

THOUGHTS
FROM THE
CONSCIOUS
UNIVERSE

An Anthology of Wise Quotes
Edited by James Lynn Page

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	3
1. THE BUSINESS OF LIVING.....	5
2. THE PRIMACY OF THE MIND.....	15
3. FAITH AND BELIEF.....	21
4. ALCHEMY & THE HIDDEN POWER.....	28
5. THE HEAVENS & THE ANIMA MUNDI.....	37
6. THE CONSCIOUS UNIVERSE.....	45
SOURCES.....	83
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	85

Whoso speaks truly is full of eternal life, and wonderfully related to genuine mysteries does his Writing appear to us, for it is a Concord from the Symphony of the Universe.

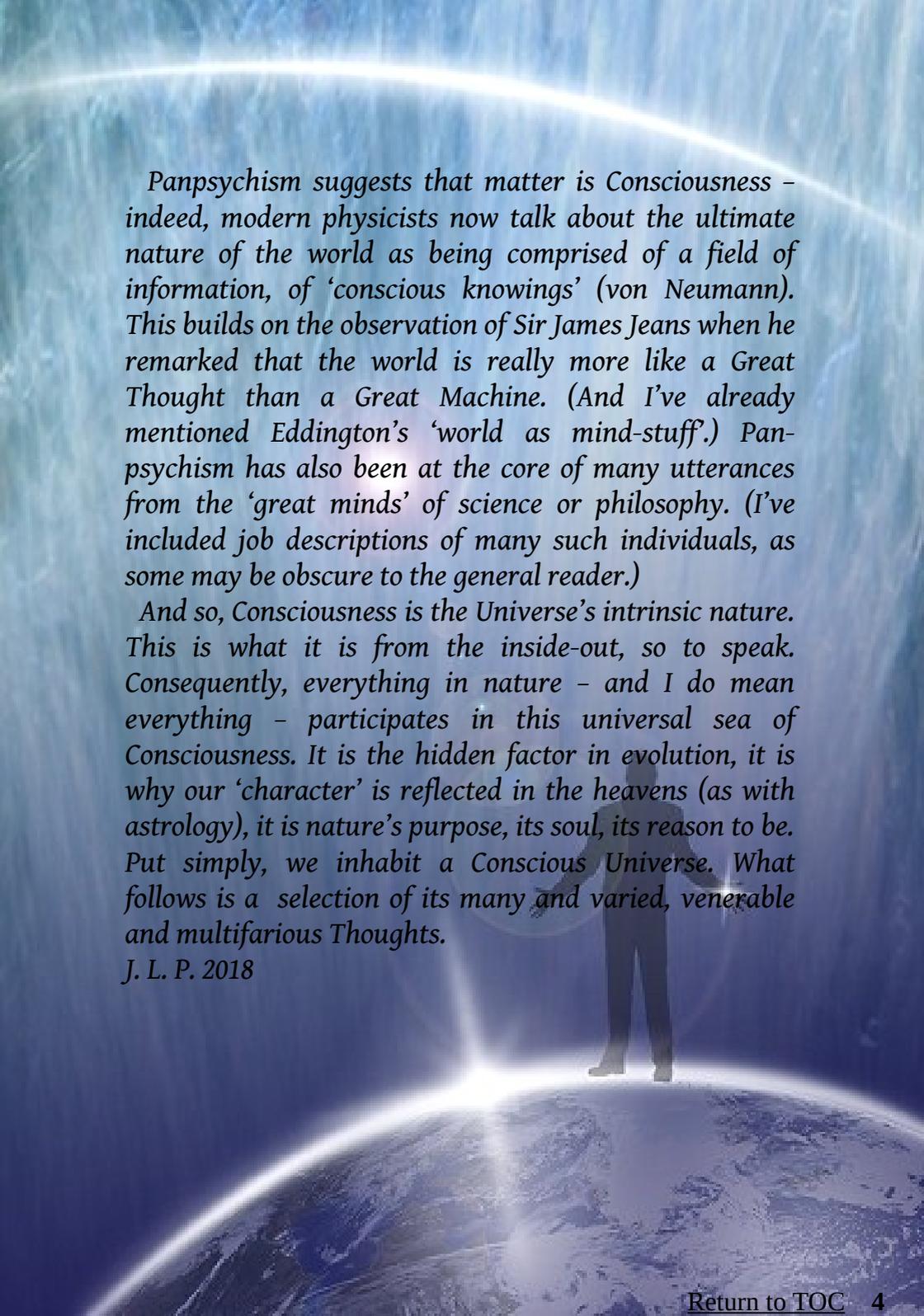
- Novalis

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INTRODUCTION

This ‘anthology’ of quotations represents a life-long love of wise words, sayings, aphorisms, maxims and reflections which always enhance any original literary work, fiction or non-fiction. But what follows is a special, themed collection that alludes to the Conscious Universe theory – that all of nature, to paraphrase Newton, is fully alive. This refers, even, to so-called inanimate objects, just as when the astronomer Arthur Eddington declared that ‘the stuff of the world is mind-stuff’, that what is ‘in here’ (our minds) is like that which is ‘out there’ (nature, the Universe etc.) The Magus Hermes Trismegistus, for simplicity’s sake, said ‘as above, so below’.

The underlying theme in all this is ‘pan-psychism’, the philosophical theory which states that everything in nature has a soul. Put more prosaically, that both organic and even non-organic matter possess a kind of rudimentary, basic consciousness – even down to the level of the atom. We know that the physical world is not solid, not made of matter, it consists of patterns of energy that we call atoms and sub-atomic particles. But whilst we know what matter does, we don’t really know what it is!



Panpsychism suggests that matter is Consciousness – indeed, modern physicists now talk about the ultimate nature of the world as being comprised of a field of information, of ‘conscious knowings’ (von Neumann). This builds on the observation of Sir James Jeans when he remarked that the world is really more like a Great Thought than a Great Machine. (And I’ve already mentioned Eddington’s ‘world as mind-stuff’.) Panpsychism has also been at the core of many utterances from the ‘great minds’ of science or philosophy. (I’ve included job descriptions of many such individuals, as some may be obscure to the general reader.)

And so, Consciousness is the Universe’s intrinsic nature. This is what it is from the inside-out, so to speak. Consequently, everything in nature – and I do mean everything – participates in this universal sea of Consciousness. It is the hidden factor in evolution, it is why our ‘character’ is reflected in the heavens (as with astrology), it is nature’s purpose, its soul, its reason to be. Put simply, we inhabit a Conscious Universe. What follows is a selection of its many and varied, venerable and multifarious Thoughts.

J. L. P. 2018

1. THE BUSINESS OF LIVING

Do not take life too seriously. You will never get out of it alive.

- Elbert Hubbard

Careful attention to one thing often proves superior to genius and art.

- Cicero

Success or failure depends more upon attitude than upon capacity, Successful men act as though they have accomplished or are enjoying something. Soon it becomes a reality. Act, look, feel successful, conduct yourself accordingly, and you will be amazed at the positive results.

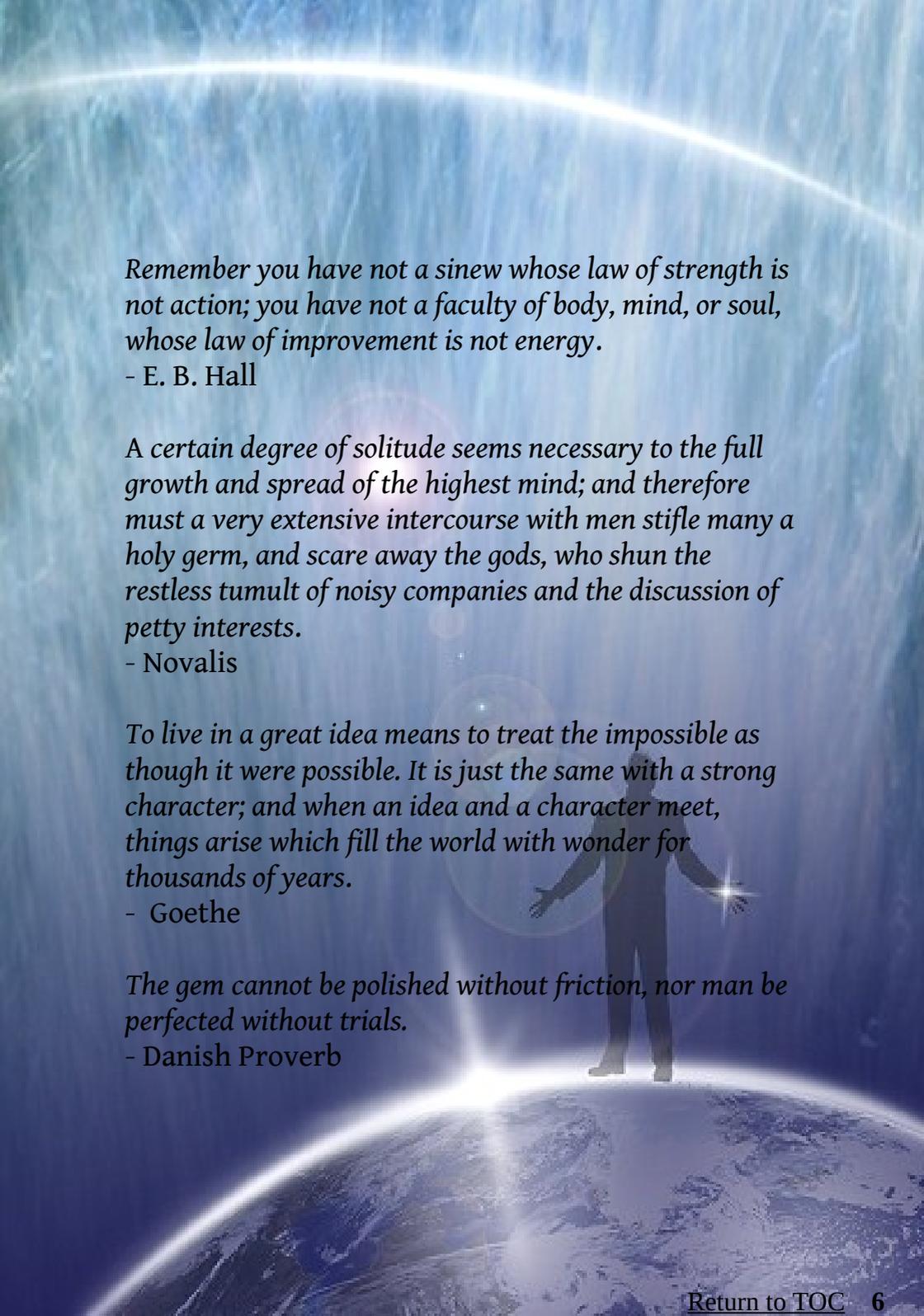
-William James (psychologist/philosopher)

No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man.

— Heraclitus

A man sees in the world what he carries in his heart.

— Goethe



Remember you have not a sinew whose law of strength is not action; you have not a faculty of body, mind, or soul, whose law of improvement is not energy.

- E. B. Hall

A certain degree of solitude seems necessary to the full growth and spread of the highest mind; and therefore must a very extensive intercourse with men stifle many a holy germ, and scare away the gods, who shun the restless tumult of noisy companies and the discussion of petty interests.

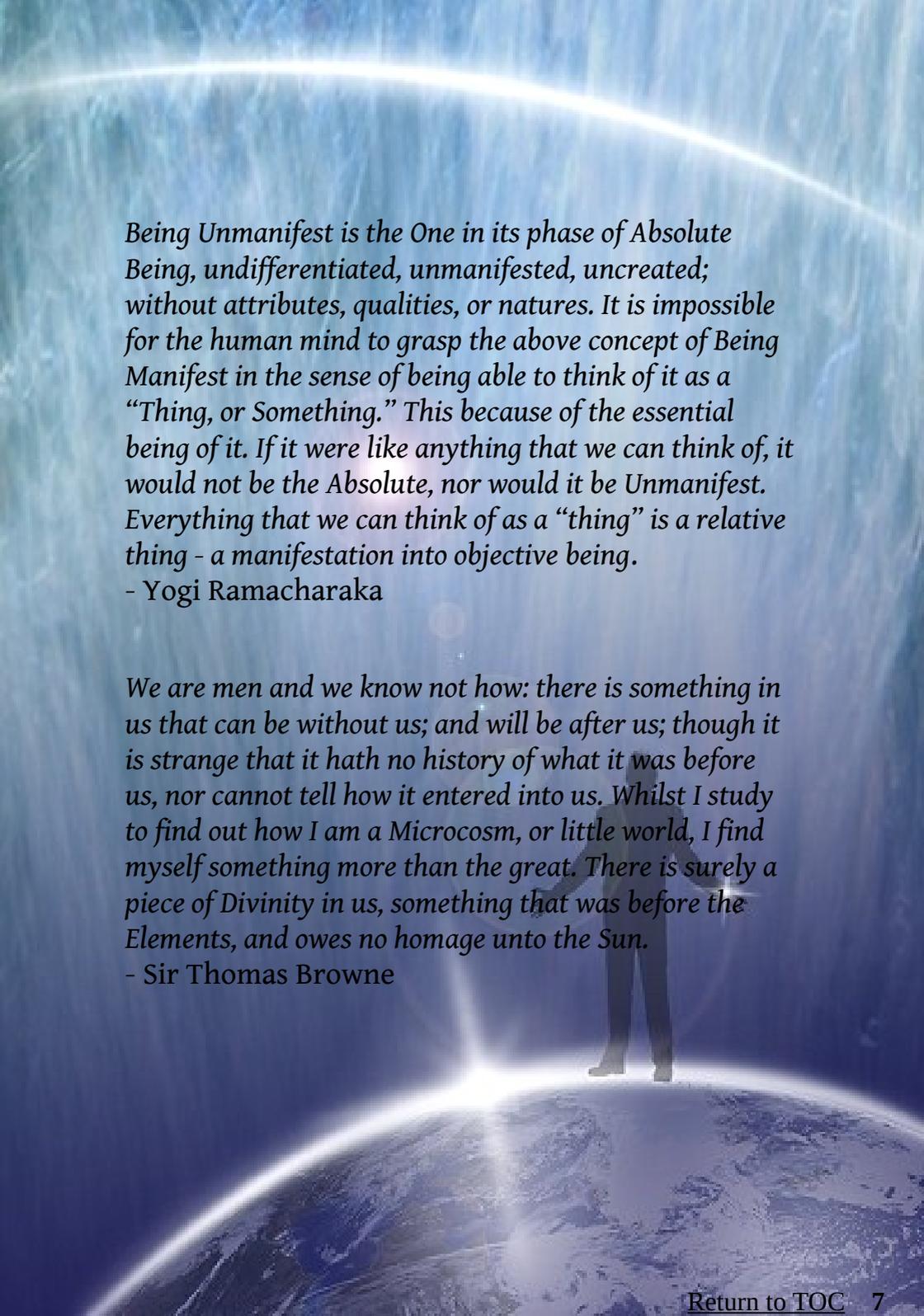
- Novalis

To live in a great idea means to treat the impossible as though it were possible. It is just the same with a strong character; and when an idea and a character meet, things arise which fill the world with wonder for thousands of years.

- Goethe

The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man be perfected without trials.

