Pathwork Lecture 193: Résumé of the Basic Principles of the Pathwork: Its Aim and Process

1996 Edition, Original Given September 24, 1971

This lecture is given in an **expanded poetic format**, what I call a **Devotional Format** of the lecture, and in that sense, this is **my interpretation** of the **intent** of the lecture. I may have interpreted portions differently from you, and I ask you to ponder the words for your own interpretation. I did this Devotional Format so I can take the words into my heart, phrase by phrase, much as I would in reading poetry – that is, **devotionally**.

The blessings to me in developing this format have been truly profound, and my wish is that this Devotional Format will be a blessing to others. I invite you to slowly read and ponder this format of the text – with an open heart to experience the Guide's Presence and Love emerging from among the words such that the wisdom comes to LIVE you.

For clarity: The **original text** is in **bold and** *italicized*. [My adds of commentary/clarification/interpretation are in brackets, italicized, and <u>not</u> bolded.] To learn more of my Devotional Format and see the lectures I have done in this way, go to https://www.garyvollbracht.com/pathwork-lectures-devotional-format/

Gary Vollbracht

1	Content
03	
	Greetings,
	my dearest friends here.
	• Blessings
	and
	• love,
	• strength
	and
	• <i>joy</i>
	are ever-present
	• within and
	• around
	you,
	permeating you to the degree you allow it.
	With great joy do I resume
	• the help and
	• the guidance
	I am privileged to give you.

04 I have been asked to give a résumé, of the teachings which I have brought to you in all these years [i.e., in these 14 years since we began in 1957]. I shall now proceed to do this as best I can. It is not easy to summarize the many • steps that are all necessary, the many • areas that have to be looked into, and the many • angles where confusions might exist which must be straightened out. As you know, human language itself presents • difficulties and • limitations, so that misunderstandings can easily occur. To really understand the nature of this path, it is important to know to some degree the nature of the human entity you are. What are the various components of the human being? Whatever explanation I can give you here has to be somewhat oversimplified, but is nevertheless valid. Use it as a map that gives an overall idea of the kind of being you have to deal with when you approach • yourself and

