

The Masked Ball: The front of fear and how life events cause us to attempt to transform into our opposite... forming dis-ease.

“The bigger the front, the bigger the back.”
- Chinese proverb

“Society is a masked ball, where everyone hides his real character, thereby revealing it by hiding.”
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

The bigger the front or the appearance of something that is intended to be “shown off” for effect, very often the bigger is the aspect that is being hidden in its wake, this is the nature of the human social-game.

Energetically we can group people into aspects of the spectrum of yin to yang. If we take the whole of the population of males and females there would be an innate quality that some would have is quite polar energetic; so a female with quite yin qualities of personality, or a male with quite yang qualities of personality, these would be the poles. Then there is male energy with a yin quality of personality and female energy with a yang quality of personality. These four qualities are constitutional, they can obviously adjust through life’s process but they stay pretty much similar through the course of a lifetime. However very few people in society actually show their true nature for numerous reasons but fundamentally because society is pressured on all sides to be more fearful and more individualistic and as a result what a person seems like, they very rarely are.

If we take a look at the four different qualities of male and female:

- Yin-female
- Yang-female
- Yin-male
- Yang-male

When in a pathological state these people can attempt to behave utterly opposite to their nature, hence what we see are the follow reversions:-

- Yin-female ----- attempts becoming-----Yang-female
- Yang-female----- attempts becoming----- Yin-female
- Yin-male----- attempts becoming----- Yang-male
- Yang-male----- attempts becoming----- Yin-male

Why does this tend to happen? I will go through each one of these groups and have a look to see why the nature of life can lead people to form a protective shell in the above way:

Yin-female to yang female:

The yin-female energy is the energetic vitality of society but also the most gentle and so potentially vulnerable quality by nature. She is naturally soft and so has very little natural defensive quality. However this quality in the world today which is dominated by the yang is completely dismissed and it is suggested from very early on in the female's life, through abuse or through directly being taught, that to be soft and gentle or to be meek and mild is something that is not going to "help you get on in the world", hence the yin female often has to prove herself and presents quite an aggressive or forceful front to the world. Then the belief in her is set that she needs to be tougher than the next woman and get what she wants this way. Unfortunately this use of the soft and gentle energy of the yin for aggressive defense simply creates a very pathological state because the yin cannot naturally deal with this level of velocity of energy running through her system. This inevitably causes a highly stressed-out person who is constantly on edge, often angry, but this anger is raw and strung-out and without actual force behind it. Hence it is a front, hiding a truth that this woman is very often under a great deal of stress and needs someone to protect her and allow her to feel safe. Until she lets down her defences and allows a person in whom she trusts she is masked behind a wall of her own tension. This can happen after aggressive abuse in childhood or similar incident.

Yang-female to yin-female:

The yang female energy is naturally inquisitive and expressive and open. From an early age she will move outwards and explore and be excited and vivacious. This is her nature. But society, and especially the core of modern society namely the masculated energy, whether it be taught via other women or via the male, shames the yang-female for being her particular way. The idea is felt at a deep level that she has to hide her expression internally and be a "good girl" or to essentially toe the line, very often of a male-dominated situation or role of being the polarized yin or archetypical female. This is internally rebelled against and creates intense fire within the person, but eventually this kind of sublimation can cause a person to take on the role of "yin-female" and play this game with men. In this kind of situation creative energy/ sexuality becomes constrained too and this can lead to an association with violence within sexuality, or a feeling of a need to be dominated aggressively in order to release tension. The tension of course is built up because she has not been allowed the freedom to be in the expressive being that is natural for her which is often quite dominant. Hence she has to feel she is completely helpless in order to be forcibly "made yin" by the dominant partner. It is about submission, imprisonment and essentially sufferance that leads eventually to release in a fetishistic manner. Otherwise this creative and expressive energy stagnates inside the body and can manifest as all kinds of aggressive diseases, especially cancers, as they cannot hold themselves in without bursting and exploding. The attempt to do this is still very common in society, where even though there is a supposed emancipation of this quarter of society still the basic rules are founded on the polarization of the sexes. As a result it still goes on, in that unlike their yin counter-parts they still feel ashamed and embarrassed to take their positions in society, because many express displeasure at their expression, particularly the older generations.