- Danish Proverb

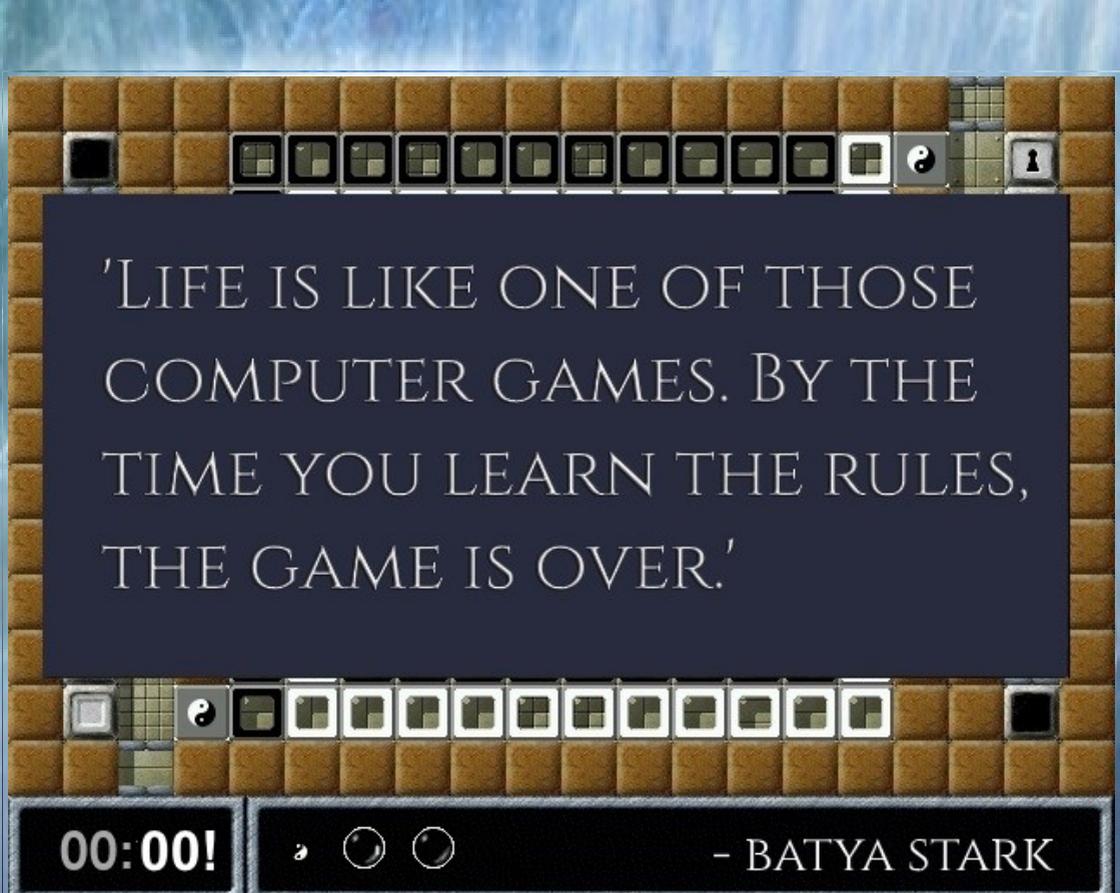


Being Unmanifest is the One in its phase of Absolute Being, undifferentiated, unmanifested, uncreated; without attributes, qualities, or natures. It is impossible for the human mind to grasp the above concept of Being Manifest in the sense of being able to think of it as a “Thing, or Something.” This because of the essential being of it. If it were like anything that we can think of, it would not be the Absolute, nor would it be Unmanifest. Everything that we can think of as a “thing” is a relative thing - a manifestation into objective being.

- Yogi Ramacharaka

We are men and we know not how: there is something in us that can be without us; and will be after us; though it is strange that it hath no history of what it was before us, nor cannot tell how it entered into us. Whilst I study to find out how I am a Microcosm, or little world, I find myself something more than the great. There is surely a piece of Divinity in us, something that was before the Elements, and owes no homage unto the Sun.

- Sir Thomas Browne

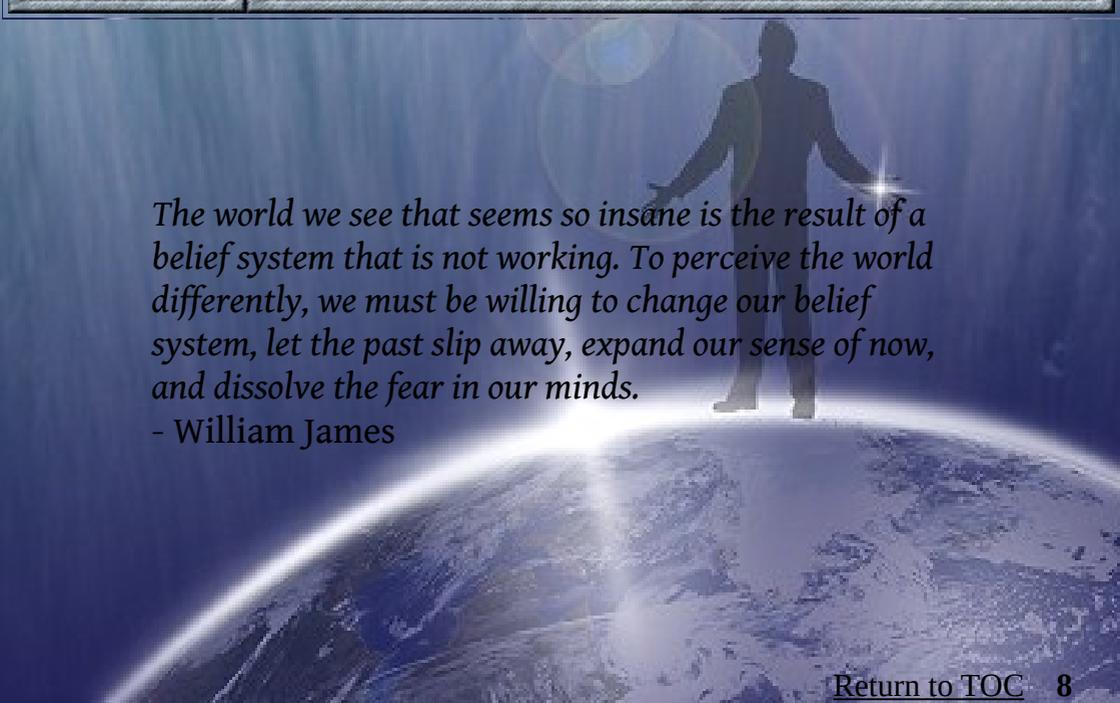


'LIFE IS LIKE ONE OF THOSE
COMPUTER GAMES. BY THE
TIME YOU LEARN THE RULES,
THE GAME IS OVER.'

00:00!

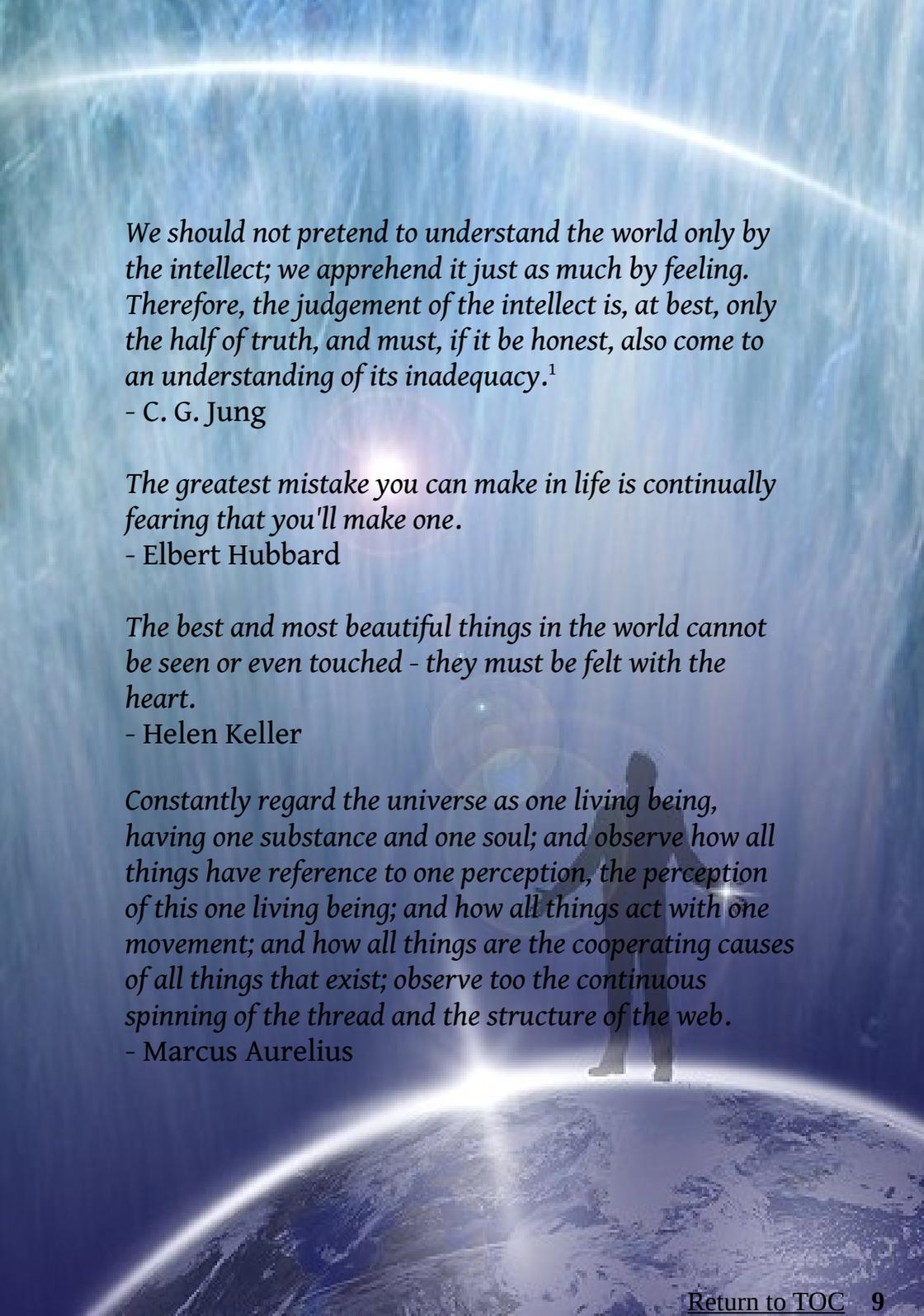


- BATYA STARK



The world we see that seems so insane is the result of a belief system that is not working. To perceive the world differently, we must be willing to change our belief system, let the past slip away, expand our sense of now, and dissolve the fear in our minds.

- William James



We should not pretend to understand the world only by the intellect; we apprehend it just as much by feeling. Therefore, the judgement of the intellect is, at best, only the half of truth, and must, if it be honest, also come to an understanding of its inadequacy.¹

- C. G. Jung

The greatest mistake you can make in life is continually fearing that you'll make one.

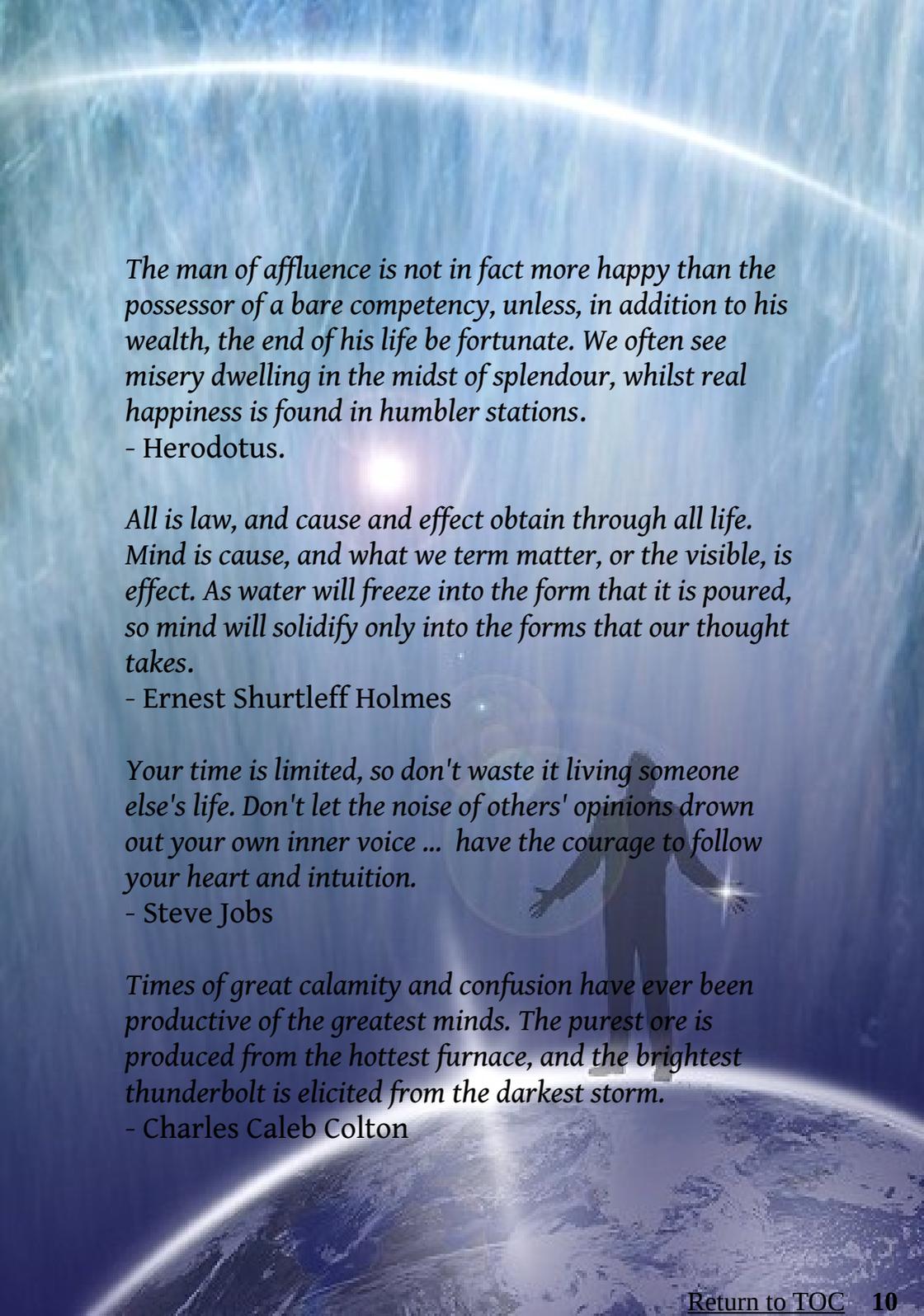
- Elbert Hubbard

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.

- Helen Keller

Constantly regard the universe as one living being, having one substance and one soul; and observe how all things have reference to one perception, the perception of this one living being; and how all things act with one movement; and how all things are the cooperating causes of all things that exist; observe too the continuous spinning of the thread and the structure of the web.

- Marcus Aurelius



The man of affluence is not in fact more happy than the possessor of a bare competency, unless, in addition to his wealth, the end of his life be fortunate. We often see misery dwelling in the midst of splendour, whilst real happiness is found in humbler stations.

- Herodotus.

All is law, and cause and effect obtain through all life. Mind is cause, and what we term matter, or the visible, is effect. As water will freeze into the form that it is poured, so mind will solidify only into the forms that our thought takes.

