

Looking, Seeing and Knowing

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Shift Awareness Books
*Winning the Battle for
a Better Perspective!*

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Breaking the Egg

*Mine was the strangest birth under the sun; I left the womb,
yet life had not begun; entered the world, and yet was seen
by none.*

–The Philosopher’s Egg Riddle

According to legend, “the philosopher’s egg” was the name given to the vessel in which alchemists hoped to produce the “philosopher’s stone,” an inexpensive material which could change the properties of anything. This vessel, which was constructed to hold the precious philosopher’s stone, was shaped as an egg for symbolic reasons. Ancient wisdom held that with this common material, you could transform anything into whatever you wanted. Hearing this, many throughout the ages have ambitiously tried to physically turn lead into gold. Yet in all that time, the identity of the *one thing* has remained a mystery.

When I finally broke out of the protective shell which held me to conditions I no longer desired, I found myself landing in a world where others had contracts. Since I didn’t, I really was often “seen by none.” I sat there for a while wondering why nothing worked for me and why I was still walking around in this world. I moved about as unseen as the *one thing* which was necessary to bring order back into my life.

Actually, as a former hermit, “being seen by none” works pretty well for me. Also, in my after-contract life, my creation could finally be the result of my own conscious efforts instead of being led by pre-arranged conditions. I experienced this after the major turning points in my life too. After I missed those set up arrangements, I’d be in an uncharted territory just like when my planned life contract had run its course. I may have been invisible to many for a long time, but at least I wasn’t fighting an invisible enemy anymore. The conditions I was unaware of setting up, over half a century ago before entering this world, finally weren’t bothering me after my contract was over.

The big question was what to do now. What am I supposed to build my new life out of, and where do I start now that all the blueprints have been burnt? A quick magical answer would sure be nice.

What is the Philosopher’s Stone and what’s that Philosopher’s Egg Riddle all about? What is it that breathes life into an object after its birth? What is it that brings a thing into manifestation so that it can be seen by all? What is the magical yet common element which is the essence of all beginnings and transformations?

As with all questions I can verbalize, I got an answer. However before I just blurt it out, I want to point out that the answer explains how the phoenix is reborn from the ashes. It’s why all that is worthwhile and needed in the world can be created out of something that’s so common that it’s been overlooked and constantly disregarded by modern man. Here’s that same riddle expressed another way:

*The key to life and death is everywhere to be found,
but if you do not find it in your own house, you will
find it nowhere. Yet, it is before everyone’s eyes; no
one can live without it; everyone has used it. The
poor usually possess more of it than the rich; children
play with it in the streets. The meek and uneducated
esteem it highly, but the privileged and learned
often throw it away. When rejected, it lies dormant
in the bowels of the earth. It is the only thing from
which the Philosopher’s Stone can be prepared, and
without it, no noble metal can ever be created.*

Any guesses? The above statement is full of cryptic hints:

1. This answer is the key that unlocks the door to all creation: health, wealth, enlightenment, and even immortality, or so they say. Yet this invaluable substance is “everywhere to be found.”

Mud is found everywhere and supposedly it’s the stuff out of which they say God created us. Yet we might want to think along the lines of something as common as dirt but a bit more magical. What were we really created out of? You might want to read ahead in chapter 16 to answer that question, but unless you already know what the *one thing* is, that hint will probably just prolong the suspense.

2. The *one thing* is something that can only be discovered and understood by first going within our own “house.” That must refer to our body, mind, spirit, heart or something like that.
3. People who blindly follow socially accepted values and beliefs have separated themselves from this thing by their misunderstanding of it. In this misunderstanding they don’t value it and “throw it away.” Somehow, as society has evolved in its goals and priorities, quality and this elusive essential have gotten left out of the mix. Medieval alchemists frequently referred to this magical ingredient as “the Cornerstone the builders forgot.”
4. The answer is “the only thing from which the Philosopher’s Stone can be prepared.” The Egyptian father of alchemy, Hermes Trismegistus, called this magical element the “*One Thing*” and wrote about it in his renowned Emerald Tablet. This tablet became the foundation of alchemical philosophy. This is what he wrote:

That which is Below corresponds to that which is Above, and that which is Above corresponds to that which is Below, to accomplish the miracles of the One Thing. And just as all things come from this One Thing, through the meditation of One Mind, so do all created things come from this One Thing through Transformation. Its father is the Sun; its mother the Moon. The Wind carries it in its belly. Its nurse is the Earth.

This is the original source of the quote “as above so below” which is often cited. This writing is also what motivated many men of the dark ages to become obsessed with literally turning lead into gold. They missed the real message here and so did the multitudes of wanabe magicians who came after them.

The alchemical gold is that *One Thing* which is within our being. It's forged in the fires of experience of this world. Then it's tempered in the tests of success and failure, as we experiment in applying this *One Thing* in our lives.

