thin blade of grass:

It was just a drop of water shining in the sunlight. But this drop seemed to be saying: "I am a drop in the Vastness of Love! And the beauty of the sun is reflecting in me! And peace and beauty of the land are now shining in me as in a mirror of my love!"

\* \* \*

The painter depicted with his brush one more instant of the Eternal Existence:

He drew: the sun extending its rays above the sea and reflecting in the clouds, birds flying from a faraway land towards the native one, the seashore full of golden sand!... The Creation of the Creator and the creation of a human have combined on one canvas! Eternity has revealed Itself in a single moment of the Beauty! Boundless Light of the Ocean of God has illuminated souls with the light of the rising sun! And the Invisible Traits of the Creator have manifested themselves in the greatness of this Beauty!

\* \* \*

This painter had the miraculous sight that allowed him to see the Creator behind His Beauty!

And he was able to transmit to people the ability to see and to love!

## Radek Volynsky

### *Parable about the Grand Pharmacist and the Philosopher's Stone<sup>2</sup>*

In the old days, now commonly known as the Middle Ages, in Europe there were legends of a Man Who lives forever. No one knew where He appeared from and where He disappeared to. Sometimes He became an adviser to monarchs; sometimes He presented Himself as a healer; sometimes His ideas in-

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<sup>2</sup> This parable is autobiographical. In it Radek relates His own spiritual apprenticeship during His penultimate incarnation. Radek told us about the desire to write this story and publish it more than a year ago. [6]

spired philosophers, poets, artists... But it was only the outward manifestation of the main thing that remained hidden and enigmatic...

Even now, in the old manuscripts, some information can be found about the Friend of God, from Whom, having met Him, people got to know about the Truth... Today many believe that it is only fiction. But He really lived for centuries so that understanding, awareness, love, self-knowledge and knowledge of God could grow in people.

\* \* \*

At that time one boy lived. His name was Henry. He was the eleventh son of an owner of a slaughterhouse. His older brothers helped his father, while Henry stayed with his mother and helped her with her housework.

However, the moment came when the father told Henry to begin to master his profession: to kill animals and turn their bodies into meat, skins, and bones...

Henry resisted. He said that he would never kill!

The father struck him in the face and shouted:

“If so – then you will not eat until you understand how hard our work is and how hard it is to make money!”

“I will not kill even if I have to die!” – Henry replied.

This confrontation lasted several days, during which the father vented his anger on the mother of Henry who was trying to protect her son any way she could.

And then Henry ran away from home.

\* \* \*

He walked from one small town to another until he reached the capital.

Many times he could not get money for food because nobody wanted to hire him being weakened by hunger...

But once a gentleman in robes of fine velvet offered Henry to help him to carry some books in heavy copper covers for a little money.

Henry gladly accepted this offer.

When they came to the house of that gentleman, Henry read on the sign: “Maitre<sup>3</sup> Francis – pharmacist”.

After entering the house, Maitre Francis was going to pay Henry. But he did not find any small coins in his wallet and went up the stairs leaving the wallet, as if by accident. Henry looked at the wallet with gold coins... but could not steal.

Maitre Francis returned soon, looked kindly at Henry, and, giving him his small but honestly earned money, said:

“Honesty is a good start for a good life!

“I need a boy to carry medicines. You could become my assistant and student...”

Thus Henry stayed in the house of Maitre Francis.

\* \* \*

The house where Henry now lived was unusual. The rules established here by Maitre Francis were surprising at the beginning but gradually became usual and pleasant.

The first rule was *Cleanliness*.

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<sup>3</sup> Master.

According to this rule, not only floors, tables, shelves, and clothes should be clean, but also food. It meant that no one in the house ate bodies of killed animals. Cleanliness also implied that one should wash one's body every day and keep one's thoughts and emotions clean. "Everyone must start purification and transformation of the world with oneself!" – Maitre Francis used to say.

The second rule was *Work*.

Each one in this house had his or her own task and fulfilled it gladly. Maitre Francis refused work of servants or slaves. He used to say:

"Slaves or servants do something only because they are forced to. A free person, on the contrary, works when he or she can and wants, understanding that it is necessary.

"One gains Freedom only when he or she overcomes the slave in oneself!"...

The third rule was *Silence*.

In the house of Maitre Francis there was a special atmosphere of calm that accustomed one to the tendency to see the fullness of the True Existence and to **perceive oneself** as its participant.

"You should not say aloud every thought that comes into your head! Stop your talking, submerge yourself in silence – and then in nine times out of ten, you will remain silent!

"In this case, everything that you will say will be really important, and you will stop talking in vain.

"Only under this condition, will your words become a part of the *vital elixir* for other souls!" – Maitre Francis taught the beginners.

The fourth rule was *Learning*.

Maitre Francis used to say:

“When someone stops developing oneself and learning new things, that person makes a step towards his or her death, because the life of a soul in this body... becomes useless.

“Knowledge is not as important as the ability to apply this knowledge! In fact, there are few things that should be known. And then one should learn to think operating with that obtained knowledge. This is the key to wisdom.”

The fifth rule was *Love*.

Love united into one all those who lived in this house.

And love was the foundation for the methods that they were creating to heal people.

Maitre Francis rarely talked about love, but when he talked, his words were remembered for a long time:

“Love is a necessary condition for the development of wisdom. Wisdom is impossible without heart love!

“Love is what can turn an ordinary person – into a Divine Person!”

\* \* \*

Henry liked to study. He had an excellent memory and inquiring mind.

And everything that his Master recommended him to learn was full of wisdom. Such were, for example, the Gospels.

Maitre Francis explained:

“In order to heal people, it’s necessary to know not only the anatomy of a human body! Man is a soul, and the body is just its temporary abode! Therefore, to heal a patient, one needs to have the knowledge not only about medicinal herbs and minerals, func-



tions of organs, and processes occurring in the entire organism, but also about the soul.

“You can learn a lot about a soul and God – from the words of Jesus Christ.”

“But for those who do not have the rank of a priest, it is forbidden to read the Bible,” – Henry objected.

“Do not be afraid! Fear is a bad teacher!

“What fear suggests – leads only to servility, meanness, and develops the ability to betray!

“Never listen to those thoughts that are whispered by fear, laziness, or anger!

“And one more important rule: no one should stand between man and God! Each person is directly responsible before God for everything that he or she does or does not do in his or her life! And everyone – by oneself – should learn to feel God and understand Him!”

... In this way, gradually, Maitre Francis led Henry to the realization of what He called the *alchemy of a soul*:

“The real alchemy is the knowledge about how people can improve themselves.

“One should learn to distinguish in oneself between the higher – and the lower, the light – and the heavy, the good – and the bad.

“Vices tie a soul with *heaviness* and do not let it come out from lower, coarse states. So vices are the first thing that you must overcome in yourself!

“Only that one approaches the Perfection who trains oneself in such self-control daily and constantly, and not only sometimes!”

\* \* \*

Maitre Francis explained everything – in a unique way! He took simple examples from a daily life – and used them to explain great truths:

“There are common *Laws of Existence* that were created by God. Each of them functions and determines the course of life on the Earth and in the whole universe.