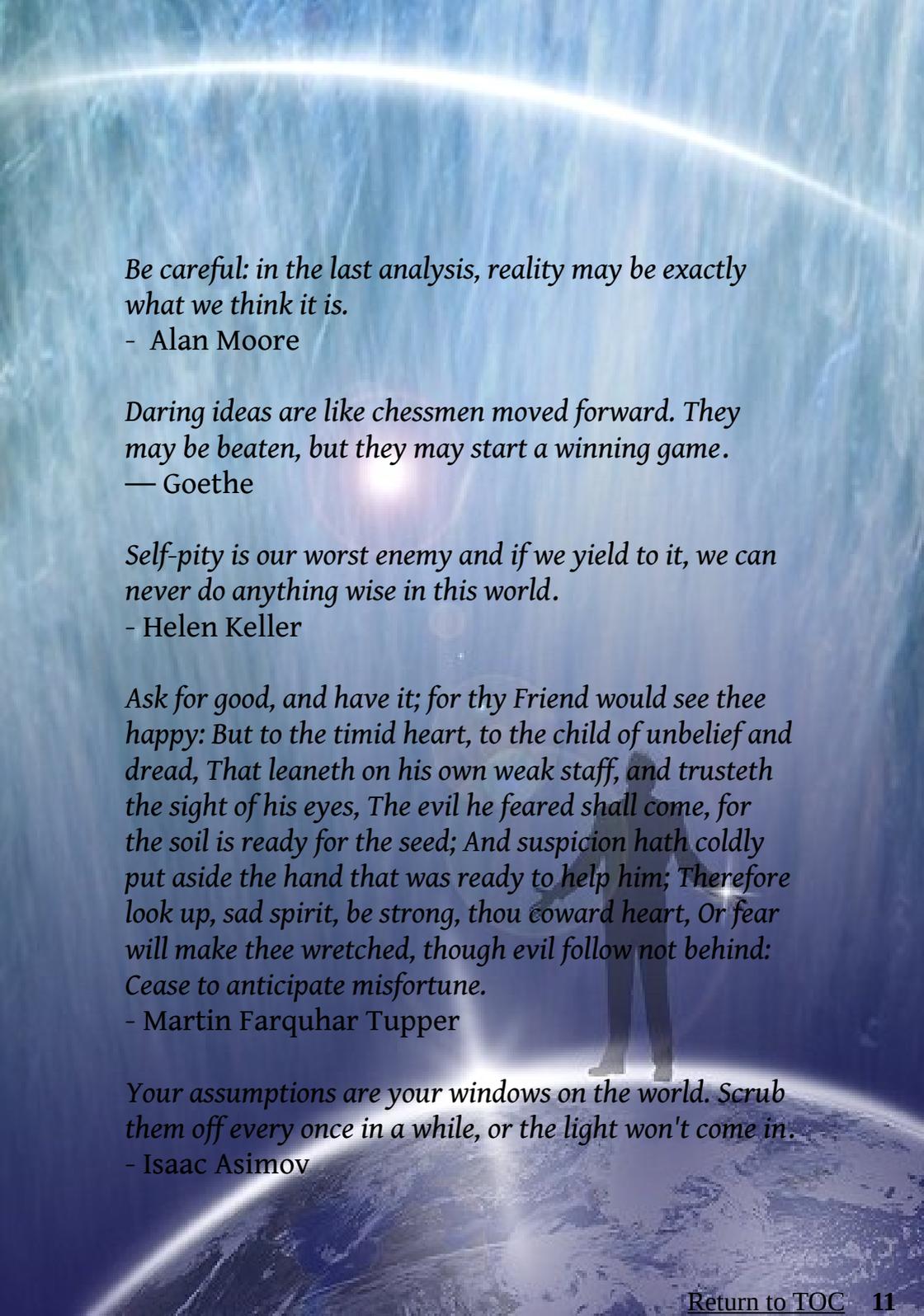
- Ernest Shurtleff Holmes

Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice ... have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.

- Steve Jobs

Times of great calamity and confusion have ever been productive of the greatest minds. The purest ore is produced from the hottest furnace, and the brightest thunderbolt is elicited from the darkest storm.

- Charles Caleb Colton



Be careful: in the last analysis, reality may be exactly what we think it is.

- Alan Moore

Daring ideas are like chessmen moved forward. They may be beaten, but they may start a winning game.

— Goethe

Self-pity is our worst enemy and if we yield to it, we can never do anything wise in this world.

- Helen Keller

Ask for good, and have it; for thy Friend would see thee happy: But to the timid heart, to the child of unbelief and dread, That leaneth on his own weak staff, and trusteth the sight of his eyes, The evil he feared shall come, for the soil is ready for the seed; And suspicion hath coldly put aside the hand that was ready to help him; Therefore look up, sad spirit, be strong, thou coward heart, Or fear will make thee wretched, though evil follow not behind: Cease to anticipate misfortune.

- Martin Farquhar Tupper

Your assumptions are your windows on the world. Scrub them off every once in a while, or the light won't come in.

- Isaac Asimov

Sometimes we are inclined to think that thought is the very highest function of our being. Then we lay great stress on the intellectual side of thinking, and declare that reason is the one supreme fact. But there is something more than reason in the life of man, something more than thought; there is something that produces thought and transcends it.

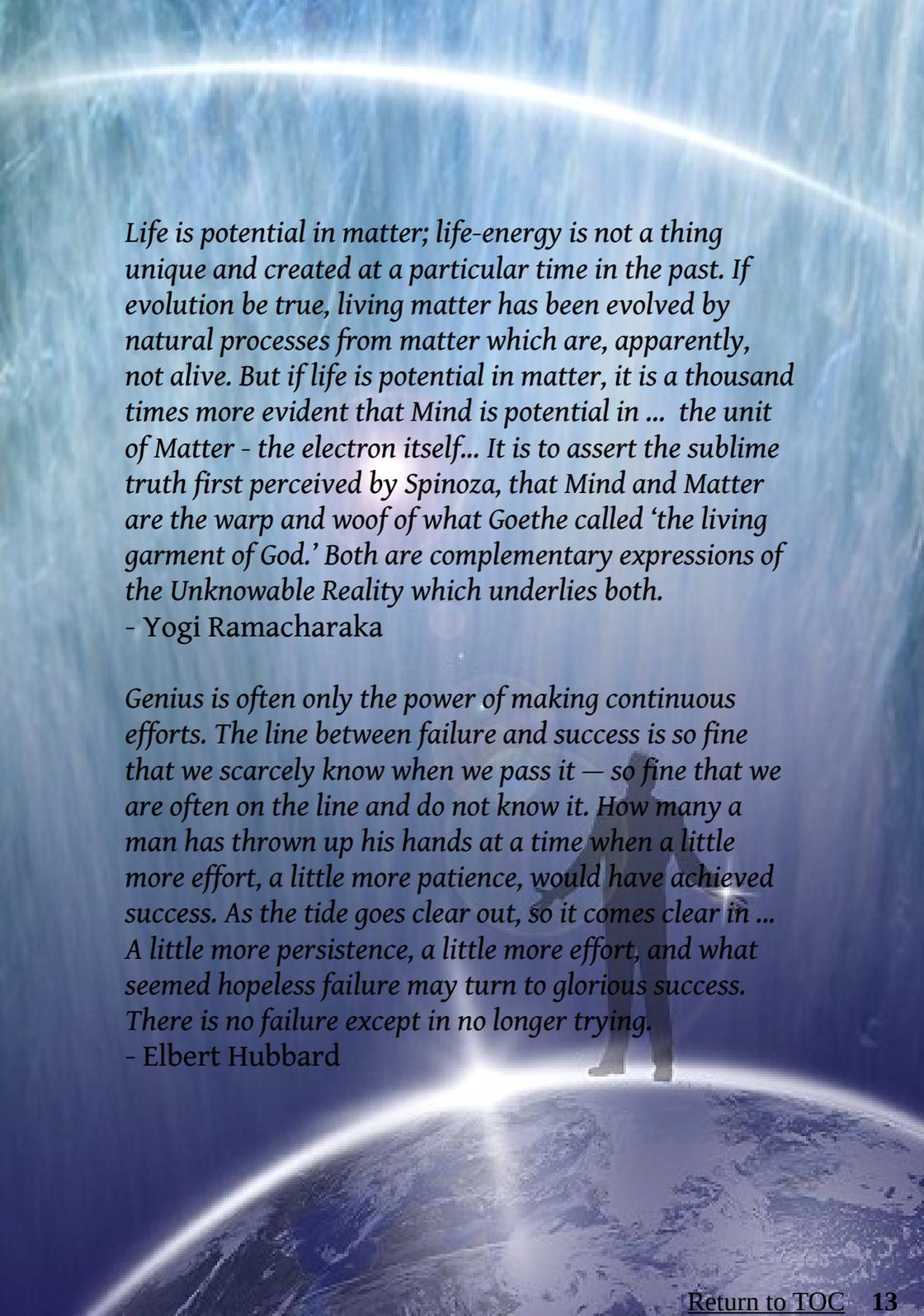
- Charles Brodie Patterson

Man's mind may be likened to a garden, which may be intelligently cultivated or allowed to run wild; but whether cultivated or neglected, it must, and will, bring forth. If no useful seeds are put into it, then an abundance of useless weed-seeds will fall therein, and will continue to produce their kind.

- James Allen

All good and evil originates in the soul, and overflows from thence, as if from the head into the eyes. If the head and body are to be well, you must begin by curing the soul; that is the first thing. And the cure has to be effected by the use of certain charms, and these charms are fair words [auto-suggestions or affirmations]; and by them temperance is implanted in the soul, and where temperance is, there health is speedily imparted, not only to the head, but to the whole body.

- Plato



Life is potential in matter; life-energy is not a thing unique and created at a particular time in the past. If evolution be true, living matter has been evolved by natural processes from matter which are, apparently, not alive. But if life is potential in matter, it is a thousand times more evident that Mind is potential in ... the unit of Matter - the electron itself... It is to assert the sublime truth first perceived by Spinoza, that Mind and Matter are the warp and woof of what Goethe called 'the living garment of God.' Both are complementary expressions of the Unknowable Reality which underlies both.

- Yogi Ramacharaka

Genius is often only the power of making continuous efforts. The line between failure and success is so fine that we scarcely know when we pass it — so fine that we are often on the line and do not know it. How many a man has thrown up his hands at a time when a little more effort, a little more patience, would have achieved success. As the tide goes clear out, so it comes clear in ... A little more persistence, a little more effort, and what seemed hopeless failure may turn to glorious success. There is no failure except in no longer trying.

- Elbert Hubbard



Science cannot solve the ultimate mystery of nature. And that is because we ourselves are a part of the mystery we are trying to solve.

- Max Planck (physicist)

2. THE PRIMACY OF THE MIND

The first thing to be said about thought is that it cannot be destroyed. It appears that every thought leaves an imprint on the neuron that sponsored it; a suspension of consciousness, as for example under hypnosis, is all that is needed to revive it ... Thus once they are born, thoughts may exist independently of the original thinking process.²

- David Conway

A little consideration of what takes place around us every day would show us, that a higher law than that of our will regulates events; that our painful labors are unnecessary, and fruitless; that only in our easy, simple, spontaneous action are we strong.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nothing costs children so much trouble as thought. This is because the ultimate and essential destiny of the soul is to see and to know, and not to think. Thought is one of the tasks of life, a method of attainment, a road, a passage, but not an end in itself. To know, and to be known, are the two points of rest; here will be the happiness of souls.

- Joubert

Men do not attract that which they want, but that which they are. Their whims, fancies, and ambitions are thwarted at every step, but their inmost thoughts and desires are fed with their own food, be it foul or clean. The "divinity that shapes our ends" is in ourselves; it is our very self. Only himself manacles man: thought and action are the gaolers of Fate—they imprison, being base; they are also the angels of Freedom—they liberate, being noble. Not what he wishes and prays for does a man get, but what he justly earns ... Circumstances, however, are so complicated, thought is so deeply rooted, and the conditions of happiness vary so, vastly with individuals, that a man's entire soul-condition (although it may be known to himself) cannot be judged by another from the external aspect of his life alone.

- James Allen

Minds are like parachutes. They only function when they are open.

- Sir James Dewar

All that we are is the result of what we have thought: it is founded on our thoughts, it is made up of our thoughts.

- The Dhammapada

You give me power! I see myself ... I have found the beginning of the power that is above all powers, the one that has no beginning. ... I have said: 'O, my Son, that I am Mind. I have seen! Language is not able to reveal this.'

- 'Discourse on the Eighth and the Ninth' (from the Gnostic Gospels)

What lies behind you and what lies in front of you, pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

It is intuition that improves the world, not just following a trodden path of thought ... Intuition is the father of new knowledge, while empiricism is nothing but an accumulation of old knowledge. Intuition, not intellect, is the 'open sesame' of yourself.³

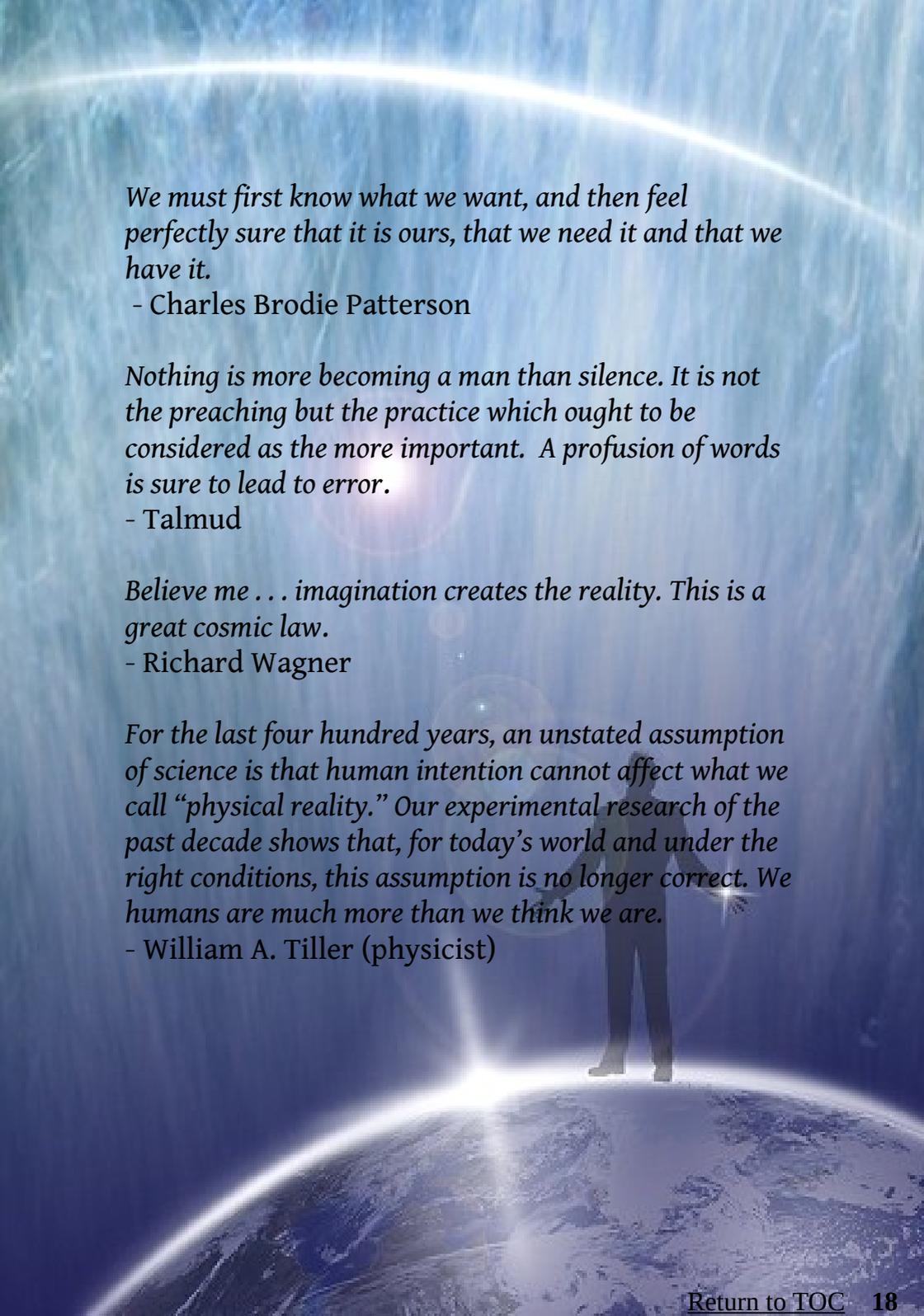
- Einstein

Know that all this, whatever moves in this moving world, is enveloped by God. Therefore find your enjoyment in renunciation; do not covet what belongs to others.

- Ishavasya Upanishad

Great men are they who see that spiritual is stronger than any material force, that thoughts rule the world.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson



We must first know what we want, and then feel perfectly sure that it is ours, that we need it and that we have it.

- Charles Brodie Patterson

Nothing is more becoming a man than silence. It is not the preaching but the practice which ought to be considered as the more important. A profusion of words is sure to lead to error.