• others.

```
05
              Humanity
                  consists of
                       different levels of consciousness.
              Each level of consciousness
                  represents a
                       conglomerate of
                          • attitudes,
                          • beliefs, and
                          • feelings.
              These levels of consciousness
                  are often
                       at total variance with each other,
                          expressing
                              different states of development
                                 in the evolution of the person.
              Your state of consciousness
                  always
                       creates its own world
                          with its own
                              · laws.
                              • mores,
                              • philosophy,
                            and the consequent
                              • reality.
              Each
                   • world or
                  • state of consciousness -
                              in the spiritual world
                                 they are perceived as
                                      • spheres –
                       has a
                          different degree of
                              • awareness of
                                 the cosmic ultimate reality
                    and therefore also
                       has
                          different degrees of
                              • limitations.
```

```
These limitations [i.e., These different degrees of limitations associated with
             the different degrees of awareness of the cosmic ultimate reality]
    determine
         the extent to which
            the abundance of the universe
                can be
                   experienced
                        in each state [i.e., in each state of consciousness].
The
    true world
         is the
            ultimate reality
                of each person's
                   innermost being
                        which is unified with
                           • eternal life
                         and
                           • ever-flowing
                                • creativity,
                               • joy and
                               • self-expression.
This world [i.e., This true world of ultimate reality]
    does
         not
            exist
                in some faraway place:
it [i.e., this true world of ultimate reality]
    permeates
         everything
            that exists.
In fact,
    the various levels of consciousness
         draw you into
            their corresponding worlds.
```

```
These worlds [i.e., These many worlds, with their corresponding levels of
                        consciousness and into which you are drawn,]
    do not exist in
         • space and time,
    but rather in
        • a reality
            that transcends both [i.e., transcends both space and time].
[The three dimensions of your world,]
    • Time,
    • space,
   and

    movement

        are limited conceptions
            of the human mind
                with its
                   particular state of consciousness.
Thus, in a reality that
    transcends
        the
            • human
          or
            • physical
                one [i.e., Thus, in a reality that transcends the human
                                                     or physical reality],
                   two
                        or more
                           worlds
                               can easily coexist in the same space.
```

```
06
              An entity
                  who
                       • is not yet unified
                     and
                       • has not yet realized
                          its ultimate nature
                               • expresses
                                 these different levels of consciousness
                             and
                               • is thus drawn into
                                 their corresponding worlds
                                      either

    alternately

                                      or
                                         • simultaneously.
              While
                  living on earth
                       in a human body,
                          this pull [i.e., this PULL on one into worlds corresponding to those
                                         worlds representing one's levels of consciousness]
                               manifests
                                 in different
                                      • moods,
                                      • perceptions
                                    and
                                      • experiences.
              How often do you discover that
                   whatever
                       you feel deeply
                          to be
                               the truth of
                                  • life and
                                  vourself
                                      • today
                                         may be totally reversed
                                              • tomorrow
                                                 when you experience
                                                     • life and
                                                     • yourself
                                                        very differently?
```

```
07
              [While living on earth in a human body,]
                   When you are drawn
                       simultaneously
                          into two conflicting worlds
                              of your own making,
                  you will
                       experience

    conflict and

                          • confusion.
              When you are
                  out of the body [i.e., out of the human body you inhabit living on earth],
                       this phenomenon [i.e. this phenomenon of being drawn into
                                             worlds of different levels of consciousness]
                          manifests
                              as being drawn into
                                  • the actual
                                      • world or

    environment

                                         which
                                             the respective level of consciousness
                                                 has created,
                              and then as being drawn into
                                  • the created world
                                      of another level,
                                         on and on -
                                             as long as
                                                 these many states of consciousness
                                                     exist in
                                                        the still disunited personality.
              The less
                  self-awareness human beings achieve,
              the less
                  will they realize
                       that the world they
                          experience
                              at any given phase of their evolution
                                  is
                                      not the
                                         • ultimate one
                                      nor the
                                         • only one
                                             they can create.
```

```
Limited awareness of reality
                  necessarily
                       creates suffering,
              and
                   when
                       this unhappy state of existence
                          is believed to be
                               the only reality,
                   • apprehension,
                   • fear,
                 and
                   • despair
                       are inevitable.
              These illusory perceptions
                  can only be eliminated
                       by the arduous work
                          of bringing
                              all
                                  your inner worlds
                                      into awareness.
08
              The

    variety and

                   • range
                       of the different degrees of awareness,
              and the
                  resulting degrees of
                       experienced
                          • joy and
                          • peace
                       or their lack,
                          will be truly immense -
                                             until
                                                 the ultimate state of reality
                                                     begins
                                                        to be realized.
```

```
09
              The human condition
                  can best be expressed in a general way
                       by the following
                          three levels of consciousness:
                              • the higher self
                                 which is the
                                      • God consciousness;
                              • the lower self
                                 which is the
                                      • demonic self;
                             and
                              • the mask self
                                 which
                                      hides the
                                         • demonic or
                                         • lower
                                             self.
              Needless to say, there are
                  many
                       • degrees and
                       • stages
                          within
                              each of these levels of consciousness.
              The way they [i.e., The way these many degrees and stages WITHIN each of the
                                             levels of consciousness – within the higher self,
                                             the lower self, and the mask self]
                  • overlap,
                  • cancel each other out
                and
                  • create confusion,
                       along with
                          the resulting
                              • indirect effects and
                              • chain reactions,
                                 needs to be
                                      • explored,
                                      • understood, and
                                      • mastered.
              This work is the pathwork.
```

```
All these aspects of
                   the personality
                       can be
                           • conscious
                         or

    unconscious

                               to varying degrees.
                   The less awareness you have
                       of any of these states,
                   the more conflict
                       exists in your life
              and
                   the less you
                       are equipped to deal with
                           • life,
                          • yourself, and
                          • other people.
              Low awareness
                   will also certainly result in
                       your being farther removed from
                          the realization of
                               your ultimate divine self.
10
              Lack of awareness
                   comes from
                       being split off from
                          the reality
                               of one's
                                  • real,
                                  • higher,
                                  • divine
                                      self.
              But one is also
                  split off from awareness of
                       • the lower self
                      as well as
                       • the mask.
```

```
This fragmentation [i.e., This fragmentation of consciousness, this being
                     split off from awareness of one's real, higher, divine self, as well as
                     being split off from awareness of the lower (demonic) self and mask self]
                   creates
                       • misunderstandings,
                       • illusions,
                      and
                       • misconceptions.
              It is one of the tasks of this pathwork
                       • find these misconceptions
                       • correct them [i.e., to find and correct these misconceptions,
                                                          illusions, and misunderstandings].
11
              Now let me shed some light on
                   • the aim
                       of this pathwork
              before I describe
                   • the process.
              The aim [i.e., The aim of this pathwork]
                   is to
                       unify these three levels of consciousness
                          so that
                               the
                                  mask
                                 and
                                  • lower
                                      selves
                                         dissolve
                            and
                               only the
                                  • true higher self
                                         • manifests and
                                         • expresses
                                              itself.
```

```
Only when
    • the

    lower and

         • mask
            selves
                are
                   entirely conscious and
    • their exact manifestations
         understood
can misconceptions
    be corrected,
        because
            • lack of awareness
                creates
                   • misconceptions.
                        • Misconceptions,
                           in turn, create
                               • negative

    energy and

                                  • feelings.
                                       • Negative
                                          · energy and
                                          • feelings
                                              create
                                                 • suffering.