“Look: the stone that I hold now in my hand will fall down to the ground when I stop holding it. I can repeat this many times – and the result will always be the same. All the material that exists on the surface of the Earth or above it – is attracted to the planet. Matter attracts matter. This is the *Law of attraction*.

“But there is a similar phenomenon in the world of souls. Human souls (and not only human ones) are attracted to each other and connected by *love*.

“God – the Creator of all things – also loves His children.

“So if we love God – then a huge force of attraction arises! Its strength is superior – countless times – to anything that you know!

“This is how God leads souls into Him! This is how the *Law of love* works!

“I can also tell you about the law of hatred. If you hit your leg against a sharp stone and, in revenge for this, hit it again – you will get hurt once more. This is how the mechanisms of revenge, resentment, and anger function...

“And one will continue hurting oneself until this person understands and accepts – through one’s own pain – the *Law of love*.

“God doesn’t punish people! It is people who punish themselves breaking the *Laws of Existence* established by God!

“On the contrary, that person who lives according to God’s *Laws of love and harmony* is happy in this life and in the future existence.

“God hasn’t created anything bad. It is man who uses for evil purposes those things that were intended for good!

“Thus he or she is able to turn his or her own life into hell! And then that person starts to beg the Creator: ‘Save me!’ Isn’t it absurd?

“I’ll tell you a parable about two men and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

“These two men came to the tree, and both of them picked one apple.

“The first one ate his apple – and thanked God and the apple tree! And he even planted with love the seeds of that apple in his garden. And some apple trees grew. And harmony reigned in his house, and he, his wife, and their children were all happy.

“Another man, on the contrary, decided that the fruit was sour and threw it out. And – in anger – he broke a branch off this tree, made a bow from it, and began to kill animals with this bow... It was not possible for him to find happiness, since he himself was creating unhappiness in his life!...

“The tree was only one. And all its fruits were the same! Yet each person carries in oneself an opportunity to live in happiness or in affliction!”

\* \* \*

One day a man ran up into the house of Maitre Francis:

“Does Maitre Francis live in this house? I had traveled all over Italy and France looking for Him! And finally – I have found him!

“Allow me, sir, to be your disciple!” – he said and fell to his knees before Maitre Francis. Then he continued speaking in a voice choked with excitement:

“You... You – don’t refuse! You – had found the *philosopher’s stone*! You are able to turn lead into gold! I have read many treatises on sublimation! I have achieved great success! I am almost near the goal! But I still need something that makes the reaction go in a right way!...”

“Why do you need all this? How much gold do you want?” – Maitre Francis asked quietly.

“I... I’m going to have as much gold as I want to! I always will be able to make gold! I’ll be rich, that is – free! I’ll have whatever I want, anything! I’ll do whatever I want! No woman will reject me!...”

“And what will you do when you have all this: gold, power, and women? Are you sure that this is what you really want? Maybe you need only one woman, but that one whom you will love and who will love you too? Maybe for your happiness you need just one house with a garden where your children will run?”

“I came here to learn! I have money, I can pay you!...”

“You are wasting your life on those things that you don’t really need!

“You have got already that lesson which I could give you. If you learn it – then you will be happy! If not...”

“I am not a magician, but a pharmacist. And I prescribe such a medicine that gives health both to the soul and to the body.

“You have got your recipe... I can’t help you more.

“Henry, please, accompany this gentleman to the door!”

\* \* \*

“What is the *philosopher’s stone*?” – Henry asked shutting the door after the visitor.

Maitre Francis replied:

“People who sometimes call themselves alchemists have a belief that there is a secret element, ‘the basis of life’ that allows one to transform everything. They call it the *philosopher’s stone*.

“And many – year after year – combine different elements in test tubes in order to create the *philosopher’s stone* and be able to turn any metal into gold.

“But the truth is that the stages of transformation of a soul were hidden in ancient times behind the conversations about the transmutation of the elements. And the Divine key, the true *philosopher’s stone*, is *love* – love as the essence of a person, as the right state of a soul.

“... Everything in the universe may be considered alive.

“But plants, animals, people, and God have different levels of awareness.

“Yes, there are stages of development that a soul has to pass in order to learn to understand and to be aware. After them, a soul will be able to penetrate deeply into the different levels of living multidimensionality. Then such a person will be able to cognize his or her Divine Essence and achieve the Unity with God!

“And when such a person-soul becomes like God, we call this Person – Christ.

“The Great Harmony is possible! Its secret lies in man! In him or her – as in the multidimensional organism – the energies of all universal planes exist. And man can cognize all those planes – and become One with the subtlest of them!

“In the same way as a formerly small fragment can cognize its presence in the Great Whole – man, having gathered gradually, with oneself as a soul, all the planes of the universe, becomes One with the entire Creation and with its Source – the Creator.

“The Creator is similar to the Ocean of Light!

“His Splendor is like the splendor of countless Suns that permeate everything with their rays.

“He is Infinite, Everlasting!

“This is how man finds the *philosopher's stone* and cognizes the Creator!”

\* \* \*

Maitre Francis balanced skillfully between fame and obscurity... He traveled throughout Europe with several companions... Then the companions stayed in some place and continued to do what they had learned...

And He – elusive, imperceptible – went further and sought new companions. Thus He raised quietly each following wave of wisdom and Divine Light...

Once He said:

“I do the cleaning on the Earth. I make My effort to transform mud into the good and fertile soil... And in this soil I sow the seeds of Love, Goodness, and great Wisdom. Then – with Rays of Light – I encourage these seeds to sprout and grow.

“Yes, I have the *philosopher's stone!* I help the souls to reach new levels of understanding, starting in them the processes of growth.

“However, in order to return the True Knowledge to humankind, we all, you and Me, need to work quite a lot.

“In any case, everyone should start from oneself to become the Source of Love and Light on the Earth!”

## Eagle

### *Parable about Winged Heart*

In one Native American tribe, which for generations lived on a reservation, a boy was born. He was called Winged Heart. Why was that? Because the sunrise that day resembled a sign: cirrus clouds, illuminated by the sun, covered the entire sky like the solar wings.

\* \* \*

Growing up, the boy proved to be more than just simply a Native American, and he had three great abilities: to know, to heal, and to fly.

The tribal chief was very happy about the first two abilities and often used them. The boy was asked what to do in this or that difficult situation – and he gave precise answers; his prophecies were always true. If someone in the tribe got sick, Winged Heart was called – and, according to the Will of the non-embodied Great Chiefs, the sick person was healed.

Yet the boy himself was happy most of all with his ability to fly! During the flight, he experienced himself completely free! The borders of the reservation did not limit him anymore, and he was not restrained by the gravity of the Earth!

It was – so simple and so beautiful! At one point, he felt the sunrise in his chest – and turned his arms, coming out of his spiritual heart full of sunshine, in endless Wings of Light. And then – under these Wings – there was only a vast Ocean of Light – and he could soar!

He was free to stay wherever he wanted to stay!

