

Utopia without trying: an end to the ideal of altruism.

The nature of our perspective of romantic love, of somehow being “empathetic” or not or trying to uphold society on sets of moral principles dies at every turn. Every time the human attempts to do something that stems from an intellectualized ideology of what should, could or might be best, this will always end in an inability to keep this up. There will be those who are “faithful” to the belief and cause, and those who are “disillusioned” and “reckless” and let the cause down and the flame burn.

All of these processes are simply add-ons. We are constantly trying to add on to what there already is: add more knowledge, understanding, science, ideas, more and more and more. This is not just part of the consumer culture but also an expression of the very nature of “self” and its attempt to control and contain a sought-for ideal or wholeness, a bid to hold onto any ideal of belief. All beliefs are the same, the only difference is the means by which to get there. The totalitarian and the altruist are the same, the communist is no different from the fascist. Similarly, all religious belief systems, or indeed any belief, can be put into the same category. While the format is the same, in that there is always a start, a beginning, and end point at some time in the believed-in future, ultimately they will all eventually collapse.

This kind of thinking creates a process of hope or focus on the future and of an ideology that is doomed to failure. Why? Because it is an add-on, it is added on to the person and it is a draw of energy, another mouth to feed if you will. And of course this cannot be sustained, no belief system can be sustained. So the situation of utopia can in no way be brought about through a concerted effort. The world cannot be brought to peace because we all “want it to”. There is no way to get together and “change this planet for the good”. This kind of thinking comes from a deep ignorance and arrogance of the nature of nature.

The only way true utopia returns is if there is a natural letting go, a realization and recognition of shedding away the metaphorical “layers” of ideology and belief till no more remain. At this point something else takes over, something which has no ideals and no method, but is simply what there is. This we might call instinct or natural sense. It is the direction to go about things without “trying”, without attempting, but just allowing, instead of “self” attempting to control and direct nature. When “self” is let go and nature is acknowledged to be always behind the veil of its constant attempting and seeking process, then there is realization of the constant background utopia that is ever-present.

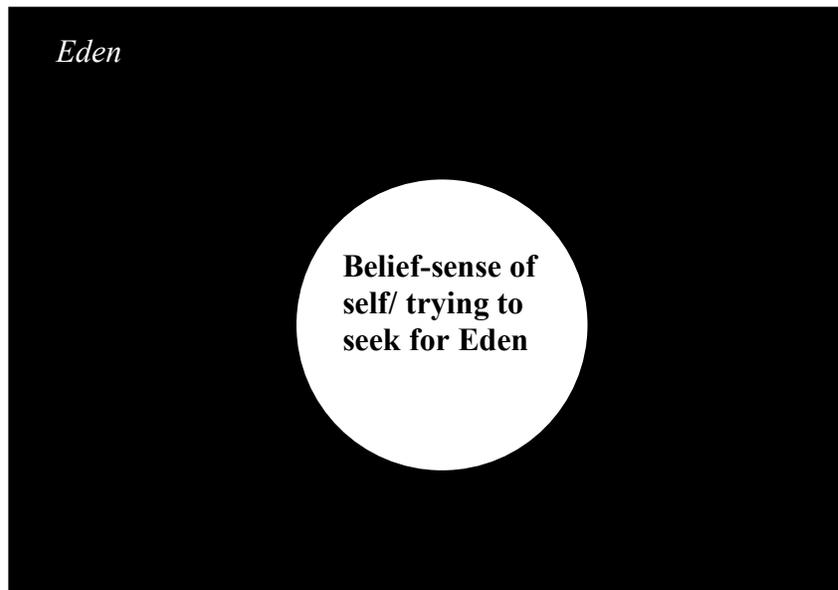
“Human beings” are that which has extra baggage, extra add-on “self” which is no longer needed or required. This baggage comes from the same thinking as altruism’s “doing the right thing” and totalitarian’s “doing the right thing”. Which right is right? Who is to judge it? These are problems for the “self” who has to decide what to “do” but from a deeper sense this is not a question at all, simply a game that’s going on in the foreground of life. At the background or at the empty-Centre of life here occurs what there always was: what is happening now, what is going on without thought or belief, requirement or expectation there is just what is happening. There is no reality to a romanticized world of “loving kindness”, making any one act different or “special” over

any other. In the same breath, other more totalitarian fantasies of aggression attempting to force change by command are equally surreal.

When it comes down to it anarchy is really the only expression that makes any sense at all, anarchy not only meaning without-command, but also implying natural-order, natural spontaneity and natural process of coming back to a reality from the long dream that “I can change the world” or “rule it”. Instead there is just the realization of everything there is being without meaning and without direction, in the way it is thought, and the fantastic realization that what we thought mattered in fact does not, it has no relevance other than it is the path that vanishes as soon as it is known that the one who walks it is no more.

The nature of the human dis-ease of adding-on was known in ancient India where the idea of “netti netti” meaning “not this, not that” was seen to occur as a process of realising that much of what we consider to be true actually isn’t. This process, even at an intellectual level, is about understanding that many of the initial premises we derive from our world, such as the fundamental one that the “I” is a known and absolute thing, are untrue. When we find something to be different from what we expect, then huge dissolution starts to occur, there is a huge process of recognition, layer by layer or all at once, that life is based on nothing at all, that all the premises, including that “I am” a real and absolute thing, collapse and with those so does our whole identity and world view.

So living occurs without the add-on of the identity, or of the requirement to “be” something. Then all there is, is this, as it is. The world naturally lets go and returns to the realisation that there was never a time that Eden or utopia were lost but that there was a hallucination of “self” within Eden. So as “self” is released, this is just Eden.



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