

The Impossibility of betrayal and forgiveness.

Who is the betrayer? Who forgives? When we ask these questions at a deep level it is very hard to really pin it down because these two words are very much related to the nature of “self” and the ideology that “I can be betrayed by someone and then I have to be able at some time to “forgive” this person for their “sins”, all of which is based on judgment and hypocrisy. Basically betrayal is a very one-sided ideology, it is taken from the opinion of one viewing angle and that angle is very much anchored in place by a tough and “hardened fighter”-like “self” who is attempting to manage “their” world on “his/her” terms.

However many times this “self” gets rebuffed from early childhood, there is a reactionary mechanism which believes it is being “hurt” or “betrayed” directly by another person and this person intends to destroy or alienate “me”. So from these early foundations the “self” is formulated and there begins the idea that “I” am separate from “you”, which usually occurs after the age of three years old. However, before this there is no sense of time nor space. Everything is seen as it is, which is *nothing being everything*, the sense that everything is One thing and everything-ness is in fact Nothingness appearing to be all the manifestations of life. This is just a linguistic description, for the infant it is essentially normal-paradise where all of life is occurring at a singularity, there is no you or me as separate, it’s all One thing, which isn’t even questioned. This perspective is what underlies our current adult one, and it can be triggered open with such experiments as the work of Douglas Harding: <http://www.headless.org>. However even then these are just momentary changes of perception, the actual change occurs at the fundamental level where there is actually a ripening and decaying away of the “self”, not just a the cognitive level but through all the sensory perceptions. This is occurring more and more in the world, but not through any intended action of the “self”/ ego.

The nature of betrayal therefore requires the belief that “self” exists and that the play of self meets “self” is really and truly real. But it isn’t, it’s just a game of interaction of contracted energy. Outside of this the so-called “betrayal” looks like one wave telling another wave that they are leaving “you” “for an Atlantic roller”! and we can see how ridiculous this is. Because “I am” is at the centre of all of life we take everything personally. Because “I” is seen to be separate from “you” therefore I have to defend my corner and by nature this is where the problems arise. If “I” have the power of betrayal, to do something to another person and for it to be blamed on me, then “I” have also the ability to forgive and to supposedly see things from a high and mighty perspective.

Basically forgiveness is about involving the “self” very strongly, in exactly the same way as betrayal, “I forgive”, “I betray”, but without “I” there is neither forgiveness or betrayal. These are hierarchical judgments, all very much based around the nature of the “self”, constantly pointing to what I should do, whether or not to forgive, to “give a second chance” or not to, all bound up in the rarified ideology of “me”. Actually under the arrogance of this mentality is the nature of nature, which is intimate and impersonal.

It is impossible for “me” to be separate from “you” so it is deeply connecting and totally intimate, but I am not “responsible” for my actions, because “I” do not exist. This brings up huge ideologies and massive defense systems such as “...but if there’s no responsibility then I could do anything, I could kill lots of people and there would be no one to stop me!!!” However, whenever there is a no-person sense, a liberated freedom, this does not encourage mass-murder or total disruption it actually falls into natural-order. The misconception about anarchy is that if there is a letting go, there then follows a descent into an Armageddon of chaos but actually this is simply violence. Violence is the exact expression of “self”, there is either seeming ordered-violence known as politics, or there is dis-ordered violence known as punk or machine-gun anarchy. Real anarchy is actually a movement back to the nature of nature where everything functions with the seasonal changes and moves with the flow of life, it is totally ordered, intimate and totally impersonal. Here there is no possibility of betrayal for there is no-one to betray and neither is there any-one to forgive, so the fingers of the same hand can neither betray one another nor forgive, the illusion is seen through.

The infant or animal-nature is just below the surface of the adult human mind-set, it is beyond the comprehension of the cognitive mind and simply is dissolved into when the seeking for it actually ends, such as everyday in deep sleep. Therefore there is a difference between total liberation which is actually the normalcy of the universe and the adult human which is the radical and weird and warped extra dissonance within the much greater harmony. This difference is a micro-fine layer of “self” which is the armour between “me” and “the world”. Yet this makes for all the consequential judgments and mad processes of power, money and politics and so-called “civilization” which has formed as a result of seeking desperately for the place of safety where the world can’t hurt me, which is inevitably a huge misconception, and simply a situation of not seeing the wood for the trees.

In the end when betrayal and forgiveness are put into the context of natural reality they disappear as drops of water within the sea. The end of the requirement for ideas like altruism, humility, ideologies that are based on the self being good and not bad, all these are simply super-structures of the foundational level misunderstanding of “self” and its inevitable process of feeling “separate”.

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