\* \* \*

He often went to the plateau, which was a sacred place of their tribe at a time when their nation was free. This place was considered sacred because it was the best one to talk with the Great Chiefs. Here – for centuries – the most important decisions for the tribe were made.

Now that plateau belonged to white-faced people. But they did not use it because they found nothing valuable for them on it. Only occasionally travelers visited this place – to see the beautiful scenery that was seen from this height.

Winged Heart loved to stay here in meditation. He could see the Shining Faces of the Great Chiefs of humanity and talk with Them...

Or he could admire the morning sun rising over the horizon and illuminating with its life-giving light the mountain panorama...

Or he could float in the sunlight, where only eagles fly...

Or he immersed himself in those spaces of non-material Light, where a soul, free from its body, be-



comes the Divine Fire. And then – the Power of Limitless Light-Fire becomes your essence...

\* \* \*

The Great Chiefs taught many things to Winged Heart.

They showed him the stages that a soul should master during its development – so that the Divine Consciousness can open itself to a soul and a soul can become capable of the Flight of Freedom.

The Great Chiefs also opened to Winged Heart the pages of the history of the Earth. There he saw – in iridescent Light – the pictures that showed the coming of the Messengers of God to this planet. Those Messengers came in different times and to different people, bringing them always the same Truth! But people... perverted it, creating – to their own taste – different versions of faith...

\* \* \*

Once the Great Chiefs gathered on the plateau and said to Winged Heart:

“It is time for you to start that work for which you were incarnated on the Earth. You must find and initiate into the Higher Knowledge twelve people: men and women who will continue to return the Great Knowledge to people. They must be the souls ready to accept this Knowledge. Among them there will also be white-faced children of this land.

“All people are equal before the Great Power of God! And now the epoch comes when they should obtain the universal and true spiritual Knowledge. All people should experience themselves before the United Power of God, for in every one of them the Particle of this Power lives!

“This new era has approached! It’s time for you to start!

“So, you must find twelve worthy people!”

“Why so few?” – Winged Heart asked.

“Few? This is not few! You will understand this when you start looking!”

\* \* \*

Winged Heart decided to start his search among the Native Americans.

He visited many tribes...

Resentment and hatred towards the conquerors fettered the minds of many. And it was difficult to find someone who wanted to gain the Freedom – not through winning back their lands and revenging, but through loving others and transforming oneself...

Nevertheless, in some tribes, people still remembered what their ancestors – free children of free land – knew. These people were courageous and full of peace. They were not afraid of death and respected all life. They lived in harmony with nature. They did not consider the World of Divine Spirits as fiction – and were ready to hear the words of the Great Chiefs.

Winged Heart told those people:

“The Great Chiefs, Who do not keep silence, told me to come to many tribes and to remind them about what the Great Chiefs know, but what people have forgotten!”

Native Americans readily believed him. They saw that Winged Heart could fly, know, and heal and that he was bringing them the Great Knowledge of their ancestors.

Winged Heart found among them those who were worthy of initiations into the Higher Knowledge.

\* \* \*

Time passed by... Winged Heart began to look among white-faced people for those who would be able to comprehend the knowledge about the meaning of life, about the Great Chiefs of humankind, about freedom, and about the Power of the Creator.

But he faced great difficulties.

When Winged Heart spoke with white-faced people about what he knew concerning God – they did not believe him and often... cursed him.

And when he flew – those people got scared of the “impossible” and started shooting at him with their guns...

When he healed the sick – they immediately forgot the main things that he talked about and just tried to give him some money for the healing...

But if people do not understand the causes of their illnesses, – then each following generation will get sick more and more seriously! The cause of any illness lies in a violation of harmony between a human soul and God, Who is saying to this soul: “There is a problem in you, and it’s time to solve it!”

So the essence of healing consists in explaining and changing the cause – and then the effect will change by itself!

The ability to heal allowed Winged Heart to help only a very few people among the white-faced in understanding of the meaning of life and death, as well as in understanding of the Laws of the Power. But he could not find those who would be able to perceive the higher knowledge.

\* \* \*

One day on the plateau, Winged Heart saw a white-faced girl who contemplated the sunrise in the same way as free souls do. Light breeze caressed her golden hair. She looked at the rising sun being in a deep inner peace. She contemplated it not only with bodily eyes but also with the soul! She just loved this sun, this land, these birds flying in the vastness...

In her there was not any affectation that exclaims: “Oh, how pretty it is!” and instantly starts thinking about something else, normally, useless and empty.

This girl... was living in harmony with beauty!

\* \* \*

The sun had risen. The girl smiled at it again and wended her way to a city.

At that moment Winged Heart appeared before her, but she did not become afraid.

Winged Heart said:

“I saw how you met the sun, Joanna, and now I really need to talk with you. Will you allow me to?”

“How do you know my name?”

“I was granted the ability to know, to heal, and to fly,” – Winged Heart replied.

“Are you joking? However, since you know my name – what is yours?”

“Winged Heart.”

Joanna stood still for a few seconds as if the sunrise embraced all her being again and carried her over vast expanses...

She stretched out her hand to Winged Heart. There was no fear in her... She trusted this stranger infinitely!

Joanna looked straight into his eyes and said:

“I always dreamed about this: to push myself away from the ground and to fly!”

“Do you want to fly with me?”

“Yes!”

Winged Heart took Joanna in his arms – and they flew...

\* \* \*

“We are on the ground again, but it seems to me that I continue flying in the sea of Light and that the sun is still shining in me! You gave me the wings of Light!” – Joanna exclaimed.

“This is the Divine Light! It is in It that a developed soul soars and grows – seeing, loving, and cognizing the One Who created the Earth, people and everything in a variety of other material worlds.

“People usually call Him God, the Creator, or the Higher Power. And there are those Great Souls Who, like Jesus, have achieved the Unity, the Oneness with this Great Power! And everyone should strive for this!

“We must tell this to other people!

“I need your help!

“People of your tribe do not believe me! But if you are with me, then we will find those who are also dreaming of Freedom! And those who are dreaming of Freedom have already taken their first step towards it! A dream of a person can determine the course of his or her entire life! It is necessary to kindle the Divine Fire – the Fire of Love – inside one’s spiritual heart! And then one only needs to know what efforts he or she should make. And in this case the heart can become winged!

“This is the Knowledge that I must give to people: man is granted the supreme gift – to learn to

LOVE! Those who accept this gift gain the Freedom to fly on the Wings of the Heart in the Ocean of Love, where to LOVE means to BE!

“If people learn to use this gift – they return harmony to the Earth! And they will be able to see, feel, and understand the Creator!

“The one who has developed the capacity to LOVE will acquire many other gifts of the Great Power. Thus people will be able to know, heal, and fly!

“When a soul learns to be a winged heart – it will obtain a lot! It will be able to know all that it wants to know from the ‘book of existence’ opened before it!

“Then it will be easy for such a soul to determine any illness of the body – and explain to a sick person how to treat that illness.

“And when a soul obtains the ability to be in Unity with the Great Power, it will be possible to fly! To do this, a soul only needs to lift the body!”