What makes a secret teaching a secret is not that it's never taught, but the fact that it's rarely caught. Blinded by their materialistic priorities, the experimenters in alchemy in the dark ages missed the real treasure of the "miracle" of "transformation" Hermes was trying to explain. They failed to grasp the true nature of the magical *One Thing*.

More hints probably won't help much, but I think its omnipotence and omnipresence deserves a little more introduction: The *One Thing* is what ignites life back into the ashes from which the phoenix is reborn. It's what creates everything, and is the *thing* out of which everything is created. Because it's the essence of everything, everything is in disguise. Everything we do is an effort to get to know this *One Thing* better, so we can get to know ourselves, our origins, and our futures better.

As I sit here, still wet from being newly hatched from my egg of smothering influences, wondering where to start; there is only *One Thing* which comes to mind. It doesn't bother me a bit that those around me, living within the security of their contracted hits and scores, can't teach me the lost art of this magical element. Even the teachers who proclaim life's answers are generally doing so from a platform built in heaven. Very few have actually been stranded in life without any prearranged contacts and situations. So what do they really understand about the motivation for making that transition, let alone how to do it?

That's okay. I don't think I'd trust anyone to teach me about the lost art of alchemy anyway. Besides, changing the order of things feels a lot like playing with fire. We probably shouldn't unless we have to.

Personally, I have to since my preordained order ran out a few years back. I had a very disturbing dream the other night where I was on a huge houseboat with my kids. After a nice little ride, we were about to go over the edge of a huge waterfall. I shouted to those standing by, asking where the anchor was. No one knew. I asked for help turning the boat around. Again no one could help me.

I woke up wishing I had taken the detour out of this life so I wouldn't be facing going over the edge right now. That's when my lessons started.

I complained to the Universe about how unfair and harsh life was. A guide answered back, “That’s why you learned to use magic.”

Without disputing my feelings about the randomness of life, which I was not open to hearing, he simply said, “Now that you know the reason for exercising control over life, don’t look back at that anymore. Look only to your own creation.” Then he continued, “You wouldn’t want to use the powers to change the course of a war,” (which I did in a previous life) “but you can use it to clean up your own life and keep it positive.”

So, my lessons in alchemy began again. He said that controlled thoughts and words would change my life all by themselves. He said this alone would take me out of the reactive cycle which is the main source of the heavy karma for most people.

I remember learning this many times before, but I’ve always been sucked back into accepting the commonly believed precepts about life. I’ve justified this with ideas of fitting into society better. I’ve also consciously tried to lower my vibrations and ignore what I know for that same reason.

Recently, I was advised that, “It’s time to stop that.” Othello, the being my wife was channeling at the time, said that now’s the time to connect with the Earth and my source no matter what others do. He said not to worry, and that others will follow.

Other advice was to keep my home and affairs clean and orderly if I wanted my life to have order. This guide told me to believe in the desires of my heart more than what my physical eyes see. He’s helped me see myself and the philosopher’s stone as the strong and stable forces in the Universe. Like a black hole, I sit with my power in the center of my universe, bending what looks like reality to everyone else. Everything in that universe is fluid except the *One Thing* which I know as the core of my heart.

This *One Thing* is the secret. It’s not a tool to use as those in the dark ages thought. It is the *ONLY* thing, and as such we’re all part of it. Using it is a mystical process which allows It to use us too. When we stand above it and use it to fulfill our every desire, no matter how worthy we believe our desires to be, the magic only works as long as it serves the karma generating purposes of the negative force. Then, disillusion sets in, and another hard-won lesson about human ego eventually emerges.

We can only consciously know so much. Then, as the ancient mapmakers used to say about the unexplored regions, “Beyond this lies dragons.”

Looking, Seeing and Knowing

The further we venture away from our home and union with the *One Thing*, the more dangerous life becomes. It's our nature to explore, but when we find a patient union with the unknowable mind of the one thing, we've found home and THE most powerful seat from which see the world.

Lessons like this continued for several days. During that time, my guide told me not to need anything, because with need comes fear of not getting what we need. "See love in all things and all people. Take what you need from that."

As far as getting the answers we need to build confidence in life, he said, "All your questions and answers go hand in hand just outside the protective shell of ignorance which surrounds you. Asking questions expectantly from where you stand pokes holes in that shell so you can *look* through it. Similarly, your confidence in what you *see* can poke a hole in the egg of randomness around your life. What you come to *know* creates a new path in front of you."

He's assured me that I can come to learn all I need to about this lost art, just as anyone can. If we care enough to listen and take to heart what we learn, peace and harmony with the *One Thing* is guaranteed. The door to learning the proper use of the philosopher's stone is always open. All we have to do to leave the land of the dragons is to walk through it.

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