This chain [i.e., This chain from 1) lack of awareness to 2) misconceptions to
                        3) negative energy and feelings to 4) suffering]
    must be reversed
        and can only be reversed
            when awareness of
                • the mask self,
                • the lower self,
              and finally
                • the higher self
                   can be attained [i.e., when this awareness of the mask self,
                             the lower self, and the higher self can be attained]
                        through
                           various
                               • processes and
                               approaches
                                  of the pathwork.
```

```
12
              It cannot be denied that
                  to expand the consciousness
                       of a limited mind
                          is a tremendously difficult task,
                              for
                                 all human beings
                                      have only
                                         the limited mind
                                             available to them
                                                when they start out.
              This limited mind
                  must transcend itself
                       in order to realize
                          its unlimited
                              • power
                             and
                              • scope.
              Therefore
                  this path
                       constantly
                          requires your mind
                              to bridge the gap
                                 of its own limitations
                                      by
                                         • considering
                                             new possibilities,
                                    and
                                      by
                                         • making room for
                                             other alternatives
                                                for
                                                     • the self,
                                                for
                                                     • life,
                                              and
                                                for
                                                     • expressing the self in life.
```

```
This [i.e., This expanding and opening the mind to new possibilities,
                                       making room for other alternatives for the self,
                                      for life, and for expressing the self in life]
                   demands
                       making an effort to
                            • come out of
                               old mindsets,
                         and
                            • leave behind
                               models which
                                  appear
                                       comfortable -
                                                      but remember,
                                                         this comfort is the greatest illusion.
              However,
                   all illusions
                       seem
                           real
                               as long as
                                  • the possibility of their being illusions [i.e., the possibility
                                                             of illusions' being illusions]
                                       is not questioned
                               and as long as
                                  • no other alternatives
                                       are allowed.
13
              The overall
                   state of consciousness of humanity
                       is one
                            of

    duality

                         or
                            of
                               • opposites.
```

```
I have often discussed
                  the many aspects of
                      the confusion
                          created by a
                             dualistic perception of reality,
              and here
                  I only want to say
                      that
                         this confusion
                             must be straightened out
                                 • on all levels
                               and
                                 • in exact detail.
                                     This means
                                        • conception,
                                       and finally
                                        • perception,
                                            change.
14
             I want to emphasize once again that
                  unifying
                      the fragmented self
                         cannot happen
                              as long as
                                 the world
                                     is perceived
                                        in dualistic terms.
```

```
When
    • issues,
    • people,
    • the self,
    • the world,
    • life,
    • ideas and
    • attitudes
         appear to be
            either
                 • good
               or
                 • bad,
                 • right
               or
                 • wrong,
there is
    • distortion of reality
  and consequently
    • suffering.
However,
    the connection
         between
            • the distortion of reality
         and
            • the suffering
                 is
                    not obvious
                        to those who are still involved in
                           this illusory [i.e., this illusory dualistic, either/or]
                                view of life.
```

```
The truth
                  is that
                      every conceivable
                          • attitude,
                         • feeling,
                          • idea,
                        and
                         • human expression
                              can be
                                 both
                                     • good
                                 and
                                     • bad.
             It is one of the
                  most important marks of

    evolution and

                      • growth
                          when this is
                              • experienced
                            instead of
                              • being a mere theory.
15
              The process of
                  expanding the mind
                      beyond its own momentary limitations
                          can only be a
                              • conscious
                            and
                              • deliberate
                                 effort
                                     toward the goal of
                                        transcending
                                            dualistic thinking.
```

```
Yet the
    effort [i.e., the conscious and deliberate effort required toward the goal
                                          of transcending dualistic thinking]
         is not
            a labor of
                the will,
          but
            an opening process
                that
                   first considers
                       • new alternatives
                          which eventually
                               can become
                                  • real.
When you human beings
    only experience yourselves
          as
            • cut-off,
            • powerless
                egos,
and when you
    consequently
         try to put all your available
            • energy
          and
            • power
                into this ego,
you
    must
        fail.
```

```
But when you
    can allow
        that you may indeed
            be an expression of
                an as yet unmanifest,
                   • deeper,
                   • broader,
                   • wiser
                 and
                   • more loving
                       divine self,
then
    your divine self
        will be sufficiently freed
            to manifest.
Hence
    you can bridge the gap
        from
            • ignorance
          and

    alienation

        to
            • an open state of mind
                that
                   • questions,
                   • waits,
                   • considers,
                  and
                   • probes
                          actual experience of
                               the ultimate truth.
Such an experience [i.e., Such an experience of the ultimate truth]
    is called
        faith.
```

```
16
              When the mind
                  remains
                       within the fences
                         of its present limitations,
              transcendence
                  cannot occur.
              The attempt to
                  • transcend the
                       • momentary,
                      • limited
                          mind
                and to
                  • experience
                      divine consciousness
                          is called
                              meditation.
              The process of
                  • becoming aware of
                      your

    mask self

                    and
                      your
                          • lower self
                and
                  • dealing with them
                      will greatly speed up
                         if
                              the conscious mind
                                 • calls
                                     the higher self
                                        into play
                               and
                                 • directs it to
                                     give specific guidance.
```

```
17
              There are
                  two basic approaches to
                       human spirituality.
              One is to
                   • emphasize
                 and
                   • concentrate on
                       the divine potential within
                          until
                               this potential
                                  becomes a reality.
              Many movements exist
                   which have
                       • practices,
                       • teachings,
                      and
                       • exercises
                          which

    actively and

    effectively

                                  help you reach this goal.
              All the

    energy and

                   • concentration
                       is directed toward
                          • cultivating,
                           • enhancing,
                          • manifesting,
                        and

    expressing

                               the divine reality within.
              However,
                   this does not necessarily mean
                       that the other fragmentary levels of consciousness
                          are thereby
                               • automatically eliminated
                             and
                               • incorporated into the divine center.
```

```
It is
                  • quite possible,
                indeed
                  • a frequent occurrence,
                       that such practices
                          • genuinely
                              bring out
                                 the real higher self
                       and yet
                          • leave the
                              undeveloped aspects of consciousness
                                 intact.
18
              Many entities
                  have an intense longing
                       to realize
                          their inherent divine nature,
                              and they forget,
                                      while in the body,
                                 that they came to earth
                                      to fulfill a mission
                                         in the universal plan.
              This mission
                  is the
                       • purification
                     and
                       • growth
                          of
                              undeveloped cosmic matter.
              In order to do this,
                  the second approach to human spirituality
                       must be adopted.
```

```
It [i.e., This second approach to human spirituality]
    means
         shedding the light of
            • conscious awareness and
            • experience
                upon
                   one's inner
                       • distortions,
                       • ugliness,
                       • darkness,
                       • evil,
                     and
                       • suffering,
            as well as
                upon
                   the inner
                       • truth,
                       • beauty,
                       • love,
                     and
                       • goodness.
This requires one to develop
    a fine sensitivity
         so that
            the organic rhythm
                of each individual path
                   is perceived.
```

```
One needs to know the following:
        when to focus more on
            one aspect,
      and
        when to shift focus to
            the other;
        when to concentrate on
            the higher self
                so as to
                   • strengthen its staying power
                   • enable it to give further guidance;
        when to pay attention to
            the lower self
                with
                   its
                       • hidden evil,
                   its
                       · dishonesty,
                       • cheating,
                     and
                       • camouflaged
                          • hate and
                          • malice;
        when to focus on
            the specific devices of the mask self
                and observe
                   • how it [i.e., how the mask self]
                       masks itself
                 and
                   • what defenses it uses
                       in order to keep
                          the lower self hidden.
One also has to know
         when the moment arrives
```