\* \* \*

The sun rises higher and higher above the land. It is lighting up the way for those who are going to give others the Knowledge about the meaning of our lives, about God-the-Power, about Great Chiefs, and about how to become like Them...

# Sarkar

## *Parable about Fakir and the Divine Fire<sup>4</sup>*

There lived a girl in one town. Her name was Rosita. For her – the whole world was full of beautiful wonders, and she marveled that people around her did not see this!...

For her, the stars were not just stars, but a great mystery was hidden behind them, and they sounded with a quiet music in the silent stillness of the night... And the mountains for her were like tablets with mysterious messages that people had not read yet... And the rivers were like living songs that united clouds with the sea through the melodies of their streams... And the Sun was the major wonder-worker that turned night – into day, darkness – into light, and indifference – into love!

\* \* \*

Once Fakir arrived in that town. He was a world-famous magician and sorcerer, and the entire town became excited!... All people spoke only about Fakir! Everyone talked about his horses, his clothes, his retinue, about the house where he was seen, and about all the words that he had said... And everyone was wondering with excitement about what miracles Fakir would show them this time.

In the salons of noble citizens, in restaurants, coffee shops, markets, and even in the shanties of the

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<sup>4</sup> Sarkar talks about His past life and that of David Copperfield.

poor – everyone discussed the news about how Fakir was dressed, where he went, what he said, what he ate and drank...

\* \* \*

And the day of the performance came. The stage was built in the main square and the seats for the audience were placed. But even all the windows of all the houses were open and filled with people.

The music began to sound. And through the passage between the rows, Fakir ascended on the stage. All were still...

Fakir waved his hand – and the torches, held by the silent guards in white robes, flared up!

And all the lights on the stage flared up too at once!

The air seemed to be shining with mysterious and radiant Fire! And all the space and the audience were submerged in that transparent Shine!...

Fakir was joking – and smiles blossomed in the hearts! And laughter sounded – like bells in the clear air! And even old men cheered up! And many old women got rid of their melancholy for some time!

Rosita sat still and seemed to be expecting that all this was the beginning of a new life for her...

\* \* \*

Fakir performed miracles on the stage – and the magic of fairy-tales came to life! It seemed that he could gather jokes, laughter, joy, hopes, and success of all centuries. And he threw these bundles of happiness, like sparks of Fire, to everyone in his audience! These sparks flared up in the souls and shone with the golden Fire in the hearts of all!



Fakir invited people from the audience to the stage. And every one of them became the participant and creator of miracles in that night!

\* \* \*

The performance continued...

A huge cup was brought to the scene.

Fakir said:

“This cup is empty. But I will kindle with the Fire all your desires in it – and all that you want can appear!”

Fakir waved his hand – and a flame flared up and rose above the empty cup.

He asked one girl: “What do you want?”

“I want a small ring,” – she said...

Fakir took her dream out of the flame – and she rejoiced!

“What do you want?” – Fakir asked a boy in dirty broken and old clothes, who was sitting in the corner near the stage.

“I want the dress – the same as yours. And I want some sweets... Oh! I wished two times... Can I?”

Everyone laughed and Fakir said:

“Well, if you have made a mistake, – then, yes, make a third wish!”

The boy thought for a while – and suddenly said:

“Let Your Fire always shine – and perform miracles!”

“Well, my friend, then come here,” – Fakir said and invited the boy to the stage... All flared up – and in one instant the same boy was standing on the stage, but he was dressed in the shining cloak and turban... Besides, he was holding sweets in his hand...

“Now you have to be a magician – and make miracles by yourself!” – Fakir said.

Everyone applauded...

“Now you, sir, tell me what you want,” – Fakir asked.

A fat spectator came to the scene from the crowd: “I want a palace!”

Fakir was radiant because of laughter:

“A palace? Here? Now? Aren’t you afraid that it will squash you? Look, a huge thing made of stones and gold will fall from the sky! Think once again! What are you whispering? You want to be rich? You are very original!... There is nothing wrong with wealth, but the problem is that the chase for it can fill the entire life with vanity and bustle! Now wish something else! Come on, try! At least for a moment forget about yourself! Think up something that could cheer us all up!”

But the fat spectator only sulked and kept silence...

Then Fakir took out of the flame... a sheet of paper. And... the palace was drawn on it! “Take what you want! Here is your ‘home’! It will be very useful for you when you find out what is really important for us to have, and what is, indeed, worth a penny!

And to dispel your doubts – we will look for the confirmation in this book. And a girl that I will invite here will open this book at random and read what is said there about your case!”

And then Fakir invited Rosita to the scene. He blindfolded her with a silk kerchief – and asked to read a page from the book, explaining:

“Almost everyone can read with open eyes. But to read the truth – one needs to open the eyes of the soul!”

Suddenly Rosita saw some words in the radiant Fire and pronounced them: “What is really valuable is love! It’s beautiful, tender!”

Fakir took off the kerchief slowly...

Accompanying the girl to her place, he told her quietly: “I have been looking for you for a long time! And it is important for us to talk! You could be able to perform miracles!”

\* \* \*

In the evening, Fakir waited for Rosita.

Silent guards in turbans accompanied her to him.

He met her, asked her to sit down before a fireplace, and himself sat down close to her.

The fire of the fireplace was burning near them... The fire of love was in their hearts! And the Divine Fire was everywhere! The entire created world was filled with the clearest and most transparent Divine Fire! And all things seemed to be sinking in It!

Fakir said:

“There exists the Magic of the Sacred Fire – the Fire of Divine Love! There is neither affectation nor hypocrisy in It. It is the basis of the life of everything!

“The Infinite Multidimensional Universal Ocean is similar to the music that consists of a variety of ‘sounds’ of Fire and Light! Yet man usually feels only very ‘low sounds’, that is, a dense material plane.

“Yes, there are other dimensions of existence, which cannot be seen with physical eyes but can be felt by a subtle soul.

“There is joy and sadness, anxiety and peace... And you can feel each one of them with yourself as a soul.

“Besides, you should know this: a soul – when it is refined – can penetrate easily into the spaces of

Light. The soul that is pure, strong, and full of love enters into the Mergence with the Divine Fire!

“LOVE is the Basis of all worlds; it unites all and everything into *One*.

“The Creative Fire is the Love of the One Who created this world.

“LOVE is Light. It is the Life and the Manifestation of God!

“Man is similar to God! In what? In the capability of feeling and perceiving – with oneself as a soul – the full range of multidimensional manifestations! Man is also capable of creating!

“Man is not a body but a soul, whose predestination is marvelous! Man has immense possibilities for the cognition of the Creator and of the Creation, for the cognition of oneself, as well as for self-transformation – up to the fullness of development, up to the Divinity!

“However, today people on the Earth forgot their great possibilities granted to them by the Creator. They live perceiving themselves as bodies, cherishing and pleasing these bodies, and seeking delights only for these bodies...

“But only that person who has cognized and mastered LOVE is able to contemplate the Divine Fire!

“Everything that we see and do not see here, living among solid objects, is created by the Power of this Fire!