Yin-male to yang-male:

This is a very typical situation where a feeling of inadequacy at not being “tough enough” again expresses itself. The yin-male is naturally not outwardly forceful and also not particularly externally interested, they have a similar approach to the yin-female but in a more male expression. However this is considered “weak” or “soft” and thus associated with lack of male vigour, which it is of course nothing to do with. The vigour of physical masculinity can still be present but the nature is very different in this type of energetic. Whereas the yang-male naturally has a direction to push forward and dominate, the yin-male just simply is not set up for this and has a different direction within society. This way and expression is again rejected by male-dominated polarized society and males who have a more gentle demeanour are told to “pull themselves into shape” or to “man up”, meaning to become like yang masculine. In doing this what forms is actually very aggressive male energy which is much more openly aggressive or “ready to fight” than yang-male energy. They are ready to push forward and take control at a moment’s notice and to rise to the challenge and often push far more aggressively at this than any yang-male would do. They also constantly need to show physically that they dominate and need to prove themselves all the time, something that puts them into situations in all aspects of life that they can’t actually internally cope with. As a result they can be stricken with anxiety and tension and their pushing forward can cause severe strain and burn-out of their physical systems.

Yang-male to yin-male:

Whereas the other forms are about the yang-males’ dominance in society, this last expression is to do with a more recent occurrence of the yang-females’ dominance and the equal rights movement. In some ways this did give women increased ability for their more yang expressions to express themselves more easily but instead of there being a celebration of the feminine, very often the yang-female has attempted to forcibly “get her own back” on the dominant male oppressor population. This has formed the dominating masculated-female and the identification of the yin-masculine as being more “ideal” than the yang. As a result the yang masculine have in some cases attempted to curb their natural expression in order to seem more attractive to women of the modern era. This causes again an internal locking of the true wild and powerful expression the yang-male and therefore can lead to outbursts of usually physical anger and aggression either to their own selves or to others, while most of the time holding onto the pretence of being very “soft”. Michael Jackson was an example of this, a strong masculine energy who was abused early on and so formed a yin personality on top of his natural dominant expression. So this pattern of “yin-ification” also can occur when the yang masculine is abused by either the yang-female or the yang-male to submit and become more yin. This causes irreparable psychological damage in most cases, because for the yang male expression (which is hard and brittle naturally) to be affected at such an early age can completely undermine natural confidence.

The nature of the patterns above can be seen throughout our culture. Society is a place that is fundamentally full of dualism and hence full of judgment. As a result the process of defence or retraction that occurs counter to a person’s natural state also affects their inner mechanisms in the same way, there is a counter-flow of energy internally and this is simply disease. While the above is a broad brush approach to

personality and to identifying the problem, the resolutions of these issues only come about when a person is in an open enough state to be able to see the amount of energy being used up to support the super-structure of these front-patterns. Once seen, there is a recognition that “this” is not what “I” is, even though what “I” is is never really to be identified...at least it is certainly not the expression of being counter to one’s natural state. In the end, gradually a person healing feels the relief of not needing to be anything other than what they are naturally. And finally the “self” dies away utterly, fundamentally leaving the natural human-animal state which is no longer with the question of “what am I?”, for this question has simply fallen away too.

While the above seems like a process, it isn’t, at any point the natural state can emerge and the identified “me” can fall away. It is rare at this time in the world today, though perhaps more common than it has been in the past, but relative to the population size it is still a rarity.

The moment at which a person can see something unreal or non-absolute about the persona that they have been powering and focused in, then much of this energy can be allowed to go back to its root and nourish life and thereby judgment ends within them. This is how nature will eventually reclaim the natural human body whether in life or at the point of death.

David Nassim
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