to experience feelings

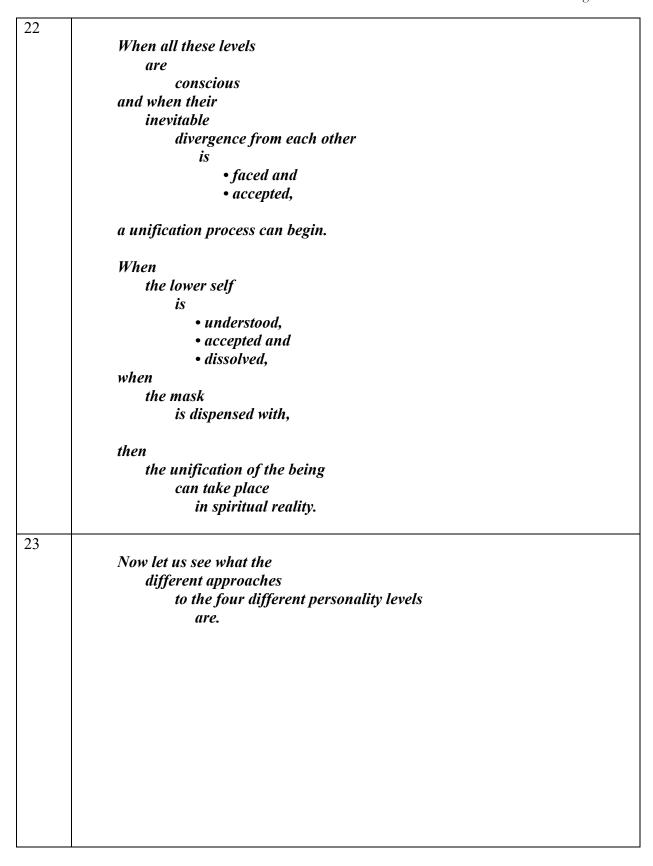
that have been avoided.