“All these objects are similar to the transparent shadows produced by the United Flame. Only the Creator is truly real! Only His Flame shines as the Creative Fire under everything that exists: from the stars to the smallest nuclear particles!

“And anyone who knows all the Laws of the Creative Fire and is merged with It by the developed soul – can create and transform these ‘shadows’.

“God has manifested the Universal Unity – the Universal *Oneness* – by Himself and from Himself!

“Now I am revealing to you the secrets of His Magic!

“Everyone is the creator: the creator of who he or she is now. Everyone is creating for oneself the present and the future. When a person becomes a perfect soul full of love, when he or she learns all the lessons of Wisdom and obtains the subtle Power, then this person will be able to perform beautiful miracles!

“What I do on stage has a great significance. One can see in it all the possibilities of the soul, the beauty of love, and the joy of existence. And those who are capable of this, having touched the Divine Subtlety, will be able to cognize the Creator as well...”

Rosita asked:

“And for how many people has your magic revealed those mysteries of existence?”

Fakir replied:

“Not for many... But those who have realized that man is a soul and that he or she will continue living even without a body – those reasonable people become able to see what is really important in their lives and what is pointless, a waste of time and strength.

“Man can live in different planes of existence: in the coarse ones or in the subtle ones. Life in subtlety generates bliss! And there is a possibility to transmit subtle beautiful and tender states from one soul to another! This can be done, among other ways, with the help of music, dance, and the presentation of magic.

“I need a helper and companion, for there is no greater emotion that can awaken souls than love! Love between people – when pure – is similar to the Heavenly Love!

“And now I’ve found you! And you could be my companion and awaken other souls with me! I ask you to share my destiny and my Service, which gives people the magic of the Great Fire! Tell me, do you want it as I do?”

“Yes!”

\* \* \*

Then he taught her the art of refinement, the art of the development of the soul, the art of manifesting the Sacred Fire, the art to create, to heal, and to fly!

... The Flow of Divine Love does not cease! The Great Soul is now again on the Earth! Rosita has come one more time to show the Love of God and to praise Him, and not herself.

## Matthew the Apostle

### Parable about the Sailer *Savior* and the *Promised Land*<sup>5</sup>

*Sea cadets of the Great Light – daughters and  
sons of God,  
Fill your sails with the fair wind!  
And live your lives on the crest of a wave!*

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<sup>5</sup> You can find more details about the last incarnation of Matthew the Apostle in the book *Classics of Spiritual Philosophy and the Present*. In this book, He also tells us about Claire (Clara).

*Do not stray from the Right Course that God will indicate to you!*

*Find His Shining Eternal Abode!*

From the diary of the sea cadet Claire

Ocean waves were rising and falling gently...

A sailing vessel, named *Savior*, was “flying” over the vast expanse of the sea. Its sails, filled with a fair wind, were carrying it – like white wings – to those who need help.

\* \* \*

A girl with hair fluttering in the wind was running down the road to the sea. She was being chased. In the distance, the clouds of dust raised by armed horsemen were already visible.

The name of the girl was Claire.

She realized that there was no hope for salvation. The pursuers would catch her – and in that case she would be forced to marry a villain, with whom she would never be able to live... And then she would have nothing to do but to die...

The sea spread out before her. But all of a sudden she saw a sailer near a berth. Its name was *Savior*. The hope, for which just a moment ago there were no grounds, suddenly warmed her like a sunray.

Claire ran into a nearby tavern and asked for a room. There she resolutely cut her beautiful long hair, disguised herself as a man and went to the sailer.

The latter was preparing to sail...

And the gunmen were already searching for her in the tavern, shouting: “She should be somewhere here!”, “She couldn’t run far away!”

\* \* \*

As soon as Claire got to the deck, the captain gave an order to sail, and *Savior* headed for the open sea.

The captain did not ask Claire a single question. But she felt that his calm and attentive eyes saw everything.

So Claire herself came to him and told him her story.

“Don’t be afraid!” – he answered. – “This ship is protected by God. You are out of danger!

“But when the time comes to accept death – don’t be afraid either. It is nothing, because life doesn’t end with the death of the body!

“We’ll talk about this later...

“Now it would be good for you to have a rest.

“You can stay here as long as you wish, or you can go ashore wherever you want to!”

\* \* \*

*Savior* continued its way.

Claire admired more and more the life of those sailors. The captain and his crew were like brothers in a good family whose head was God. And everything that they did and spoke about was lit up with His invisible presence and guidance.

They rescued those who were in danger, and while doing this, they acted so fast and pronounced words so unexpected that people of evil had no time to react and stop them. It was also important that the crew never shed blood: they never used the weapons that they had with them...

... Sometimes they put in to shore – and then the captain spoke for a long time with inhabitants of



those places about God, faith, and everything that is good...

These conversations were unusual! The captain, for example, talked about Jesus in a way that all the listeners could see everything that had happened in those times as if with their own eyes and could hear the words of Jesus addressed as if directly to them...

The captain also talked about the resurrection of Jesus.

He always spoke as if each one of the listeners was the witness of those events and right here and now had to make a choice: to accept or not the Teachings of Christ...

People were listening in deep silence...

And the captain kept relating:

“There were people around Jesus who followed Him faithfully.

“But there were also those who did not believe Him and mocked Him...

“There were many unbelievers – both when He was teaching, and when He resurrected...

“Neither sermons from God nor miracles can cure the lack of faith of many perverted souls!

“But only those who are following His Path – approach closer and closer to Him!

“... How many people now say over and over again: ‘I believe!’, but do not follow His Teachings even slightly! And sometimes they even commit crimes and deceive, using His name as a cover!

“In contrast to this, others fulfill His Teachings. They try to live as He taught. And Jesus abides in their hearts!”

Many people who listened to the captain tried thereupon to follow the Teachings of God in their lives. And a new life began for every one of them! It

was so, because the one who lives with God in one's heart – becomes another person: a transformed person! And his or her old destiny then also changes for the better!

Sometimes it happened that a person came out of the multitude of the listeners and said: "Take me with you!"

Then the captain answered at times: "Very well! Follow us!"

In this way the crew of *Savior* got new members.

\* \* \*

Once the sailer dropped anchor near a small island.

Claire perceived it as a paradise! A settlement was covered with flowers of fragrant gardens, and people – with faces illuminated by happiness – went to meet newcomers.

The captain said to Clare:

"This is the *promised land*, a paradise on our planet. You can stay and live here if you want. In this place the families of many members of my crew live. And many of those whom we saved stayed here too.

"This island was uninhabited when we found it. It doesn't belong to any governor.

"A person who enters into this land takes a vow to live according to the commandments of love for God, for neighbors and for the whole Creation.

"And everyone who lives in such a way becomes here an inhabitant of paradise.

"But even those who do not live just here, on this island, but where evil and violence reign, can also become the inhabitants of paradise!

"For this it is important just to keep that vow which unites in mutual love man and God!

“And we should try to help people to understand that our entire planet can also turn into the *promised land!*”

“The vow that I have mentioned is the VOW OF LOVE!