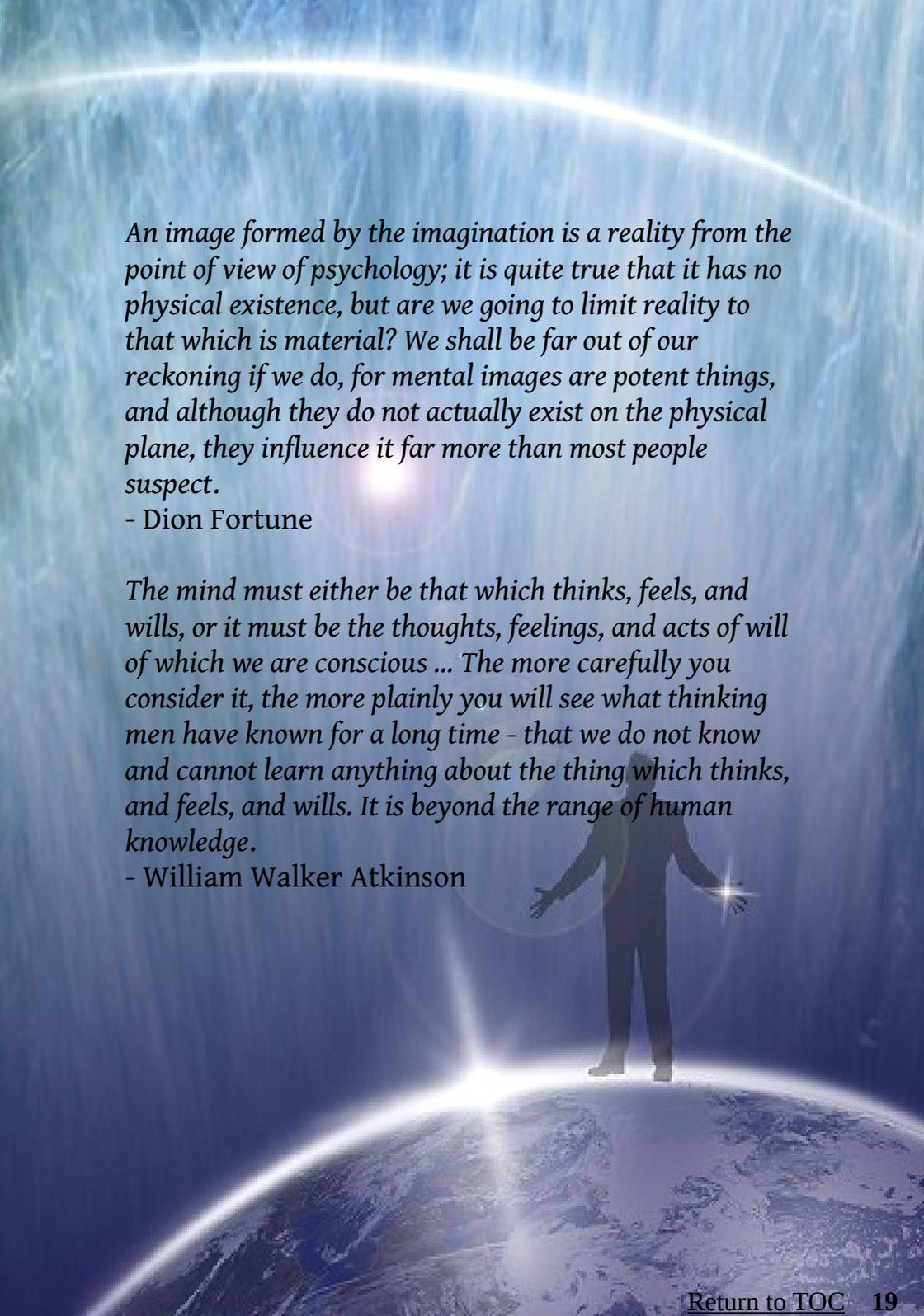
- Talmud

Believe me . . . imagination creates the reality. This is a great cosmic law.

- Richard Wagner

For the last four hundred years, an unstated assumption of science is that human intention cannot affect what we call “physical reality.” Our experimental research of the past decade shows that, for today’s world and under the right conditions, this assumption is no longer correct. We humans are much more than we think we are.

- William A. Tiller (physicist)

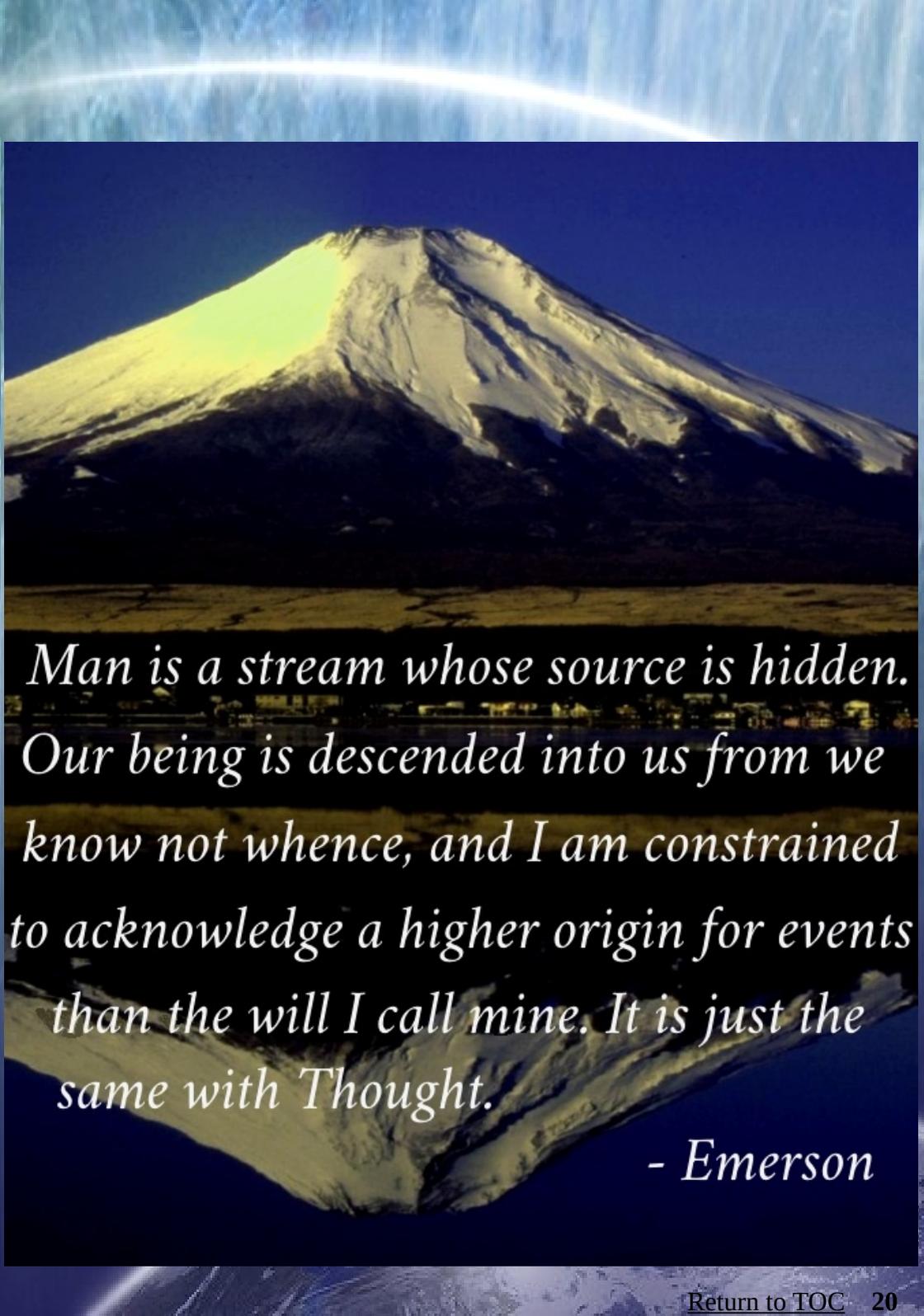
A person in silhouette stands on the horizon of the Earth, with arms outstretched. The background is a bright blue sky with a large, glowing arc of light. The Earth's surface is visible at the bottom, showing continents and oceans.

An image formed by the imagination is a reality from the point of view of psychology; it is quite true that it has no physical existence, but are we going to limit reality to that which is material? We shall be far out of our reckoning if we do, for mental images are potent things, and although they do not actually exist on the physical plane, they influence it far more than most people suspect.

- Dion Fortune

The mind must either be that which thinks, feels, and wills, or it must be the thoughts, feelings, and acts of will of which we are conscious ... The more carefully you consider it, the more plainly you will see what thinking men have known for a long time - that we do not know and cannot learn anything about the thing which thinks, and feels, and wills. It is beyond the range of human knowledge.

- William Walker Atkinson



*Man is a stream whose source is hidden.
Our being is descended into us from we
know not whence, and I am constrained
to acknowledge a higher origin for events
than the will I call mine. It is just the
same with Thought.*

- Emerson

3. FAITH AND BELIEF

I discovered that a golden thread runs through all [ancient] teachings and makes them work for those who sincerely accept and apply them, and that thread can be named in the single word – belief. It is this same element or factor – belief – that causes people to be cured through mental healing, enables others to climb high the ladder of success, and gets phenomenal results for all who accept it. Why belief works miracles is something that cannot be satisfactorily explained; but have no doubt that there’s genuine magic in believing.

- Claude Bristol (‘The Magic of Believing’)

For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.

- The Gospel of Matthew

The universe is full of magical things patiently waiting for our wits to grow sharper.

- Eden Phillpotts

If a man's faith is unsteady, if he does not know the true law, if his peace of mind is troubled, his knowledge will never be perfect.

- The Dhamappada

The beginning of faith is the beginning of fruitfulness but the beginning of unbelief, however glittering, is empty.

- Goethe

Faith is a knowledge within the heart beyond the reach of proof.

- Kahlil Gibran

What paralyzes life is lack of faith and lack of audacity. The difficulty lies not in solving problems but expressing them. And so we cannot avoid this conclusion: it is biologically evident that to gain control of passion and so make it serve spirit must be a condition of progress. Sooner or later, then, the world will brush aside our incredulity and take this step: because whatever is the more true comes out into the open, and whatever is better is ultimately realized. The day will come when, after harnessing the ether, the winds, the tides, gravitation, we shall harness for God the energies of love.

- Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (palaeontologist)

Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith.

- Henry Ward Beecher

If you think you can win, you can win. Faith is necessary to victory.

- William Hazlitt

On life's journey faith is nourishment, virtuous deeds are a shelter, wisdom is the light by day and right mindfulness is the protection by night. If a man lives a pure life, nothing can destroy him.

- Buddha

For those who believe, no proof is necessary. For those who don't believe, no proof is possible.

- Stuart Chase

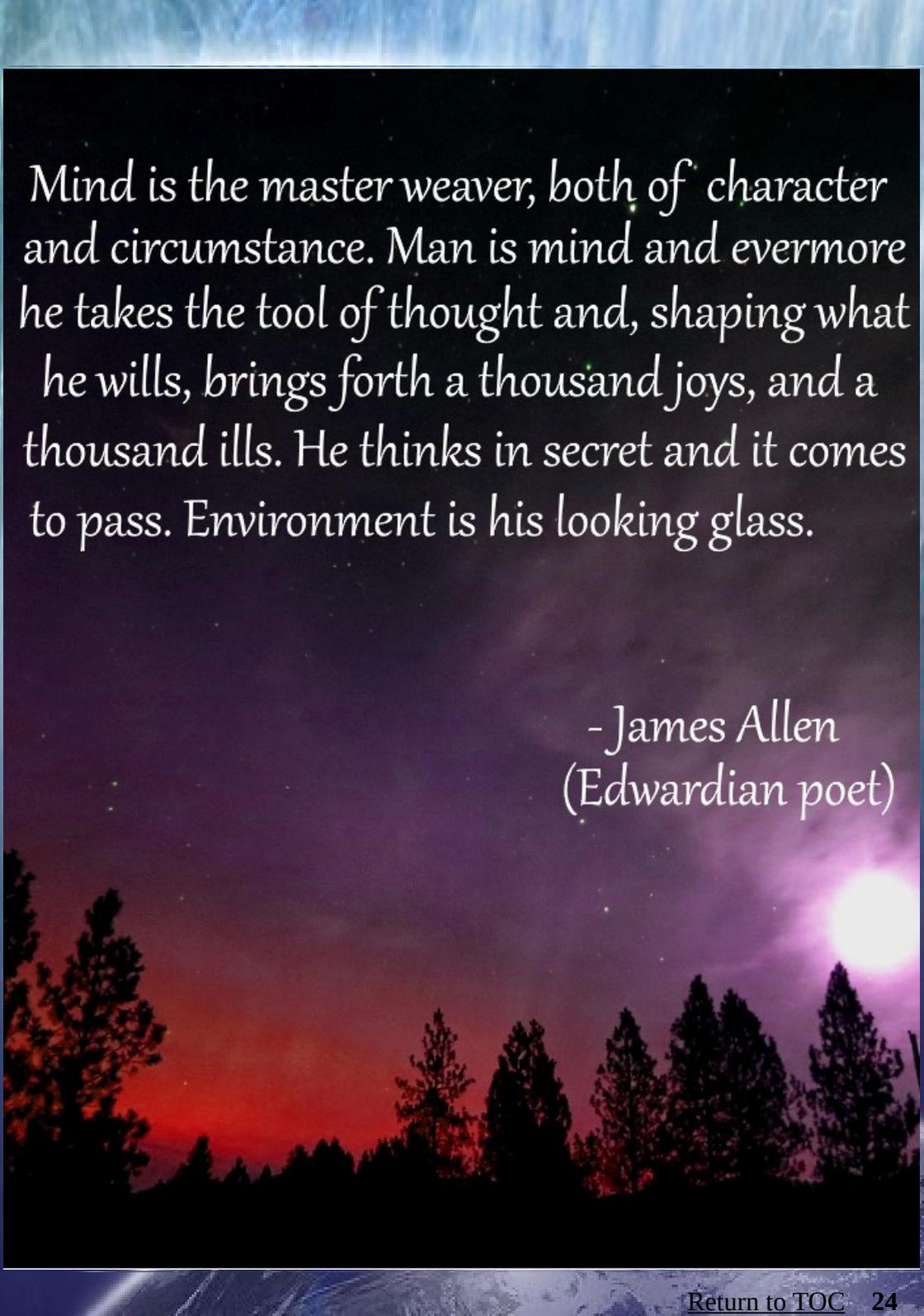
Believe and act as if it were impossible to fail.

- Charles F. Kettering

Seeing's believing, but feeling's the truth.

- Thomas Fuller





Mind is the master weaver, both of character
and circumstance. Man is mind and evermore
he takes the tool of thought and, shaping what
he wills, brings forth a thousand joys, and a
thousand ills. He thinks in secret and it comes
to pass. Environment is his looking glass.

- James Allen
(Edwardian poet)

The thing always happens that you really believe in; and the belief in thing makes it happen.

- Frank Lloyd Wright

If I have the belief that I can do it, I shall surely acquire the capacity to do it even if I may not have it at the beginning.