These fine alternations must be sensed both by • those who are working on their transformation and by • whoever is helping them, for everyone has a different rhythm. 19 During certain • periods and • phases the main concentration should be on facing one's • negative aspects, • distortions, and • ugliness, for the danger of • blindly escaping into the positive aspects, rather than • using the positive attitudes for the purpose of purifying the negative ones, is always great. At other times the positive aspects should be concentrated on. Do not overlook the fact that it is possible to genuinely get in touch with your divine self and then use it to camouflage • the split-off and distorted aspects of consciousness.

```
The divine power within
                  is
                       neutral
               and
                   will inevitably
                       follow
                          whatever direction
                               consciousness wills for it.
20
              It must be quite clear
                  for all of you who are drawn to this path
                       that the second way of
                          • approaching spirituality
                        and
                          • realizing the spiritual self
                              is the approach we use.
              The greater
                   • pain and
                  • discomfort
                       that appear to be
                          a byproduct of this path
                              are only
                                 an illusion;
              as long as
                  any
                       · blocked-off,
                       • dark, and
                       • distorted
                          cosmic substance
                               exists,
                                 suffering
                                      is inevitable,
                                         whether or not
                                             you choose to know this now.
              This path
                  is a taxing one,
              but it
                  is real.
```

```
It [i.e., This path]
    does
        not
            lead
                to illusion
               and
                to split-off consciousness.
It brings into
    concrete experience
        aspects of the self
            which may still
                • smolder underground unmanifested
        but
            which are
                eventually bound to
                   • reach the surface
                 and
                   • create an experience.
It is always
    • easier and
    • quicker
        to transcend a state
            when we have
                • deliberately confronted it,
            when our self
                • accepts its present inner state
              and
                • wants to
                   • experience and
                   • go through it,
                  rather than
                   • wait until
                       confrontation occurs inexorably
                          as a
                               • lawful,
                               • rhythmic,
                               • universal
                                  movement
                                      on our evolutionary journey.
```

Human beings who choose such a path incorporate themselves into the divine plan. The aim of this approach to spiritual reunion is to help toward a reunification of everything that has ever split itself off. 21 Now we come to the method of this pathwork. I will • summarize and • discuss the fundamentals without going into all the manifold • details and • considerations. The levels to be worked with each one in a different way are the following aspects of the human personality: (1) the level of • mind and • thought (2) the level of • will (3) the level of • feelings (4) the level of • physicality and • physical expression.



24

(1) The Level of Mind and Thought

The level of mind
must deal with
concepts
and
misconceptions.

• Thoughts

and

thought processes
 which are directed into
 erroneous channels

• affect all other levels.

They always
• create
vicious circles
which entrap you in hopeless situations.

It is indeed true that
as long as
you move within
a vicious circle
there is no hope.

But the moment
the vicious circle
is broken,
you are liberated from
the trap.

It is therefore imperative

to

- clearly see,
- understand, and
- give up those components of your
 - mental attitudes and
 - behavior

which create a vicious circle.

```
This [i.e., This giving up those components of your mental attitudes and
                                                     behavior which create a vicious circle]
                   always means to basically
                       change
                           · a concept,

    a thought process,

                           • an approach to reality.
25
              The particular misconception
                   must be recognized as such.
              You need to determine
                   • why it is one [i.e., why this particular misconception is a misconception],
                   • how it [i.e., how this particular misconception]
                       came to exist,
                 and
                   • in what way it [i.e., in what way this particular misconception]
                       leads you into a vicious circle.
              You need to ask,
                        "How does this vicious circle evolve?
                        What is the corresponding
                          true concept
                               and how would living according to it [i.e. according to
                                                                            the true concept]
                                  lead me
                                      into a

    wide open world

                                    and
                                      into a
                                         • benign cycle of creative self-expression?"
              All this must be
                   • clearly perceived,
                   • understood,
                 and
                   • made conscious.
```

```
Eventually it [i.e., Eventually all this that is now conscious concerning this
                              particular misconception]
                  must be
                       experienced
                          emotionally,
                              for it is not enough to have
                                 merely a theoretical understanding of
                                     these inner processes.
              Only through your
                  emotional experience of
                       a misconception
                          can it be replaced by
                              a true concept.
              Only then
                  will
                       the true concept
                          • take root in the psyche
                        and
                          • open up
                              new channels
                                 of
                                      • spontaneous behavior
                                        no longer based on conditioned reflexes,
                               and
                                 of
                                     • creative expression of feelings.
26
              Misconceptions
                  can be quite conscious
                       without your knowing
                          that they are
                              misconceptions.
              Therefore your
                  conscious beliefs
                       must also be

    tested and

                          • investigated.
```

```
Misconceptions can be
    vaguely conscious.
This is the case
    when your
         actions
      and
        • reactions
            testify to the fact
                that you are governed by misconceptions,
                   but you have not yet
                       concisely specified
                          what
                               • these misconceptions
                            and
                              • their consequences
                                  are.
Then the work of
    specific identification
        needs to be done.
Misconceptions
    can also be
        unconscious.
In that case,
    the pathwork
        must make them
           conscious.
This can only be done by
    examining
        the life manifestation.
One's life
    does not lie.
It [i.e., Your life]
    expresses exactly
        what you
            really inwardly believe.
```

```
You may
    consciously
        claim that you
            • are a
               loving person
          and indeed
            • believe in love.
But if you suffer from a
    loveless life,
it testifies clearly
    that somewhere inside of you,
        you
            • do
                not
                   believe in love,
            • do
                not
                   want to love,
                       and have your
                           • reasons,
                         or rather
                          • misconceptions,
                              for not loving.
Hence,
    unconscious
        misconceptions
            can only be unearthed
                by looking at
                   your
                       • life,
                   your
                       • suffering,
                   your
                        • frustration,
                 and
                   your
                       • unfulfilled longings.
```

```
27
              All levels must be dealt with
                  by
                       • looking at the
                          conscious mind
                     and
                       • searching in the
                          unconscious:
              these two approaches [i.e., 1) looking at the conscious mind
                                                    and 2) searching the unconscious]
                  vary for each of the
                      four aspects of the personality.
              You have to work
                  differently
                       with the level
                           of
                              • mind
                   than
                       with the levels
                           of
                              • will,
                           of
                              • feeling,
                        and
                           of
                              • the body.
28
              (2) The Level of Will
              To work on the level of
                  will,
                      you have to understand first of all
                          that there is an
                              • outer
                            and an
                              • inner
                                 will.
```

```
To put it differently [i.e., differently from the words OUTER and INNER will],
    there is a
         • voluntary [i.e., outer]
      and an
         • involuntary [i.e., inner]
            will action.
These two levels of will [i.e., outer and inner will action]
    also have to be
         • scrutinized,
         • understood,
       and
         • made conscious.
Where
    • distortions,
    • misconceptions,
  and
    • negativities
         exist in a psyche,
the forces of the will
    are out of balance.
Where the will
    should be
         • active.
            it is often
                • paralyzed and
                • stagnant.
Where it
    should be
         • receptive and
         • passive,
            it is
                • tight,
                • forced, and
                • active.
Balance [i.e., Balance of the will forces]
    is re-established
         as purification of the self
            proceeds.
```

```
29
              On the level of
                   mind,
                       you will come to distinguish
                           in what areas you need to
                               • act and
                               • initiate –
                                       in short,
                                          use your inherent capacity
                                              to will.
               This [i.e., This active use of your will]
                   may apply
                       to
                           • actions,
                       or to
                           • an attitude expressed toward life
                               because
                                  will action
                                       also applies to
                                          attitudes.
              Also discern
                   in what areas
                       to momentarily

    accept your

                               limitations of will
                         and
                           • let go the forcing current
                               of your over-active will.
              Such redirection of will currents
                   cannot be done by
                       the outer will.
              If you
                   • can recognize this and
                   • relax the pressure of
                       the outer will,
              the inner will
                   can come to the fore
                       and begin functioning.
```

```
So much frustration is incurred
                  when people
                       • push with their
                          • outer
                              will
                                 and thus
                                     prohibit the
                                        • inner,
                                        • relaxed
                                             will from manifesting,
                  or
                       • prevent their
                          • outer
                              will from reaching out into life.
30
              (3) The Level of Feelings
              Again,
                  where there are
                      • conscious or

    unconscious

                          misconceptions of the mind
                    and an
                       • imbalance of the
                          • inner and
                          • outer
                              will,
             feelings
                  are
                       • destructive,
                       • stagnant and
                      • painful.
              The energy of the
                  feeling body
                      is
                          • paralyzed and
                          • blocked.
```

```
Therefore [i.e., Therefore, since feelings are destructive, stagnant and painful
         and the feeling body is paralyzed and blocked when there are
         misconceptions in the mind and imbalance of the inner and outer will]
    an important aspect of any process of

    unification and

         • purification
            is to
                experience
                    • the feeling level, or
                    • the feeling body,
                        if you will.

    Open the blocks

and
    • free the paralyzed feelings -
                        whatever they may be.
Feelings
    must be dealt with
         on the conscious level
            before
                they can be rechanneled constructively.
Destructive feelings
    can certainly be expressed
         constructively.
If

    negative and

    • painful
        feelings
            are not
                consciously dealt with,
they will
    • stagnate
         on an unconscious level
  and
    • prevent the personality
        from
            • functioning in a healthy way,
            • having good feelings, and
        from
            • experiencing the vital energy flow
                which is the nature of universal life.
```