“... Not everyone who wants can become a member of the crew of *Savior*, since it is not time for everyone to leave all worldly desires and turn into the Apostle of God. But anyone can become an inhabitant of paradise, since anyone can develop one’s heart love!

“Let people live according to the Laws of God, transforming themselves into Love and giving this state all around! In this case, they will not live their lives in vain!

“Anyone who will live according to the Laws of LOVE will be able to create a new space of the *promised land* around oneself! And if all the people of the Earth fulfilled this, the whole planet would turn into the *promised land!*”

Claire said: “The paradise created by you on this island is beautiful! But I beg you to let me be a sea cadet on *Savior* and save others with you! Let me share my destiny with you!”

“Well, sea cadet Claire, you can follow me!

“We’ll raise the sails and go on the journey again – to save people from the hell that they carry inside themselves and spread around, committing unrighteous and evil deeds!

“We will live to multiply the forces of Light and Love in this world!” – the captain replied.

\* \* \*

Once the sea cadet Claire asked the captain:

“Tell me, why we so often save the poor and slaves, but none of those who have power in this world want to be saved from hell?”

The captain answered:

“I would save princes and kings gladly! But they do not know that they need salvation and that they themselves could save even their whole countries!

“It is very difficult to save those people who do not know about their trouble!

“It is difficult to give a drink of water to the one who does not want to drink!

“Only those who are hungry or thirsty are ready to eat or drink!

“At that, people should not live only on food for their bodies but yearn for Light, Freedom, and Love!...

“And for this very purpose, we are traveling on *Savior*: to bring at least some light of knowledge to every corner of the Earth... This is our service!

“Only that one can become similar to Jesus, who carries love and knowledge about God to all people!”

\* \* \*

In the evenings or mornings in calm weather, the captain spoke with his crew about the Higher Knowledge and about how to obtain the Divine Love.

He said:

“There is the Straight Path that leads from paradise, or the *promised land*, – to the Abode of the Creator. Yet this course can be followed only by those who love the Heavenly Father above all!

“He is Boundless and Infinite! He embraces with His Love His whole Creation!

“And all the inhabitants of the Earth are surrounded by His Calm and gentle Light of Love! The Heavenly Father always feels everyone inside Himself!

“To become such persons as God teaches us, we should learn to embrace with our heart light – all the space visible to us. And we also should learn to embrace, to cherish, and to caress gently – with ourselves as love – all the living!

“The ocean that carries our sailer is similar to the Ocean of Living Light of the Primordial Consciousness – or the Creator, Who has been everywhere and always.

“Love for Him will help one to learn to embrace that Divine Living Light! And then – the gates to the Abode of our Heavenly Father will be opened!”

\* \* \*

Ocean waves were rising and falling gently. *Savior* was gliding with all sails set to the rising sun!

Its way lay among the continents and islands of the Earth – to bring people the knowledge about God and the meaning of their lives on the Earth!

The captain started teaching the sea cadet to maintain the course to the Abode of the Creator...

## Afterword-Comments:

Thoth-the-Atlantean –  
*Essence of Divine Alchemy*

*Written down by  
Larisa Vavulina*

Transmuting darkness – into Light, and evil – into Love inside oneself... – in this way people approach the Perfection.

During this process – by means of the struggle at the limit of all the forces of a soul – the *Elixir of Immortality*, the *Precious Diamond*, the *Golden Flower*, the *Key to Everything in the universe* is born gradually. All these terms refer to the *Divine Love*.

In the “crucible” called the *planet Earth* – souls are “melted”. Boiling in this common “cauldron”, different souls – big and small, righteous and sinful, of plants, animals, and humans – have the same possibility of purifying themselves from “slag”. Yet only people can do this consciously.

In this “crucible”, human passions are boiling: anger, pride, hatred, greed, jealousy, envy, lust, and others.

Through pain, suffering, trials, and temptations – vices of a soul, called “slag”, are separated from it; the “slag” is harmful impurities and “waste rock”. And then only a transparent *Crystal* remains, whose property is Pure Love.

Love is born and grows in the process of struggle and burning! Love that has matured in this way creates and feeds then all the life in the universe. And It always wins!

... Additionally, I want to speak about another important thing, that is, the interpenetration and fusion of consciousnesses. Consciousnesses (or souls) are energies. Their ability to merge and to be one is an objective reality! This is similar to the well-known and well-studied physical phenomena of diffusion. But it will be possible, only if the qualitative characteristics of the consciousnesses are identical.

In the non-material part of the multidimensional Absolute, a vector of the correct movement of the consciousnesses is directed to the Center, also called the *Universal Magnet*. This is the Heart of the Absolute, that is, the Creator.

In other words, the consciousnesses progress in their evolution through the refinement, which allows them to move from the dense layers of the Absolute – to the most subtle.

The ultimate Mergence of each correctly evolving soul with the Primordial Consciousness takes place in the Abode of the Creator. This is the objective Law of life in the universe that can be called the *Law of (spiritual) universal gravitation*. And the accelerator and catalyst of this process is love. I mean the pure (i.e. totally devoid of self-interest) emotions of love.

If souls act against the principle of Love, if they do not walk the path of refinement – they also become one... but with dense, coarse layers of the Creation, where they may live even till the end of the Kalpa.

Yet if a soul responds to the call of the Creator and rushes towards Him with its whole being, developing love, subtlety, and wisdom and, at the same time, acquiring the power, – such a soul can finish quickly its personal evolution, settling in the Abode of the Creator in the Mergence with Him.

Vladimir Antonov –  
*Psychical Self-Regulation  
and Spiritual Growth*

Many people suffer because of their failures in the material world, because of illnesses... This results

in depressions, neuroses, and other kinds of mental disorders. Many of them become alcoholics, drug addicts, criminals or commit suicide...

There are two main reasons for this: first, people do not understand the meaning of their lives, and second, they do not have knowledge about how they can change themselves in order to successfully overcome those difficulties that we unavoidably encounter, living on the Earth.

We discussed in detail the philosophical and religious aspect of this subject in our books *Classics of Spiritual Philosophy and the Present*, *Ecopsychology*, and *Forest Lectures*. I can assure you that it is impossible to succeed in mastering psychic equilibrium and in achieving true happiness in life without including God in one's outlook, as well as without serious work dedicated to the improvement of one's ethical sphere in accordance with what God expects from us. The most correct way to begin this process of self-transformation is to study the true picture of life in the Absolute and try to understand one's own place and tasks in It; only in this case one can become completely convinced that he or she needs to make personal efforts to transform oneself.

Unfortunately, many people raised in an atheistic environment or influenced by false religious views turn out to be incapable of comprehending and accepting the true knowledge about the existence of God, knowledge that implies not the practice of begging something from God or seeking "salvation" through certain rituals – but active and creative work dedicated to the perfection of oneself as a soul (consciousness). It is this work that God expects from us!



\* \* \*

Our experience of teaching the art of psychical self-regulation in Russia, in that time when the Communist Party governed and when it was forbidden to talk about God, demonstrated that during such classes almost all students without suggestions of the instructor began to feel the presence of God and started experiencing themselves not as physical bodies but as souls incarnated in bodies. And then, quite naturally, they began a conscious search for religious philosophical truths.