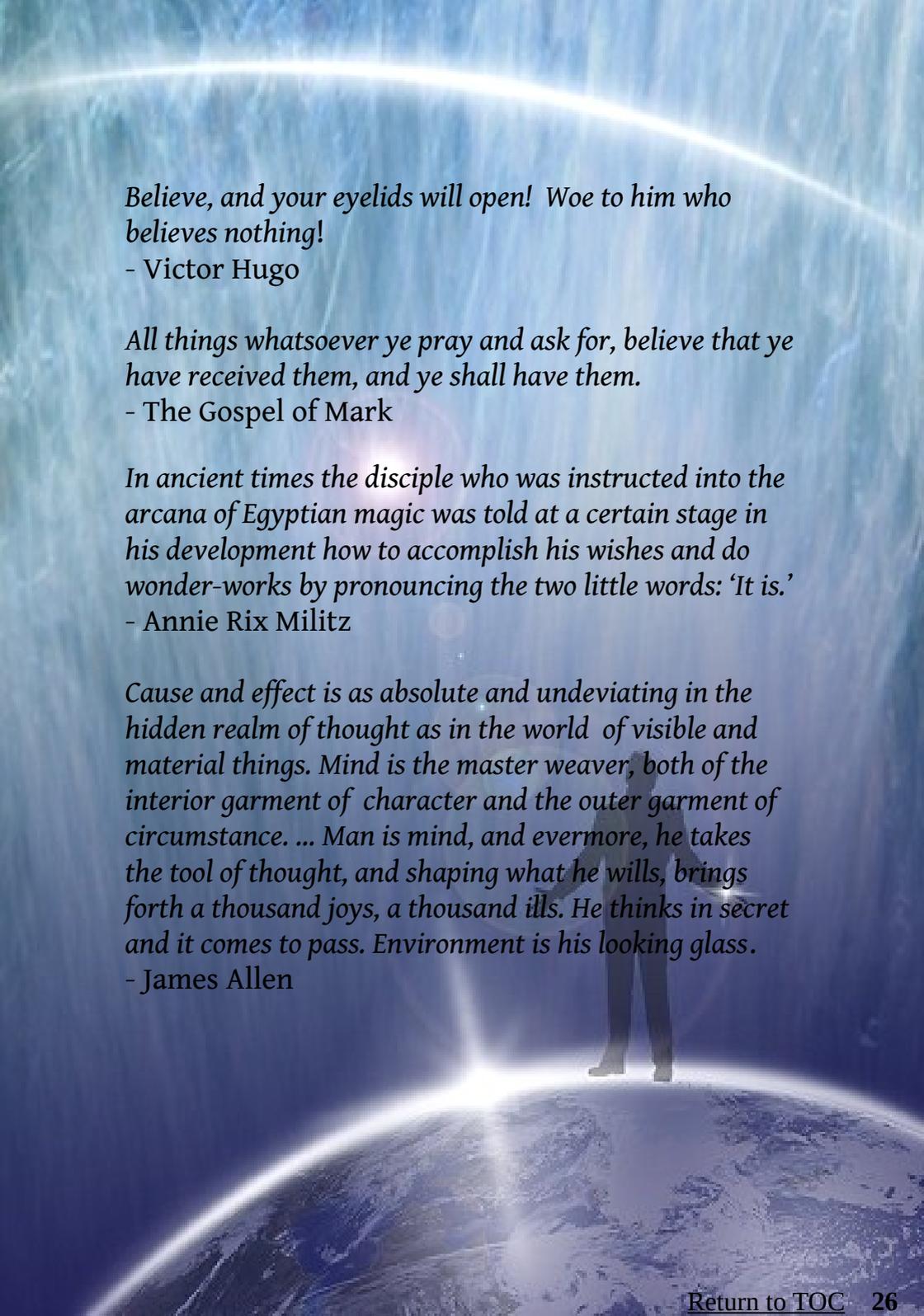
- Gandhi

Just imagine yourself surrounded by mind, so plastic, so receptive, that it receives the slightest impression of your thought. Whatever you think it takes up and executes for you. Every thought is received and acted upon. Not some but all thoughts. Whatever the pattern we provide, that will be our demonstration. If we cannot get over thinking that we are poor then we will still remain poor. As soon as we become rich in our thought then we will be rich in our expression. These are not mere words, but the deepest truth that has ever come to the human race.

- Ernest Shurtleff Holmes

Faith is taking the first step even if you don't see the whole staircase.

-Martin Luther King



Believe, and your eyelids will open! Woe to him who believes nothing!

- Victor Hugo

All things whatsoever ye pray and ask for, believe that ye have received them, and ye shall have them.

- The Gospel of Mark

In ancient times the disciple who was instructed into the arcana of Egyptian magic was told at a certain stage in his development how to accomplish his wishes and do wonder-works by pronouncing the two little words: 'It is.'

- Annie Rix Militz

Cause and effect is as absolute and undeviating in the hidden realm of thought as in the world of visible and material things. Mind is the master weaver, both of the interior garment of character and the outer garment of circumstance. ... Man is mind, and evermore, he takes the tool of thought, and shaping what he wills, brings forth a thousand joys, a thousand ills. He thinks in secret and it comes to pass. Environment is his looking glass.

- James Allen

Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe.

- Saint Augustine

Know that the wind listeth to blow where there is a vacuum. If you find a tremendous rush of wind, you know that somewhere there is an empty space. I am perfectly sure about this fact: if we could expel all pride, vanity, self-righteousness, self-seeking, desire for applause, honour, and promotion - if by some divine power we should be utterly emptied of all that, the Spirit would come as a rushing mighty wind to fill us.

- A. J. Gordon.

I am convinced that the so-called secret fraternal organizations guard a real “royal secret” which very few members ever grasp. The conclusion must be that “no mind ever receives the truth until it is prepared to receive it.” One order provides candidates with a very profound book, which itself would be practically an open-sesame to life if the candidates could understand and follow its tenets. But few read it, complaining that “it is too deep” for them.

- Claude Bristol (“The Magic of Believing”)

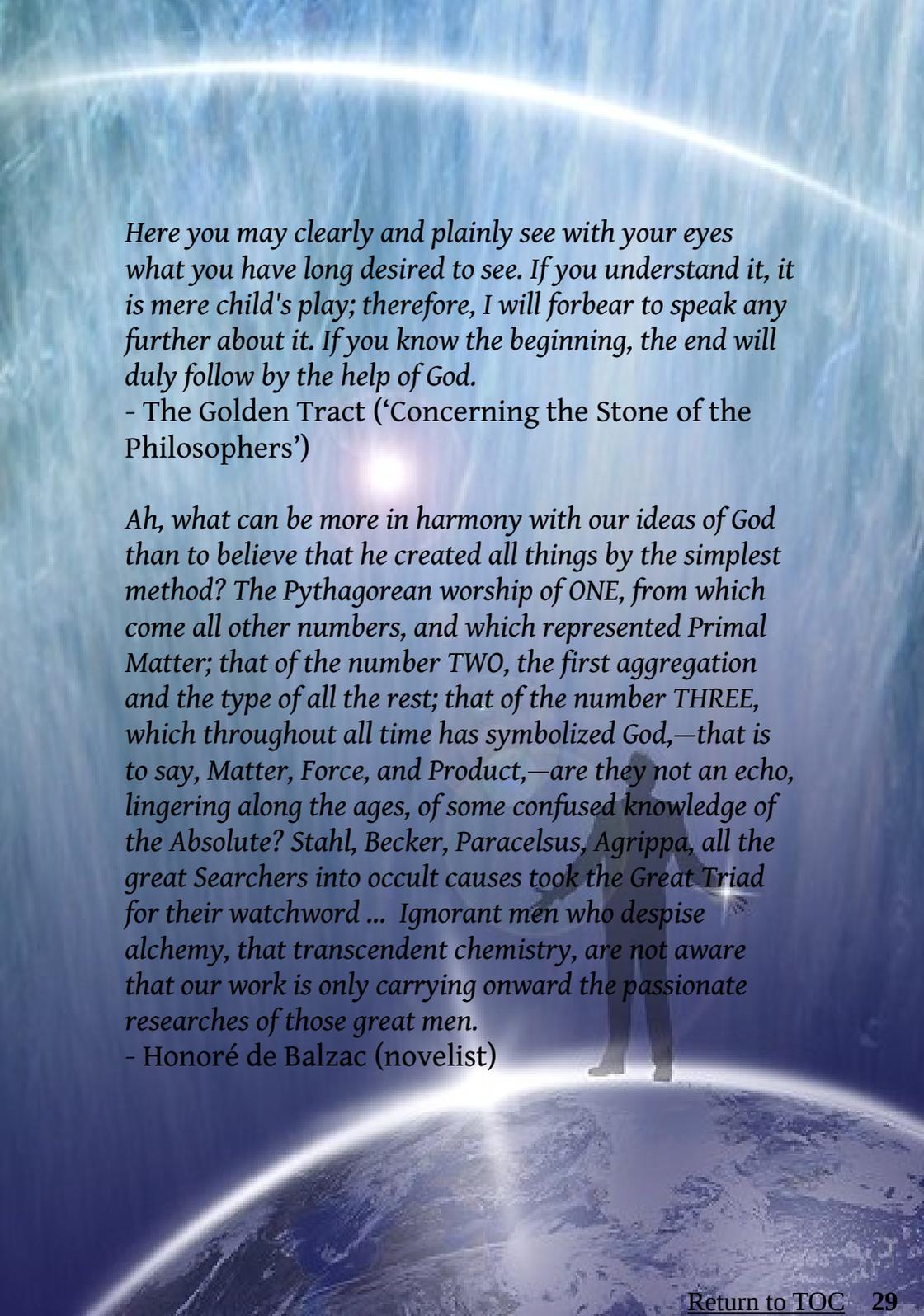
4. ALCHEMY & THE HIDDEN POWER

While we hear, every day, the small pretenders to science talk of the absurdities of Alchemy, and the dream of the Philosopher's Stone, a more erudite knowledge is aware that by Alchemists the greatest discoveries in science have been made, and much which still seems abstruse, had we the key to the mystic phraseology they were compelled to adopt, might open the way to yet more noble acquisitions. The Philosopher's Stone itself has seemed no visionary chimera to some of the soundest chemists that even the present century has produced.

- Edward Bulwer Lytton

There is in natural things a certain truth which cannot be seen with the outward eye ... and of this the Philosophers have had experience, and have ascertained that its virtue is such as to work miracles ...As faith works miracles in man, so this power, the veritas efficaciae, brings them about in matter. This truth is the highest power and an impregnable fortress wherein the stone of the philosophers lies hid.

- Gerhard Dorn (alchemist)



Here you may clearly and plainly see with your eyes what you have long desired to see. If you understand it, it is mere child's play; therefore, I will forbear to speak any further about it. If you know the beginning, the end will duly follow by the help of God.

- The Golden Tract ('Concerning the Stone of the Philosophers')

Ah, what can be more in harmony with our ideas of God than to believe that he created all things by the simplest method? The Pythagorean worship of ONE, from which come all other numbers, and which represented Primal Matter; that of the number TWO, the first aggregation and the type of all the rest; that of the number THREE, which throughout all time has symbolized God,—that is to say, Matter, Force, and Product,—are they not an echo, lingering along the ages, of some confused knowledge of the Absolute? Stahl, Becker, Paracelsus, Agrippa, all the great Searchers into occult causes took the Great Triad for their watchword ... Ignorant men who despise alchemy, that transcendent chemistry, are not aware that our work is only carrying onward the passionate researches of those great men.

- Honoré de Balzac (novelist)

Now, Nature may truly be described as being one, true, simple, and perfect in her own essence, and as being animated by an invisible spirit. If therefore you would know her, you, too, should be true, single-hearted, patient, constant, pious, forbearing, and, in short, a new and regenerate man.

- The Sophic Hydrolith ('The Waterstone of the Wise')

Know that the object of your desire is one thing, out of which all things are made.

- Rosinus

Our stone is one, one medicine, to which we add nothing, from which we take nothing away, only removing that which is superfluous.

- Geber

Therefore all those who desire to attain the blessing of this art should apply themselves to study, should gather the truth from the books and not from invented fables and untruthful works. There is no way by which this art can truly be found (although men meet with many deceptions), except by completing their studies and understanding the words of the philosophers.

- 'Theatricum chemicum'

Matter, like light, like heat, like electricity, seems to be the result of a species of movement. Movement of what? Of the primitive monistic substance, quickened by manifold vibrations. Most assuredly, matter is not that inert thing that we commonly suppose.

- Camille Flammarion (astronomer)

Here you may clearly and plainly see with your eyes what you have long desired to see. If you understand it, it is mere child's play; therefore, I will forbear to speak any further about it. If you know the beginning, the end will duly follow by the help of God.

- 'The Golden Tract'

Morienus: *For this thing is extracted from thee, and thou art its ore; in thee they find it, and, to speak more plainly, from thee they take it; and when thou hast experienced this, the love and delight of it will be increased in thee. And thou shalt know that this thing subsists truly and beyond all doubt.*

King Calid: *Have you at any time known any other Stone that may be likened unto this Stone, by whose effect and power this self same thing might be perpetrated?*

Morienus: *I have not known any Stone which might be likened to this Stone, or which may have the effect of it. For in this Stone the Four Elements are contained, and it is likened to the world and the composition of the world.*

- 'De Transmutatione Metallica'

Who therefore knows the salt and its solution knows the hidden secret of the wise men of old. Therefore turn your mind upon the salt and think not of other things; for in it alone [i.e., the mind] is the science concealed and the most excellent and most hidden secret of all the ancient philosophers.

- 'The Rosarium Philosophorum'

The mystery of our Art, which we conceal with so great care, is the preparation of the Mercury, which above ground is not to be found made ready to our hand. But when it is prepared, it is "our water" in which gold is dissolved, whereby the latent life of the gold is set free, and receives the life of the dissolving Mercury, which is to gold what good earth is to the grain of wheat.

- Sendivogius

(I should clarify here that Mercury is conscious awareness, 'seeing' and understanding, or suddenly realising something - how it really works, for example. We see through the matter, we 'dissolve it' and are able to access something hitherto withheld from us. The Gold is that precious thing for which we strive - whether material or spiritual - which only comes with the 'preparation of the Mercury' - JLP.)

*Thou wilt never make from others the One that thou
seekest, except there first be made one thing of thyself.*

- Gerhard Dorn

*To cause things hidden in the shadow to appear, and to
take away the shadow from them, this is permitted to the
intelligent philosopher by God through nature.... All
these things happen, and the eyes of the common men do
not see them, but the eyes of the understanding
[intellectus] and of the imagination perceive them
[percipiunt] with true and truest vision.*

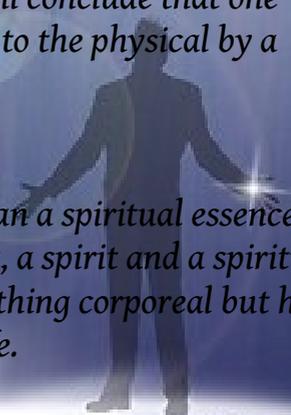
- Sendivogius

*Within the human body is concealed a certain
metaphysical substance, known to very few, which needs
no medicament, being itself an incorrupt medicament.
From this, the attentive reader will conclude that one
must pass from the metaphysical to the physical by a
philosophic procedure.*

- Gerhard Dorn

*The life of things is none other than a spiritual essence,
an invisible and impalpable thing, a spirit and a spiritual
thing. On this account there is nothing corporeal but has
latent within itself a spirit and life.*

- Paracelsus

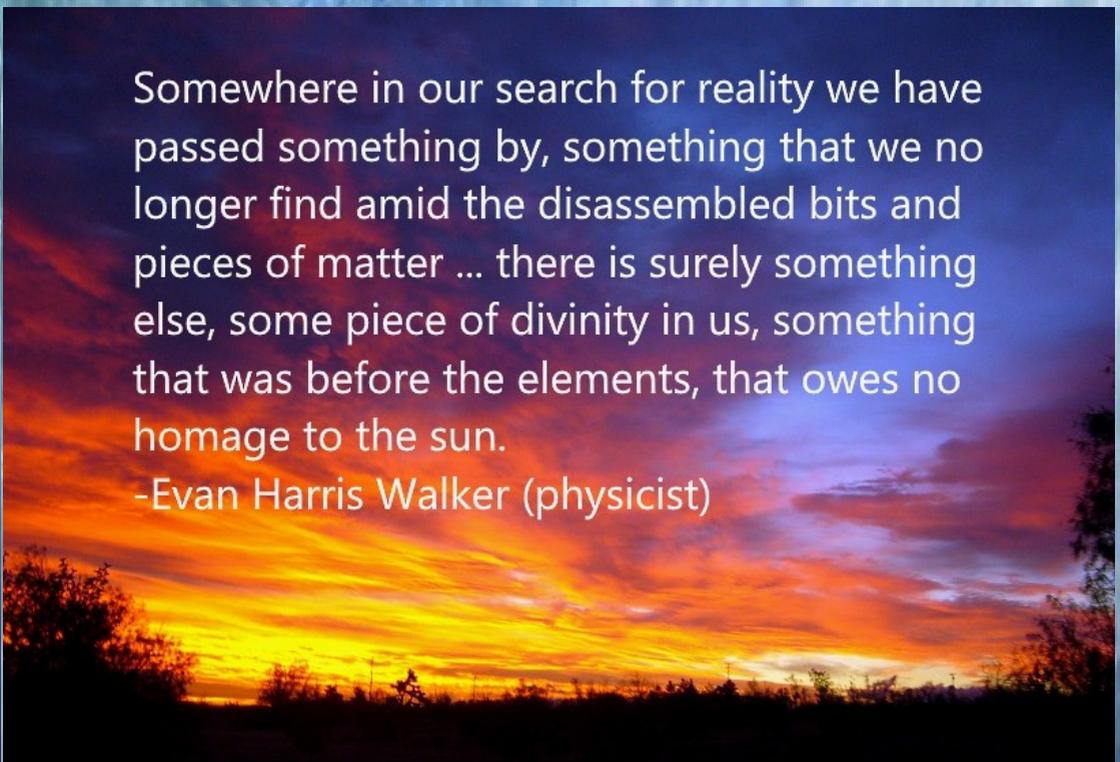


There is in natural things a certain truth which cannot be seen with the outward eye, but is perceived by the mind alone [sola mente], and of this the Philosophers have had experience, and have ascertained that its virtue is such as to work miracles. In this [truth] lies the whole art of freeing the spirit [spiritus] from its fetters, in the same way that, as we have said, the mind [mens] can be freed [i.e., morally] from the body. As faith works miracles in man, so this power, the veritas efficaciae, brings them about in matter. This truth is the highest power and an impregnable fortress wherein the stone of the philosophers lies hid.