	This [i.e., This not consciously dealing with negative and painful feelings]
	inevitably leads to an
	• indirect and
	• destructive
	acting out of
	negative feelings.
	Most of the time
	the personality
	is entirely unaware of
	this consequence.
	People see
	no other alternatives
	to their ways of
	• acting,
	• reacting, and
	• being
	and they overlook
	such acting out
	even though
	it is often crystal clear
	to others around them.
31	
	In dealing with
	the feeling level,
	you have to learn
	how to get in touch with
	the feelings
	locked up in you.
	This, too, [i.e., Getting in touch with the feelings locked up in you, too,]
	may be discernible
	only indirectly,
	through the manifestations of
	your life experience.
	your uje experience.
32	
	Evoking feelings
	is done by a variety of approaches
	which we hardly need to enumerate here.

```
It suffices to say that

    experiencing and

    expressing

         feelings
            once deemed to be
                 • unacceptable and
                 • unbearable,
 and
    • learning
         to
            • sustain
       and
         to
            • handle
                them,
                    is the only way a person
                        can lose
                           • fear,
                           • anxiety, and
                           • tension.
As long as you
    hope against hope
         that your life
            should be
                free from
                   painful feelings,
you hope for
    an illusion.
Deep down
    you know it is so [i.e., you know it is so that hoping for a life
                               free from pain is hoping for an illusion],
         yet you cling to the illusion.
Hence you
    • are afraid
   and
    • feel

    shaky and

         • inadequate.
```

```
But when your own feelings
                  can be experienced,
                       no matter what they are,
              you automatically
                  become
                       • secure,
                       • unafraid,
                     and therefore
                       • relaxed.
              Being relaxed in
                  • mind,
                  • will,
                  • feeling and
                  • body
                       is the
                          indispensable prerequisite
                              for
                                 • experiencing pleasure
                           and thus
                              for
                                 • reaching fulfillment.
33
              The refusal
                  to experience painful feelings
                       results from
                          the misconception
                              that they will
                                 • annihilate you
                            or
                              that they will
                                 • prove
                                     that you are no good.
              This misconception
                  must be

    challenged

                     and
                       • replaced.
```

```
If it [i.e., If the misconception that experiencing painful feelings will
                               annihilate you or prove that you are no good]
    is not [i.e., is not challenged and replaced],
you will
    not allow yourself
         to experience painful feelings.
The refusal to do so [i.e., The refusal to allow yourself
                                       to experience painful feelings]
    also causes you
         to create
            a tight will current
                to ward off
                    what you believe to be
                        annihilation.
Hence,
    the will must be
         relaxed,
            so that it becomes possible for you
                to experience
                    what is already in you.
All
    your best functioning
         will be
            paralyzed
                unless
                   you
                        • go through and
                        • fully feel
                           whatever is in you,
                               and thus
                                   transcend it.
```

34

(4) The Level of the Body and Physical Expression

```
Since it is
    impossible
        for an
            attitude
                 existing on one level
                    not to manifest also
                        on
                            all other levels,
    every
         • misconception,
    every

    distortion and

         • imbalance
            of the will functioning,
and
    every
         • refusal to feel
            what is there within you,
                 inevitably
                    creates a
                         • physical manifestation,
                         • bodily condition.
```