It is for the sake of such people that I am writing now – for the sake of those who need first proof – and only then they are ready to accept the Truth: to accept it not as BELIEF but as KNOWLEDGE.

Nevertheless, in order to acquire this KNOWLEDGE, one should make personal efforts to transform oneself.

Let us try to change ourselves! Let our goals in the beginning be the harmonious existence among other people, good health, and the experience of true happiness!

Let us begin with this and experience this personally, applying to ourselves that knowledge, which already has helped and been useful for a large number of people!<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> How the lives of people change thanks to the methods suggested by us is described in the book *How God Can Be Cognized. Autobiography of a Scientist Who Studied God.*

## Chakras and Psychological Self-Regulation

The only way of mastering the art of psychological self-regulation is to gain control over the functions of the chakras.<sup>7</sup>

Detailed knowledge about the chakras, their functions, and possibilities of work with them is presented in our book *Ecopsychology*. Now let me cover briefly only those points that are important for this article.

... In total there are seven chakras. Every one of us has them – in the head, in the neck, and in the trunk.

Every chakra is responsible, among other things, for supplying bioenergies to those organs of the body that belong to the sphere of influence of that chakra. If the chakra is contaminated with coarse energies, this may result in chronic diseases of the corresponding organs. By cleansing the chakra with the help of the methods described in the book mentioned above, one can cure such illnesses.

But a more important point is that every chakra participates in the generation of certain psychological states.

For example, the two head chakras are responsible for the intellectual function; the neck chakra – for the emotional evaluation of situations perceived by us; the chest chakra, which coincides according to its localization with the heart and lungs, – for generation of the entire spectrum of the emotions of love; the chakra of the upper part of the abdomen – for vigor; the chakra of the lower part of the abdomen –

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<sup>7</sup> The history of this theme is described in the book *How God Can Be Cognized. Autobiography of a Scientist Who Studied God*.

for the reproductive function; and the lowest chakra, located at the level of the coccyx and pubis, for the connection with the energy of Kundalini.

It is important to know that the chakra ajna, located in the center of the head, is the source of many human afflictions. Even its name in Sanskrit means “non-wise”, or “fool”, bluntly speaking.

This chakra, as all others, is necessary and should be cleansed and developed. Yet one must not allow it to dominate! Otherwise, it produces egocentric emotions, making its owner an egocentric person.

Such people are egotistic, jealous, touchy or quick-tempered... Some of them, after being broke, become ever complaining neurasthenics or drunkards or commit suicide.

Just as angry dogs protect their doghouses, barking at everyone – so such people protect their selves, provoking conflicts with others all the time. They perceive this way of behaving as a norm; they believe that all people behave so and that the essence of life consists in mutual struggle between individual egos. They can even justify such a way of life with the motto “struggle for existence“...

If such a predominance of the chakra ajna is accompanied with the hyperactivity of the chakra of the upper part of the abdomen, then we have the ajnic-manipuric psychotype<sup>8</sup>. This psychotype can be observed most clearly in people who are always discontent with everything and everyone, irritated and aggressive. They are also called aggressive primitives. One of their characteristics is an inclination to drink a lot of alcohol. In this way they “calm their nerves”. It is the representatives of this psychotype that are

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<sup>8</sup> Psychological type.

most inclined to commit all kinds of selfish crimes and aggressive actions against other people, quite often due to drunkenness.

## **Anahatic Psychotype**

I am not going to continue describing other psychotypes because we discussed this subject in detail in the book *Ecopsychology*. Let me just note that there is a psychotype opposite to the one we described above – the anahatic psychotype. People of this psychotype are treasures in human society! They are the most promising souls from the evolutionary standpoint!

And even though they may suffer from attacks of aggressive primitives, they are those who already have entered on the spiritual Path (they may just stand on this Path, but it is better to walk it!).

... God is Love; this truth was taught by Jesus Christ and by all other Divine Teachers.

One can become closer to God (what many believers dream about) only through becoming gradually similar to Him. This similarity should be obtained, first and foremost, in the aspect of love.

The knowledge about chakras explains to us how we can develop in ourselves this main quality of God. The point is that the emotions of tender love, care, admiration and respect for wisdom, as well as love-aspiration for the Creator – all these emotional states are born and maintained in a special emotiogenic structure of the organism – the chakra anahata. It is in this chakra where the special part of the consciousness, called the *spiritual heart*, is formed and continues its growth.

Only by developing oneself as a spiritual heart, can one gain true spiritual power and come closer to the direct personal cognition of the Creator and Merger with Him.

By the way, this is the answer to the question raised by a number of people: is it good to have a developed anahata but suffer attacks of malicious primitive people? Isn't it better to develop coarse power in oneself with the help of the methods of black magic or through "gladiatorial" kinds of sport, where the coarsest and most aggressive people usually achieve success?

I can answer that everyone has a right, given to us by God, to make the choice. However, one should reflect first on the consequences of this choice, since the destiny of those who preserve or even develop in themselves such coarseness is hell!

On the contrary, the prospect of those who develop themselves as spiritual hearts, as love, is paradise or even higher abodes!

The point is that after the death of the body, we abide in those states of the consciousness to which we accustomed ourselves during the life in the body.

Those who have accustomed themselves to various manifestations of malice – will continue to live in these emotional states among other souls similar to them. This is what hell is. (By the way, isn't it appropriate to revise our attitude to those kinds of sports where such qualities are encouraged and developed intentionally? I am sure that sport must exalt Beauty rather than confrontation, aggressiveness, violence, and cruelty!)

Those accustomed to living in the states of tender and caring love will also continue to live in these

states among other people similar to them. This is what paradise is.

One attains paradise or hell neither due to belonging to a certain religious organization nor due to performing certain deeds but as a result of correct or incorrect evolutionary advancement of the soul: to the Creator – or away from Him.

Any reasonable person understands this easily...

\* \* \*

So, what should we do if we value the principle of Love and believe in the existence of God but do not want to be weak?

The answer to this question has to be clear to you now: we should strive to become closer and closer to the Creator, growing and developing ourselves more and more as spiritual hearts. It is in this way that we acquire true spiritual power and invulnerability in relations with incarnate and non-incarnate beings of hell.

Yes, an incarnate soul possesses an ability to transform itself not only qualitatively, eliminating some qualities and developing others, but also quantitatively, growing as a spiritual heart. Each one of us has the possibility to grow as a spiritual heart – first inside the chest of one's own material body, then outside it – up to sizes of several meters, then – kilometers, then – thousands of kilometers... And after having grown to such a size and having cognized many other useful things, the soul can merge with the Creator, enriching Him in this way.

This constitutes the meaning of our lives: to develop ourselves to the extent when we become worthy of approaching the Abode of the Creator in the multidimensional universe – and of merging with

Him. Yet He receives in Himself only those who have become Love as He is. There are no other possibilities of cognition of Him.

And what will happen to us if we begin to transform ourselves in this way? What changes will occur in us quite soon?