- Gerhard Dorn

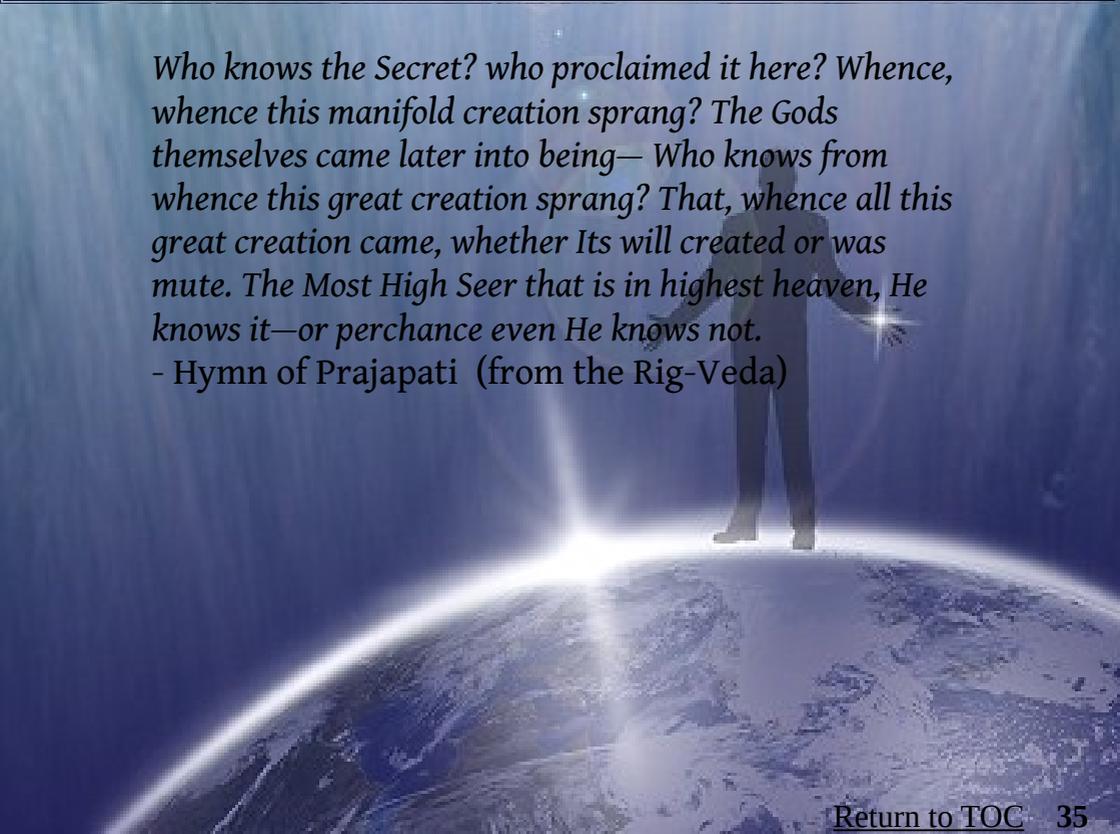
But that the secret might not be lost, but rather continued and preserved to posterity, they expounded it most faithfully, both in their writings and in oral teaching to their faithful disciples, for the benefit of posterity; nevertheless, they so clothed and concealed the truth in allegorical language that even now only very few are able to understand their instruction and turn it to practical account.

- The Sophic Hydrolith ('The Waterstone of the Wise')



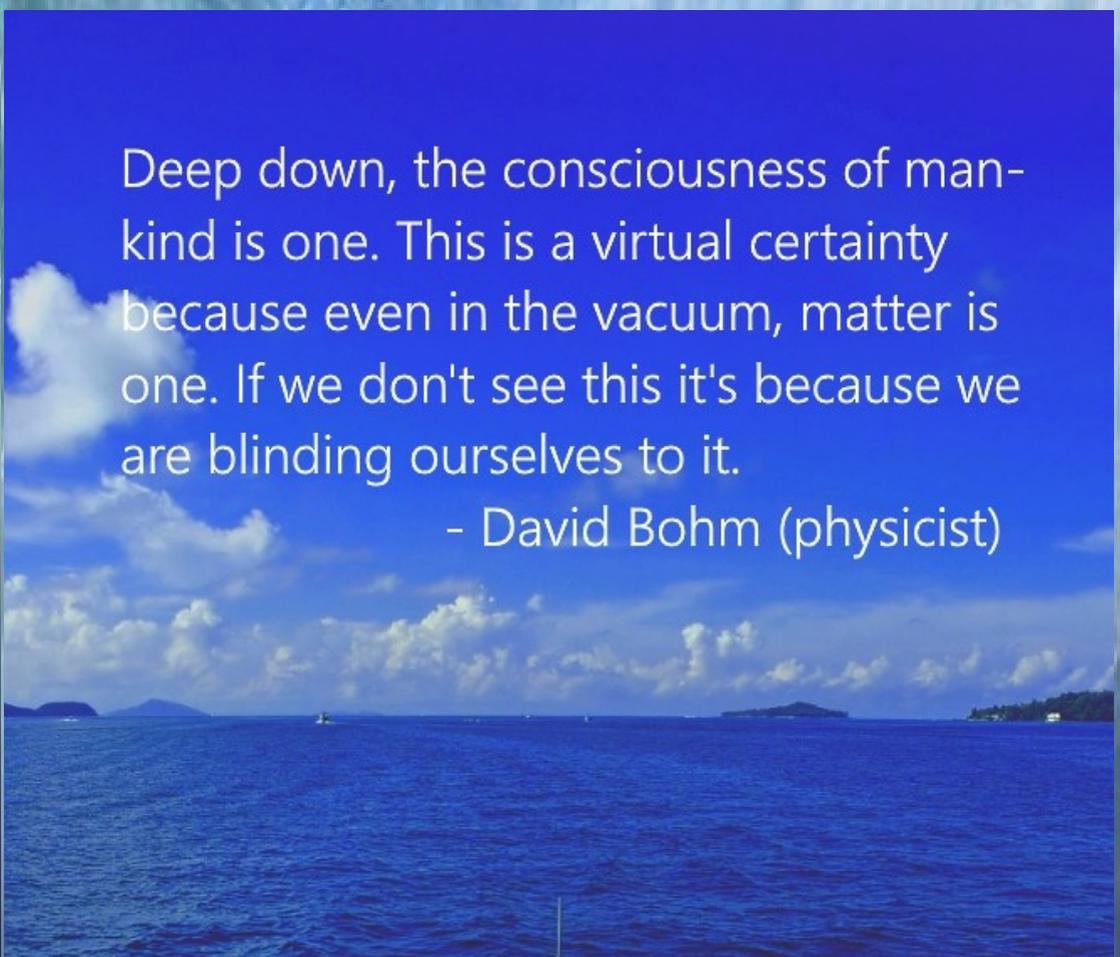
Somewhere in our search for reality we have passed something by, something that we no longer find amid the disassembled bits and pieces of matter ... there is surely something else, some piece of divinity in us, something that was before the elements, that owes no homage to the sun.

-Evan Harris Walker (physicist)



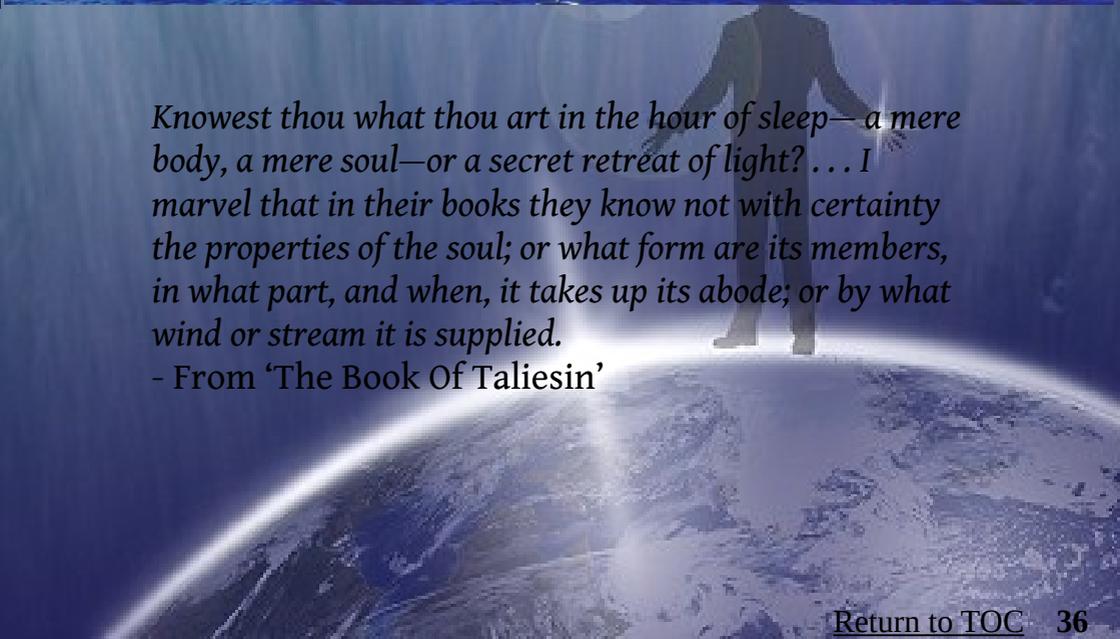
Who knows the Secret? who proclaimed it here? Whence, whence this manifold creation sprang? The Gods themselves came later into being— Who knows from whence this great creation sprang? That, whence all this great creation came, whether Its will created or was mute. The Most High Seer that is in highest heaven, He knows it—or perchance even He knows not.

- Hymn of Prajapati (from the Rig-Veda)



Deep down, the consciousness of mankind is one. This is a virtual certainty because even in the vacuum, matter is one. If we don't see this it's because we are blinding ourselves to it.

- David Bohm (physicist)



Knowest thou what thou art in the hour of sleep—a mere body, a mere soul—or a secret retreat of light? . . . I marvel that in their books they know not with certainty the properties of the soul; or what form are its members, in what part, and when, it takes up its abode; or by what wind or stream it is supplied.

- From 'The Book Of Taliesin'

5. THE HEAVENS & THE ANIMA MUNDI

If you want to find the secrets of the universe, think in terms of energy, frequency and vibration.

— Nikola Tesla

We are born at a given moment, in a given place and, like vintage years of wine, we have the qualities of the year and of the season of which we are born. Astrology does not lay claim to anything more.

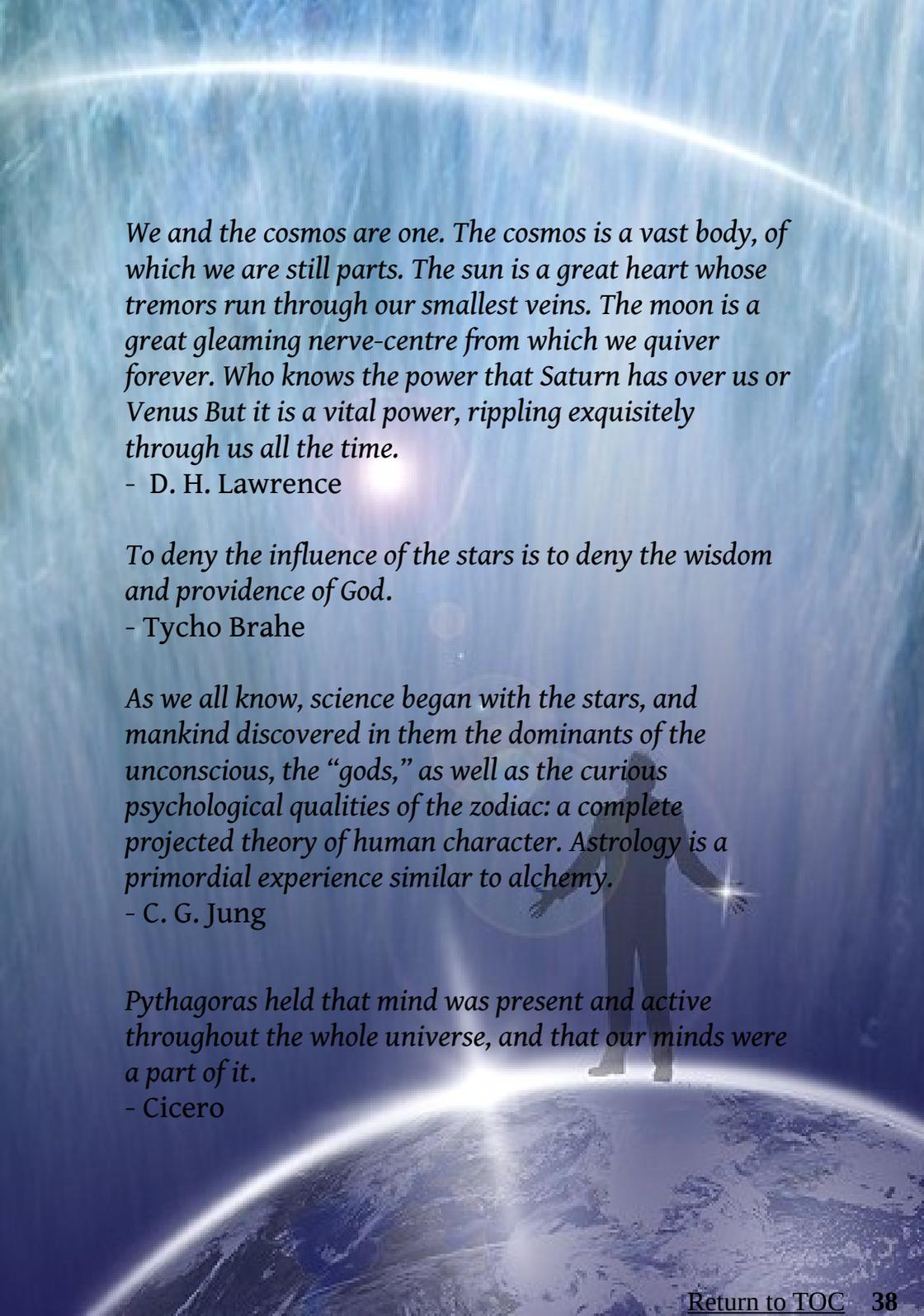
- C. G. Jung

A most unfailling experience of the excitement of sublunary natures by the conjunctions and aspects of the planets, has instructed and compelled my unwilling belief.

- Johannes Kepler

Before the heavens there existed fire, air, water, earth, which we suppose men to know ... wherefore we are compelled to speak of water or fire, not as substances, but as qualities.⁴

- Plato



We and the cosmos are one. The cosmos is a vast body, of which we are still parts. The sun is a great heart whose tremors run through our smallest veins. The moon is a great gleaming nerve-centre from which we quiver forever. Who knows the power that Saturn has over us or Venus But it is a vital power, rippling exquisitely through us all the time.