It [i.e., Every misconception, every distortion and imbalance of the will functioning, and every refusal to feel what is there within you]

```
therefore
hampers
not only your
• spiritual unfoldment
but equally your
• physical life experience.
```

```
It is utterly
                  false
                       to assume that
                           • the physical
                         and
                           • the spiritual
                               life
                                  stand in opposition.
                                  is merely an expression of
                                       • the other.
              By its
                   muscular blocks
                       the physical body
                           expresses
                               • conceptual errors,
                               • imbalances of
                                  the will,
                            and
                               • stagnant,

    denied

                                  feelings.
                   • Tensions
              and

    energy stagnation

                       caused by distortions
                           on any of the other levels
                               can affect the body
                                  by
                                       • distorting it,
                                       • creating all sorts of symptoms
                                    and, when neglected long enough,
                                       • physical illness.
35
              Needless to say,
                   the physical level, too,
                       must be approached
                           in a different way
                               from the others.
```

```
The elimination of the blocks [i.e., The elimination of the blocks
                                                     on the physical level]
    must also be helped
        from the
            outer level;
the energy
    must be made to flow again;
the physical feelings
    have to be connected with
         • the soul movements,
        • the inner attitudes,
      and
        • the contents of the mind.
Where energy
    is blocked,
consciousness
    cannot penetrate.
Every cell in the human body
    is a
        consciousness
            onto itself.
When areas are blocked off
    in the body,
the cell system
    in these areas
        is prevented from
            being permeated with
                the
                   divine

    energy stream

              and
                the
                   divine
                       • consciousness.
```

```
As I have often said,
                  the whole universe
                       consists of
                          energy
                        and
                          · consciousness.
              Creation
                  is an ongoing process of
                       a happy fusion
                          between
                               energy
                          and
                               • consciousness.
              They interact.
36
              Effective pathwork
                  takes place
                       • on all these levels [i.e., levels of 1) Mind and Thought, 2) Will,
                                  3) Feelings, and 4) Physicality and Physical Expression]
                      and
                       • with all these approaches [i.e., approaches such as: A) find,
                               understand, and break links in the chains of vicious circles,
                               B) examine and test the truth of conscious beliefs,
                               C) make conscious, identify and fully feel all feelings,
                               especially pain D) make conscious misunderstandings and
                               negative attitudes that, while unconscious, are evident from
                               negative life experiences, unfulfilled longings, frustrations,
                               and suffering].
              As I said, there is
                  no outer rule
                       to determine when to change
                          from one [i.e., when to change from one of the four levels]
                               into
                                  the other:
                                      it is different with everyone.
```

```
The path must be allowed to express itself
                  from within
                       as a
                           • living,
                           • organismic
                               reality.
              The various approaches offered on this path
                  fulfill important functions
                       so you can work on
                          any one of these levels [i.e., any one of these four levels: 1) Mind
                                              and Thought, 2) Will, 3) Feelings, and
                                              4) Physicality and Physical Expression].
37
              It is necessary
                   again
                       and again
                          to attempt getting in touch with
                               • the higher self,
                               • the divine consciousness
                                  that is
                                      · ever-present,
                                      • immutable,
                                     and
                                      • immediately available
                                         within you.
              When this is done
                  for the purpose of
                       • making conscious
                          the distorted levels of your soul substance,
                     and

    reorienting them

                          so as to unify
                               all split-off soul substance,
              then meditation
                   takes a different course
                       from the kind of meditation
                          that is used for the sole purpose of
                               realizing the divine self
                                  while disregarding
                                      the dark aspects of the self.
```

```
38
              It is a
                   • current illusion
                 and
                   • wishful thinking
                       to assume that
                           this latter approach to meditation [i.e., that meditation that is used
                                      for the sole purpose of realizing the divine self
                                       while disregarding the dark aspects of the self]
                               automatically
                                  deals with
                                       the dark side of human nature.
               This cannot be so.
               You cannot
                   overcome
                       what you have
                           not
                               • consciously
                             and
                               • fully
                                  experienced.
               The wishful hope
                   with which you are all familiar [i.e., the hope that meditation that is used
                                      for the sole purpose of realizing the divine self while
                                       disregarding the dark aspects of the self automatically
                                       deals with the dark side of human nature]
                       is nourished by
                           the truthful concept
                               that it is indeed possible
                                  to realize
                                       the already potentially present part
                                          of the godself.
              It is very important, my friends,
                   to clearly understand this [i.e., to understand that it is indeed possible
                                to realize the already potentially present part of the godself].
```

```
This [i.e., This fact that you cannot overcome what you have not consciously
                              and fully experienced]
                  is why it is often true that,
                       after having shed the body,
                          some people
                              who have led a
                                  • difficult
                                and
                                  • apparently unspiritual
                                      life
                                         have done more for
                                             the universal process of evolution
                                         than some others
                                             who have led
                                                an extremely spiritual life and
                                             who may even have been
                                                so-called masters,
                                          but
                                             who have
                                                • cultivated their
                                                     beauty
                                               and
                                                • disregarded their
                                                     ugliness.
              They have thus
                  • failed to
                       unify,
              and so have unwittingly

    perpetuated

                       the dualistic state of consciousness
                          in which this earth finds itself.
39
              Our path
                  uses the harder of the two approaches to meditation.
```

```
It is obvious that
    our approach
        has to be different from
            the one that
                concentrates solely on the
                   • higher self
             and
                disregards the
                   • dark side of human nature.
As you know,
    meditation
        can be as varied
            as the
                • human personality
              or
                • life experience.
Meditation
    is too vast a subject
        to include in detail in this summary.
I have spoken about it before
    and will do so again.
```

```
40
              Many human beings,
                  no matter how committed to this path,
                       are not always capable of
                          meditating,
                              for
                                 the very blocks
                                      of the
                                         • mind,
                                      of the
                                         • will,
                                      of the
                                         • feelings
                                    and
                                      of the
                                         • body
                                             also create
                                                a spiritual block,
                                                    so that
                                                        meditation
                                                            cannot be practiced.
              Again, you
                  • must grope
                and

    honestly seek to

                       unblock
                          little
                              by little,
                                 through
                                      • deep insight,
                                      • summoning of courage,
                                   and
                                      • letting yourself
                                        feel what is in you.
              Through such endeavor
                  the block to meditation
                       will also loosen up.
```

```
You can then [i.e., You can then, as the block to meditation loosens up,]
    meditate for
        further guidance
            to
                • unblock more,
            to
                • become more conscious of
                   what is still hidden,
        and
           to
                • experience more feelings.
You have to
   • release blocks
        in order to
            • meditate,
and you must
    • meditate
        in order to
            • release blocks.
At times,
    a person starts the pathwork
         without
            any meditation whatever,
                for his
                   outer consciousness
                       may block off this approach.
When
    • sufficient unblocking has been done
  and
    • false spirituality has been sufficiently cleared up,
then a
    new influx of spiritual
         • energy
      and

    consciousness

            can take place,
                and
                   every step becomes easier.
```

```
A spiritual block
    can be the result of
         either
            • adopting a
                • false,
                • escaping,
                • separating
                   spirituality,
         or
            • negating
                the greater reality
                   altogether.
In both instances,
    misconceptions
         must be eliminated
            in order to
                free the channel
                   for
                        the real spiritual influx.
Often
    • real
         spirituality
            is rejected by people
                meaning to reject the
                   • false,
                    • escapist
                        spirituality,
                           and
                               confusing the two.
```

```
41
              As the blocks to spiritual influx
                  are increasingly
                       eliminated,
              the whole process of
                  • awareness,
                  • liberation,
                   · healing and
                  • unification
                       can be speeded up.
                          For on each step of the way
                              you can avail yourself of
                                  this immeasurably powerful tool:
                                                            your contact with
                                                               your divine reality.
42
              Just as
                  the
                       • mind
                          level
                              can be
                                  • conscious
                                or
                                  • unconscious,
              so can be
                  the
                       • will,
                  the
                       • feeling,
                and even
                  the
                       • body
                          level.
              It is therefore
                  imperative
                       that the degree of consciousness
                          be increased
                              on all levels [i.e., on all four levels].
```

```
You should
    connect, for example,
        a physical symptom
            such as
                • pain or
                • tension
                   with the
                       • corresponding mental attitude,
                   with the
                       • thought,
                       • emotion,
                     and
                       • will
                          that motivate
                              the specific physical manifestation.
For instance,
    when you begin to sense
        that a specific bodily tension
            comes from
                • a feeling of
                   • hate and
                   • rage,
                • an overactive
                   outer will
                       that is being prevented from hitting out,
            and also from
                • a specific misconception,
    then you
         unify
            all levels
      and
        • increase your scope of consciousness on
            all levels.
```

```
43
              It is one of the
                   immutable spiritual laws
                       that lack of awareness
                          of one area
                       prohibits awareness
                          of another.
              So, for example,
                   if you manage to
                       stave off awareness of

    your lower self

                        and

    your mask self,

                  you will
                       not be aware of
                          • the already manifest higher self.
              You may pay lip service to the fact
                   that
                       you must be an expression of a
                           · higher,
                           • divine
                               consciousness,
              but you
                   cannot possibly
                       feel it [i.e., cannot possibly FEEL yourself as an expression of a