The first and the most important thing is that we will become capable of feeling, experiencing the state of love. And it will not just be a short period of emotional uplift but a stable state of benevolence and calm. The unpleasant emotions of dislike, hatred, irritation, fear, envy, impatience will go away. The illnesses caused by these or other dominant negative emotions will be cured too. The energy field of the organism will change as well: it will be pleasant for other people to communicate with us; we will improve our relations with those people who were not our friends and will find new sincere friends. Possessing true spiritual experience, we will have knowledge to share with others. In this way we will find companions in our spiritual quest.

And then quite soon we will have new Friends — Holy Spirits, Representatives of the Creator, Who will be our Spiritual Guides and Teachers.

Thus God — as living Reality and not as a mere symbol or an object of unstable faith — enters our everyday life and becomes Real Father-Mother, Friend, and Beloved Teacher.

### **How to Achieve This Practically?**

There are natural ways to develop heart love in ourselves.

These are, first of all, all those positive things that are related to the reproductive sphere, for ex-

ample, selfless, tender, and caring sexuality and care for children.

Besides, we can do this through emotional attunement with subtle beauty: the beauty of diverse manifestations of nature and with the beauty of harmonious human bodies.

Yet there are also auxiliary methods for cleansing and development of the corresponding energy structures of the organism – the chakras and several most important meridians. The use of these methods allows one to accelerate significantly both the mastering of psychical self-regulation and the spiritual growth in general. As we understand now, it is all about the chakra anahata and the spiritual heart that grows within it.

It is important to emphasize that one can progress more rapidly if he or she does this spiritual work in the middle of the nature and even better on special natural places called *places of power* (we described them in our books mentioned above).

... And now let me explain to you how to begin this work on oneself, i.e. how one can learn to separate oneself from the material body – of course, not forever but for the time of meditative training.

The only correct way to do it – is to exit as a developed spiritual heart from the chakra anahata.

When we master this, we become convinced that we are not bodies! We are souls, consciousnesses, energies that are aware of themselves and able to perceive themselves not only in the bodies but also outside of them!

The fear of the death of the body disappears then, since we can easily exist without our bodies!

From that moment on, we can continue our spiritual studies as free consciousnesses that explore the



multidimensional Absolute under the guidance of our Divine Teachers or Holy Spirits. Their main task is to bring us to the Abode of the Creator.

It is very important for everyone to understand that he or she is not a material body! Unfortunately, even those people who consider themselves believers lack this knowledge!

Let me note that even in the translation of the New Testament into Russian (and probably into some other languages) there are such expressions as “my soul”, “your soul”. I have heard even such a foolish expression as “to lose the soul”...

But the soul is what man is!

Even the well-known interpretation of the international signal SOS (“save our souls”) is absurd, because it implies a call to save bodies, not souls!

And we need to save souls in a completely different way: through explaining religious-philosophical truths and through teaching the methods of spiritual self-development!

And there is no sense in mourning for deceased people, since they are alive! It is only their temporary “dwellings” – their bodies – that have died!

In like manner, there is no sense in clinging to the life of one’s own body when death is coming.

Another thing is much more important: how have I lived and to what extent have I managed to realize the purpose of my life in this body in front of God?

Therefore, let us hurry to become better! You know how to do this now!

Let us begin to work, and God will necessarily help us, because He wants this from us most of all and is personally interested in this!

## Recommended literature

1. Antonov V.V. – The New Upanishad: Structure and Cognition of the Absolute. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2008.
2. Antonov V.V. – Sexology: Development and Regulation of the Reproductive Function. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2009.
3. Antonov V.V. – How God Can Be Cognized. Autobiography of a Scientist Who Studied God. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2009.
4. Antonov V.V. (ed.) – How God Can Be Cognized. Book 2. Autobiographies of God’s Disciples. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2008 (*in Russian*).
5. Antonov V.V. (ed.) – Spiritual Work with Children. “New Atlanteans”, 2008.
6. Antonov V.V. (ed.) – Classics of Spiritual Philosophy and the Present. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2008.
7. Antonov V.V. – Ecopsychology. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2008.
8. Antonov V.V. (ed.) – Forest Lectures on the Highest Yoga. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2008.
9. Antonov V.V. – The Bhagavad Gita with Commentaries. “New Atlanteans”, 2008.
10. Antonov V.V. (ed.) – Tao Te Ching. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2008.
11. Antonov V.V. – Spiritual Heart – Religion of Unity. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2008.
12. Zubkova A.B. – Story about Princess Nesmeyana and Ivan. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2012.
13. Tplyy A.B. (comp.) – Book of the Warrior of Spirit. Bancroft, “New Atlanteans”, 2012.

## Our video films:

1. Immersion into Harmony of Nature. The Way to Paradise. (Slideshow), 90 minutes (on CD or DVD).
2. Spiritual Heart. 70 minutes (on DVD).
3. Sattva (Harmony, Purity). 60 minutes (on DVD).
4. Sattva of Mists. 75 minutes (on DVD).
5. Sattva of Spring. 90 minutes (on DVD).
6. Art of Being Happy. 42 minutes (on DVD).
7. Keys to the Secrets of Life. Achievement of Immortality. 38 minutes (on DVD).
8. Bhakti Yoga. 47 minutes (on DVD).
9. Kriya Yoga. 40 minutes (on DVD).
10. Ecopsychology. 60 minutes (on DVD).
11. Yoga of Krishna. 80 minutes (on DVD).
12. Yoga of Buddhism. 130 minutes (on DVD).
13. Taoist Yoga. 91 minutes (on DVD).
14. Ashtanga Yoga. 60 minutes (on DVD).
15. Agni Yoga. 76 minutes (on DVD).
16. Yoga of Sathya Sai Baba. 100 minutes (on DVD).
17. Yoga of Pythagoras. 75 minutes (on DVD).
18. Psychological Self-Regulation. 112 minutes (on DVD).

You may order our books at Lulu e-store:  
<http://lulu.com/spotlight/spiritualheart>  
and at Amazon:  
<http://astore.amazon.com/spiritual-art-20>

You can also download for free our video films, screensavers, printable calendars, etc. from the site:  
[www.spiritual-art.info](http://www.spiritual-art.info)

See on the site [www.swami-center.org](http://www.swami-center.org) our books, photo gallery, and other materials in different languages.

Our other websites:

[www.philosophy-of-religion.org.ua](http://www.philosophy-of-religion.org.ua)

[www.teachings-of-jesus-christ.org](http://www.teachings-of-jesus-christ.org)

[www.pythagoras.name](http://www.pythagoras.name)

[www.atlantis-and-atlanteans.org](http://www.atlantis-and-atlanteans.org)

[www.path-to-tao.info](http://www.path-to-tao.info)

[www.new-ecopsychology.org](http://www.new-ecopsychology.org)

[www.encyclopedia-of-religion.org](http://www.encyclopedia-of-religion.org)

[www.meaning-of-life.tv](http://www.meaning-of-life.tv)

[www.highest-yoga.info](http://www.highest-yoga.info)