- D. H. Lawrence

To deny the influence of the stars is to deny the wisdom and providence of God.

- Tycho Brahe

As we all know, science began with the stars, and mankind discovered in them the dominants of the unconscious, the “gods,” as well as the curious psychological qualities of the zodiac: a complete projected theory of human character. Astrology is a primordial experience similar to alchemy.

- C. G. Jung

Pythagoras held that mind was present and active throughout the whole universe, and that our minds were a part of it.

- Cicero

For thought and being are the same thing.

- Parmenides

*Wouldst thou know thyself, observe the actions of others.
Wouldst thou other men know, look thou within thine
own heart.*

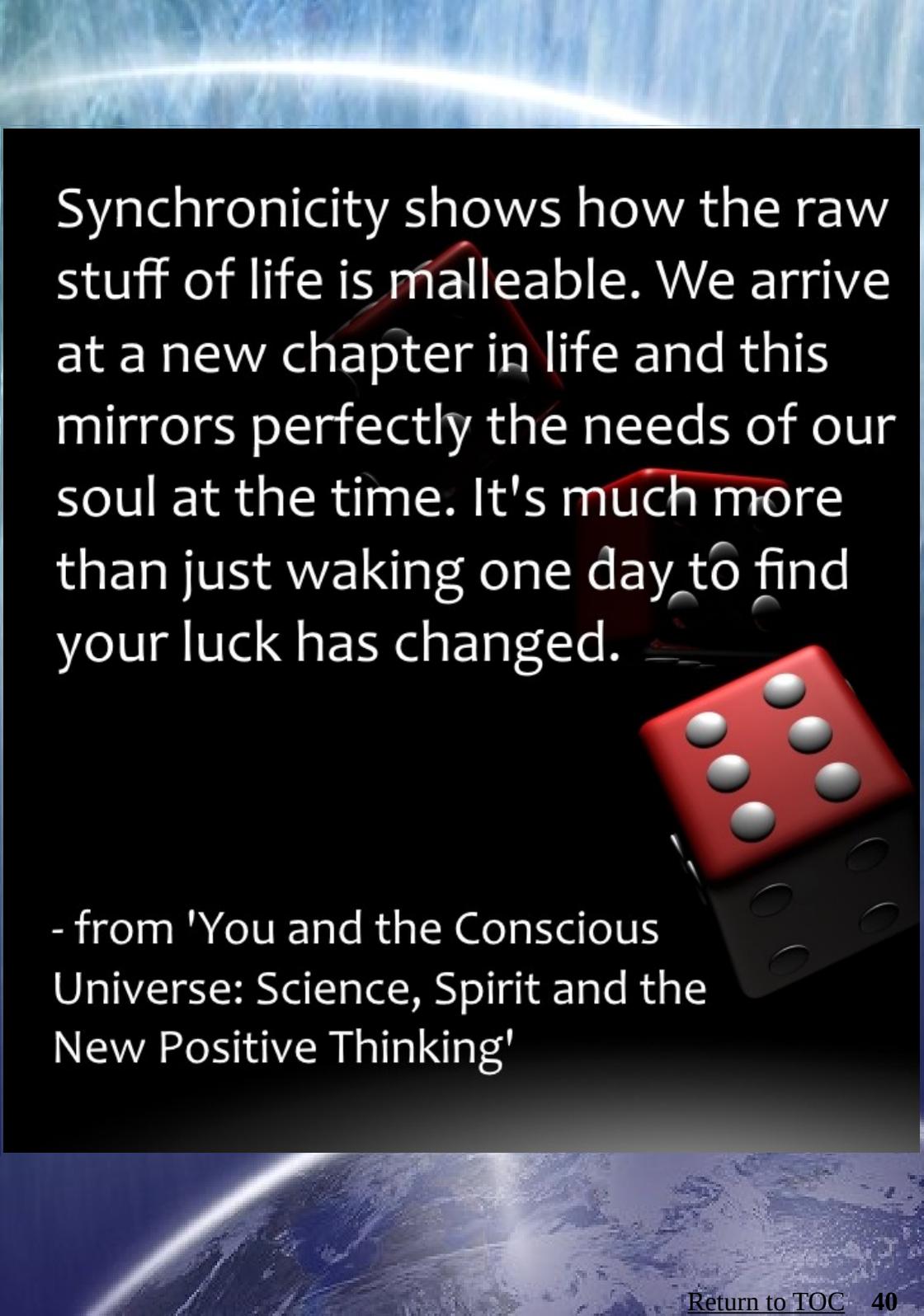
- Schiller

*We lie in the lap of immense intelligence, which makes us
receivers of its truth and organs of its activity. When we
discern justice, when we discern truth, we do nothing of
ourselves, but allow a passage to its beams.*

- Emerson

*The universe is a thought of God. After this ideal
thought-fabric passed out into reality, and the new-born
world fulfilled the plan of its Creator—permit me to use
this human simile—the first duty of all thinking beings
has been to retrace the original design in this great
reality; to find the principle in the mechanism, the unity
in the compound, the law in the phenomenon, and to
pass back from the structure to its primitive foundation.
Accordingly to me there is only one appearance in
nature: the thinking Being.*

- Schiller



Synchronicity shows how the raw stuff of life is malleable. We arrive at a new chapter in life and this mirrors perfectly the needs of our soul at the time. It's much more than just waking one day to find your luck has changed.

- from 'You and the Conscious Universe: Science, Spirit and the New Positive Thinking'

We all cannot honestly say “we have life” for life does not belong to us, and we cannot control or monopolise it. All we can say without arrogance and presumption is that we are instruments through which an universal principle that produces what we call ‘life’ manifests itself in the form of a human being... He who thinks that he has any power whatever of his own, thinks foolish; for all the powers he has are lent him by nature.

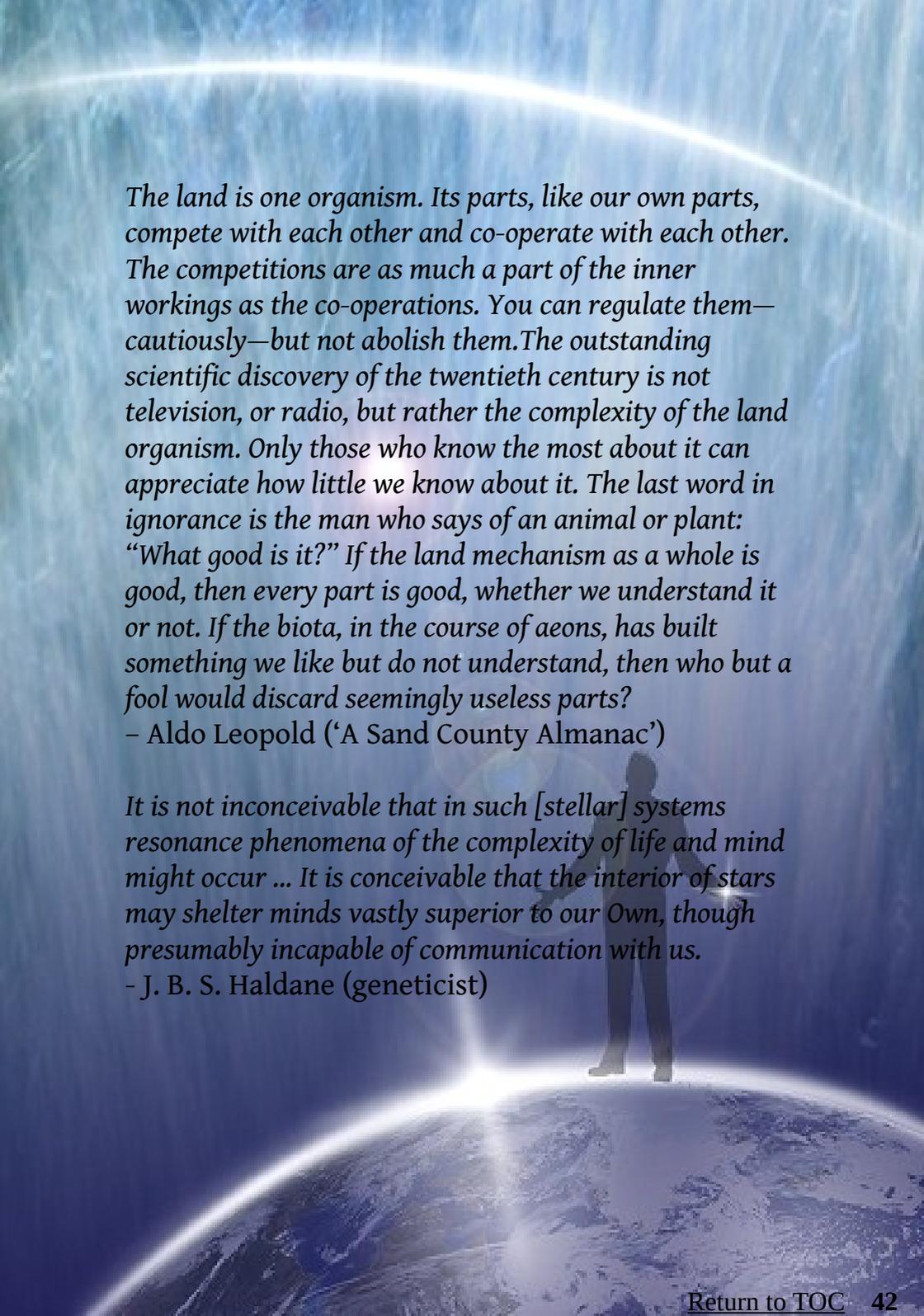
- Franz Hartmann

There is a continuum of cosmic consciousness, . . . into which our several minds plunge as into a mother-sea or reservoir. . . . Not only psychic research, but metaphysical philosophy, and speculative biology are led in their own ways to look with favor on some such ‘panpsychic’ view of the universe as this.

- William James

All parts of Nature, even the inanimate, have an innate and fixt self-knowledge, [and] it is probable that they may also have an interior self-knowledge of the existency of the Eternal and Omnipotent God, as the Author of Nature.

- Margaret Cavendish (philosopher)



The land is one organism. Its parts, like our own parts, compete with each other and co-operate with each other. The competitions are as much a part of the inner workings as the co-operations. You can regulate them—cautiously—but not abolish them. The outstanding scientific discovery of the twentieth century is not television, or radio, but rather the complexity of the land organism. Only those who know the most about it can appreciate how little we know about it. The last word in ignorance is the man who says of an animal or plant: “What good is it?” If the land mechanism as a whole is good, then every part is good, whether we understand it or not. If the biota, in the course of aeons, has built something we like but do not understand, then who but a fool would discard seemingly useless parts?

– Aldo Leopold (‘A Sand County Almanac’)

It is not inconceivable that in such [stellar] systems resonance phenomena of the complexity of life and mind might occur ... It is conceivable that the interior of stars may shelter minds vastly superior to our Own, though presumably incapable of communication with us.

– J. B. S. Haldane (geneticist)

The World Soul is the strongest tie that links the lower world to the heavens and unifies it therewith so that, all its forms are governed from on high; for in this lower world, that, is to say the globe of the earth, there is inherent a spiritual nature ... Whether all plants and animals as well as the globe of the earth have this faculty in themselves I cannot say. But it is not an unbelievable thing . . . That man, too, through his soul and its lower faculties, has a like affinity to the heavens as has the soil of the earth can be tested and proven in many ways.
- Johannes Kepler (astronomer)

We find in ourselves a power of moving our bodies by our thoughts . . . and see [the] same power in other living creatures but how this is done and by what laws we do not know. . . . It appears that there are other laws of motion . . . [and this is] enough to justify and encourage our search after them. We cannot say that all nature is not alive.
- Isaac Newton (mathematician/chemist)

In this way, by the good favour of Tyche [the goddess of Good Fortune], all things have the power of thought.
- Empedocles

Whenever coincidences present themselves, you can dismiss them as meaningless or choose to recognize their amazing potential. In reality, life's coincidences aren't random occurrences in a chaotic universe – they are clues to fulfilling your deepest dreams and desires.

- Deepak Chopra

There is one common flow, one common breathing, all things are in sympathy. The whole organism and each one of its parts are working in conjunction for the same purpose . . . the great principle extends to the extremest part, and from the extremest part it returns to the great principle, to the one nature, being and not-being.

- Hippocrates

The universe is represented in every one of its particles. Every thing in nature contains all the powers of nature. Every thing is made of one hidden stuff; as the naturalist sees one type under every metamorphosis, and regards a horse as a running man, a fish as a swimming man, a bird as a flying man, a tree as a rooted man. Each new form repeats not only the main character of the type, but part for part all the details, all the aims, furtherances, hindrances, energies, and whole system of every other. And each one must somehow accommodate the whole man, and recite all his destiny. The world globes itself in a drop of dew.

- Emerson

6. THE CONSCIOUS UNIVERSE

It is probable that what we call thought is not an actual being, but no more than the relation between certain parts of that infinitely varied mass, of which the rest of the universe is composed.

- Percy Bysshe Shelley

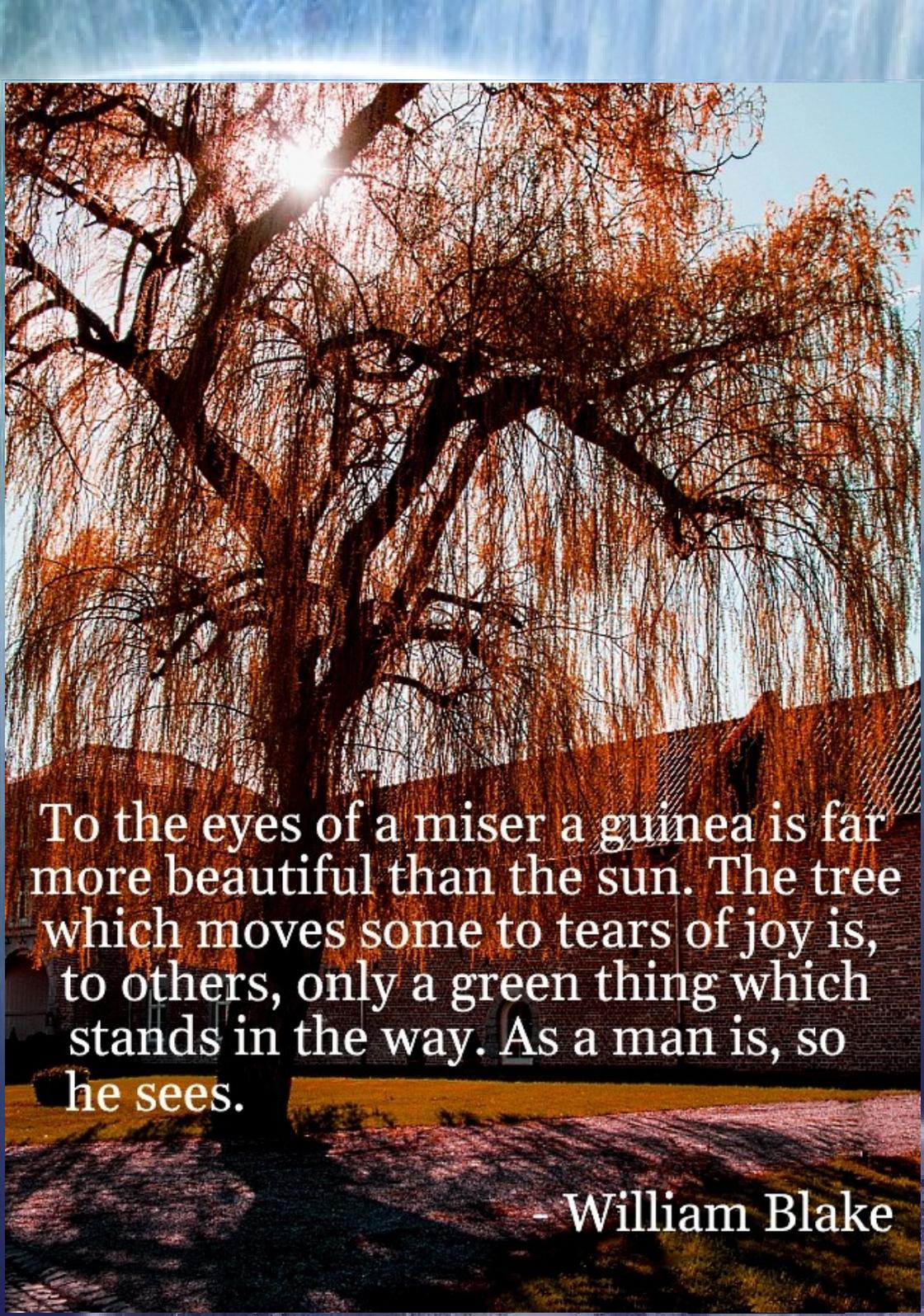
There is motion in the earth as well as on the surface; it lives and grows. It is warmed and influenced by the sun—just as my blood by my thoughts. . . . The earth I tread on [in winter] is not a dead inert mass. It is a body—has a spirit—is organic—and fluid to the influence of its spirit—and to whatever particle of that spirit is in me. . . . Even the solid globe is permeated by the living law. It is the most living of creatures.