                                      higher, divine consciousness]
                          unless
                               you make yourself
                                  feel

    your lower self

                                    and
                                       • the mask
                                          that hides it [i.e., the mask that hides
                                                                     your lower self].
              If you do not [i.e., If you do not FEEL yourself as an expression of a
                                                             higher, divine consciousness],
              how can you possibly
                   • meditate
                 and
                   • address
                       an aspect of the divine in you?
```

```
In the slow progression of such a pathwork,
                  it will come to pass
                       that
                          at certain times
                              you may be conscious of
                                 your divine heritage,
                       and
                          at other times
                              you will be
                                 • totally oblivious and
                                 • cut off
                                     from it [i.e., from your divine heritage].
44
              Just as
                  both the
                       higher
                  and the
                       • lower
                          self
                              can be
                                 • fully conscious
                                 • unconscious,
                                 • manifest at any degree between these two possibilities,
              so can
                  the
                       mask
                          self.
              The mask self
                   is
                      your
                          • pretense,
                      your
                          • hiding,
                      your
                          • facade
                              for the world.
```

```
It [i.e., The mask self]
    is the
        • idealized self-image
           you want so much to be
                that you invest your energies into
                   making it real.
All these various expressions [i.e., various expressions of your façade that
                       you want the world to see, your pretense, your hiding
                       of lower-self qualities, and your idealized self image],
    indicate
        the mask self.
The mask self
    is a defense against
        exposing
            who you really are
                now.
Of course
    you are not exclusively
        the lower self
            which the mask is designed to hide.
However,
    by masking
        any part of yourself,
           you inevitably
                also
                   mask your higher self
                       from
                          yourself.
The more you try to show
    only your
        good side -
                what is genuinely there
                   in the
                        • higher self,
                but not [i.e., but not genuinely there]
                   in the
                        • mask self –
the more your
    higher self
        is masked.
```

```
Again,
    you can be
         conscious of this tactic [i.e., this tactic of using your mask self
                                         to appear better than you are now]
            or not.
At times,
    you may be acutely aware of
        your
            • faking,
        vour
            • falsifying yourself -
                               and this [i.e., and this awareness of your faking]
                                  is so much more preferable to
                                      the unaware state.
At other times,
    because you have
         identified so much with your mask,
           you are oblivious to
                wearing one.
When you are
    unaware of
        your mask,
you feel

    ashamed and

    • uncomfortable
        but you don't face this fact
            because you don't wish to
                • experience and
                • deal with
                   such feelings [i.e., such feelings as being "ashamed" or
                                                             "uncomfortable"].
Thus a further process of
    splitting off
        sets in
            where you lose track
                more
                   and more of who you
                       really are [i.e., here, lose track of the split-off part of
                                   you who feels ashamed or uncomfortable].
```

```
This [i.e., This state where you are split off from parts of yourself
                                              that you don't what to see, feel, or experience]
                   is the state of
                       being lost
                          which many individuals wish to cure
                               by some magic -
                                              • drugs,
                                              • pills,
                                              • formulas,
                                           or even
                                              • meditation.
              They also
                   • turn to
                       therapies
                          that encourage
                              the helpless state of sickness
                and
                   overlook
                       the potent factor
                          of their own will
                               which must be used
                                  provided it is
                                      rightly

    understood and

                                         • applied.
45
              This path
                   is first and foremost
                       a process of
                          making things conscious.
```

```
This self-awareness [i.e., This self-awareness that comes from pathwork
                                          in its aim and processes to make things conscious]
                   unifies
                        • you
                and
                   unifies
                        • the split in you.
              It [i.e., This self-awareness]
                   also
                        • unifies
                           the conflicts in you
                      and

    establishes

                           your
                               • sense of self
                         and
                           your

    knowledge that

                                  the universe
                                       with all its bliss
                                          is yours.
46
              A very important aspect of this work
                   is vet
                        another level of the self
                           beyond
                               the physical body.
               The reason that I failed to include it
                   in our enumeration of levels [i.e., levels of 1) Mind and Thought,
                              2) Will, 3) Feelings, and 4) Physicality and Physical Expression]
                        is that this part
                           is generally not recognized
                               in human thinking
                                  as
                                       a level of the human personality.
               This [i.e., This fifth level of the human personality]
                   is the level of
                        • life experience.
```

```
Generally,
    • life experience
        is perceived as
            separate,
                as if
                   the human entity
                       were put into
                          a fixed outer form of life.
It is generally overlooked
    that
        every person's
           • life experience
                is as intrinsic an expression
                   of his or her inner being
                       as is
                           • the body.
Only recently
    have a few advanced thinkers
        begun to see
            • the body
                as a connected expression
                    of
                       • the whole person.
There are still many
    who view
        • the human body
            as being almost as little connected to
                • the inner life of a person
                    as
                       • the life experience.
```

```
In reality,
                  the manifest
                       • life experience
                           is
                              • totally and
                              • conclusively
                                 symptomatic of
                                      the inner state
                                         of the personality.
              Our path
                  uses this most
                       • important and
                       • truthful
                          mirror [i.e. the mirror of Life Experience]
                              to determine a person's
                                 inner state.
47
              This more comprehensive vision
                  eliminates
                       the fallacy of
                          human helplessness.
              The truth
                  leads people to assume
                       self-responsibility
                          in every conceivable respect.
              Most human beings
                  are loath to accept this.
```

```
They would rather
    • see themselves as
         • helpless,
         • innocent
            victims
 and
    • experience
        all the
            • suffering and
            • hopelessness
                that go with that,
rather than

    accept the

         • hope,
         • light, and
         • freedom
            of
                self-responsibility.
This indicates
    the emotional immaturity
         of humanity as a whole.
It also indicates
    that a sense of
        guilt
            is attached to
                admitting
                   one's
                        • fallacy and
                        • distortion.
Paradoxical as it may seem,
    the more helpless
        you pretend to be
            vis-a-vis your life experience,
    the less your
        • inner,
         • healthy,
         • relaxed
            will
                can function.
```

```
The tight self-will
                  of the
                       • little,
                       • ineffective
                          ego
                               is strengthened
                                  in order to
                                      ward off
                                         the imagined "unjust"
                                              life experience.
              What a waste of valuable energy!
48
              It is an intrinsic aspect of this pathwork
                  that you eventually
                       • shed the illusion
                          of being an
                               innocent victim
                   and
                       • avail yourself of
                          the key to
                              freedom:
                                      self-responsibility.
              This is
                  not
                       • a postulate
                     or
                       • an unverifiable philosophy.
```

```
All of you
                  who go into this work
                       • honestly and
                      deeply
                          enough
                              must inevitably find out
                                 that
                                     both the
                                        • good
                                     and the
                                        • bad
                                            life experience
                                               is an exact expression
                                                    of your
                                                       • thinking,
                                                       • willing,
                                                       • feeling,
                                                    and your
                                                       • physical
                                                           being.
49
              Try to
                  absorb
                and
                  • use
                      what I gave you tonight.
             It will help you
                  to know
                       • where you are going
                     and
                       • that whatever you
                          may be
                              now
                                 • unwilling to experience
                                     is
                                        • universal,
                                        • necessary,
                                       and not at all
                                        • unacceptable.
```

```
It [i.e., Using what I gave you tonight]
    will also make you
         more aware of the
            • inner rhythm
          and
            reality
                that is the path.
Whoever
     commits to
         do the work of this path
            will
                experience
                   that there is a
                        • living,
                        • organic
                           reality
                               in it.
It [i.e., This pathwork]
    • instructs and
    • shows to you
         that
            whatever you
                experience
                   has a meaning for you.
The difficulty
    is that at times
         you do not want to
            listen to it.
You want
    to
         • tune out,
    to
         • go with your self-will,
       and
         • give in to
           your own ideas,
                which often camouflage
                   your fear of
                       meeting yourself
                           head-on.
```

```
You may then
    seek out various ways to
         camouflage
            the unwanted parts.
When you
    "succeed,"
the truth of this
    can no longer be discerned.
That is why
    the inner voice of truth
        should at all times
            be cultivated.
It [i.e., The inner voice of truth]
    will speak
         • louder and
        • clearer
            as you continue to consult it.
Ask with a
    truly open attitude,
         willing to listen to
            a consciousness
                that
                   is
                        • you
                and yet
                   is greater than
                        • the conscious you.
Then you will see
    that
         • this greater you
            is real
     and
         • your little consciousness
            is only a separated particle.
When this
    begins to happen,
unification
```

begins to happen.

```
50
              Be blessed, my dear ones,
                  all of you.
              Know that the
                  • love
                 and
                  • truth
                       of the universe
                          are
                              your
                                 • ultimate goal,
                              your
                                 • ultimate fate.
              Nothing in the world
                  can alter this,
                       even if
                          the little mind is
                              • uselessly and
                              • stubbornly
                                 afraid of the process.
              Be blessed,
                  go in
                       • peace
                     and
                       • joy
                          into your work,
                              for the universe
                                 holds rich fulfillment
                                     for everyone.
```

```
These [i.e., These words, "the universe holds rich fulfillment for everyone,"]
    are
         not
            empty words.
The truth
    of these words
         will make itself known
            when you
                first
                   fully face
                        • the opposite of
                           fulfillment,
                                namely [i.e., namely, fully face]
                                   vour
                                       · unhappiness,
                                   your
                                       • suffering,
                                 and
                                   your
                                       • distortions.
As you do so [i.e., As you fully face
                               your unhappiness, suffering, and distortions],
    the truth of
         your ultimate fate [i.e., your ultimate fate of rich fulfillment]
            will become
                your reality.
```

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