- Henry David Thoreau

It is not necessary to ask whether soul and body are one, just as it is not necessary to ask whether the wax and its shape are one.

- Aristotle





To the eyes of a miser a guinea is far more beautiful than the sun. The tree which moves some to tears of joy is, to others, only a green thing which stands in the way. As a man is, so he sees.

- William Blake

Standing on the bare ground — my head bathed by the blithe air, and uplifted into infinite space — all mean egotism vanishes. I become a transparent eye-ball; I am nothing; I see all; the currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part or particle of God.

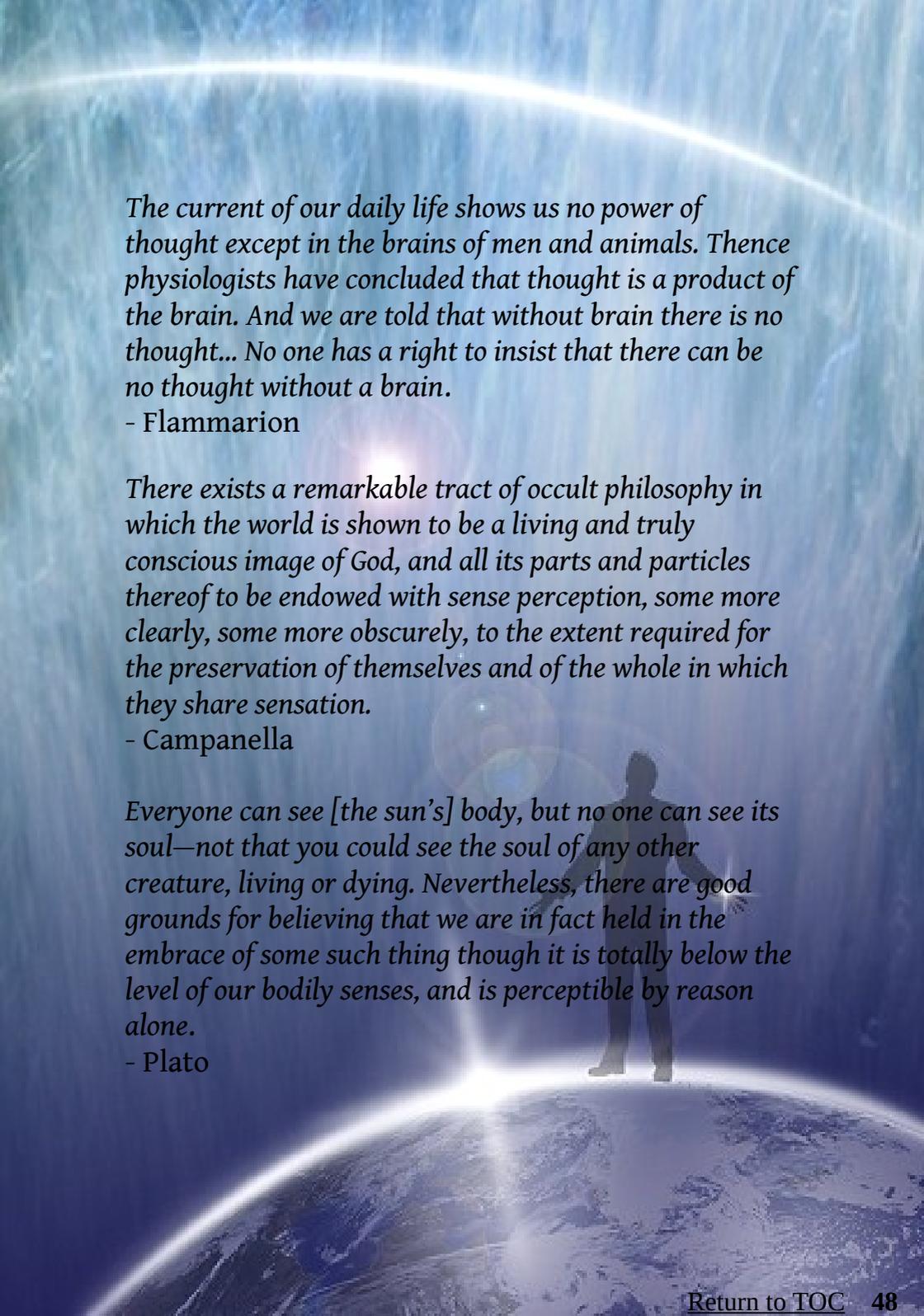
- Emerson

The goal to be reached is the mind's insight into what knowing is. Impatience asks for the impossible, wants to reach the goal without the means of getting there. The length of the journey has to be borne with, for every moment is necessary ... because by nothing less could that all-pervading mind ever manage to become conscious of what itself is. For that reason, the individual mind, in the nature of the case, cannot expect by less toil to grasp what its own substance contains.

- Hegel (philosopher)

It is manifest . . . that every soul and spirit hath a certain continuity with the spirit of the universe. . . . The power of each soul is itself somehow present afar in the universe [and is] exceedingly connected and attached thereto.

- Giordano Bruno



The current of our daily life shows us no power of thought except in the brains of men and animals. Thence physiologists have concluded that thought is a product of the brain. And we are told that without brain there is no thought... No one has a right to insist that there can be no thought without a brain.

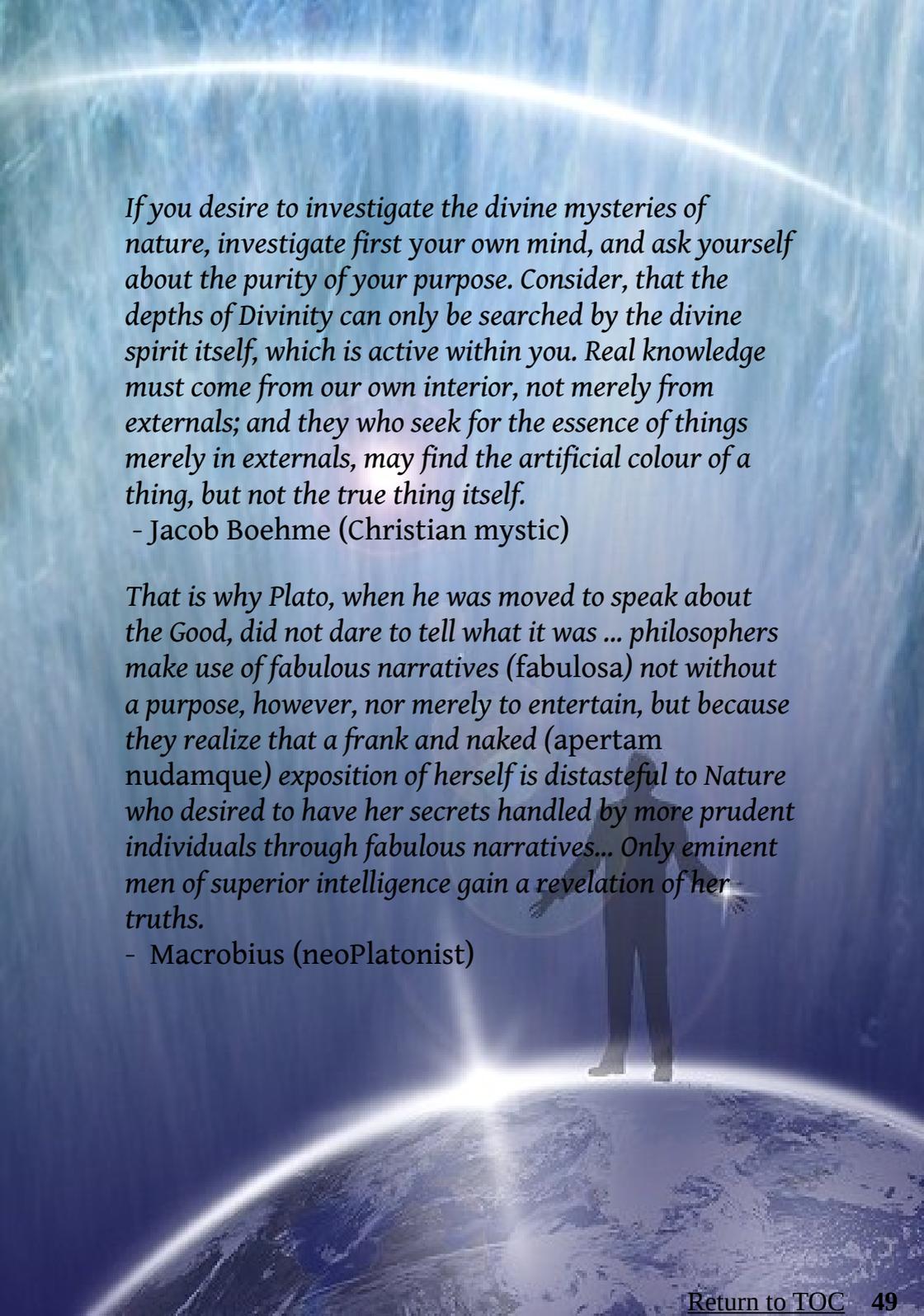
- Flammarion

There exists a remarkable tract of occult philosophy in which the world is shown to be a living and truly conscious image of God, and all its parts and particles thereof to be endowed with sense perception, some more clearly, some more obscurely, to the extent required for the preservation of themselves and of the whole in which they share sensation.

- Campanella

Everyone can see [the sun's] body, but no one can see its soul—not that you could see the soul of any other creature, living or dying. Nevertheless, there are good grounds for believing that we are in fact held in the embrace of some such thing though it is totally below the level of our bodily senses, and is perceptible by reason alone.

- Plato

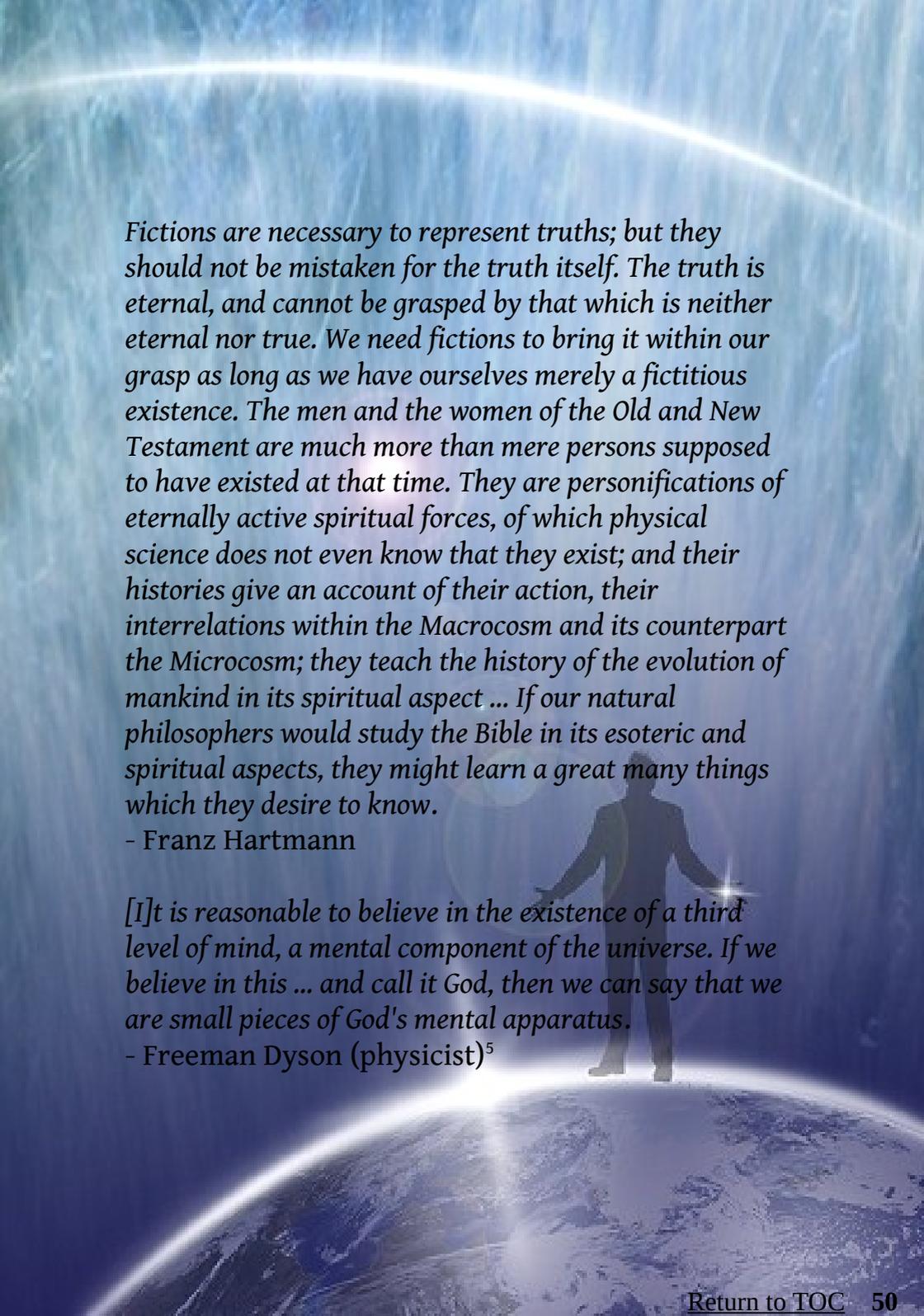


If you desire to investigate the divine mysteries of nature, investigate first your own mind, and ask yourself about the purity of your purpose. Consider, that the depths of Divinity can only be searched by the divine spirit itself, which is active within you. Real knowledge must come from our own interior, not merely from externals; and they who seek for the essence of things merely in externals, may find the artificial colour of a thing, but not the true thing itself.

- Jacob Boehme (Christian mystic)

That is why Plato, when he was moved to speak about the Good, did not dare to tell what it was ... philosophers make use of fabulous narratives (fabulosa) not without a purpose, however, nor merely to entertain, but because they realize that a frank and naked (apertam nudamque) exposition of herself is distasteful to Nature who desired to have her secrets handled by more prudent individuals through fabulous narratives... Only eminent men of superior intelligence gain a revelation of her truths.

- Macrobius (neoPlatonist)



Fictions are necessary to represent truths; but they should not be mistaken for the truth itself. The truth is eternal, and cannot be grasped by that which is neither eternal nor true. We need fictions to bring it within our grasp as long as we have ourselves merely a fictitious existence. The men and the women of the Old and New Testament are much more than mere persons supposed to have existed at that time. They are personifications of eternally active spiritual forces, of which physical science does not even know that they exist; and their histories give an account of their action, their interrelations within the Macrocosm and its counterpart the Microcosm; they teach the history of the evolution of mankind in its spiritual aspect ... If our natural philosophers would study the Bible in its esoteric and spiritual aspects, they might learn a great many things which they desire to know.

- Franz Hartmann

[I]t is reasonable to believe in the existence of a third level of mind, a mental component of the universe. If we believe in this ... and call it God, then we can say that we are small pieces of God's mental apparatus.

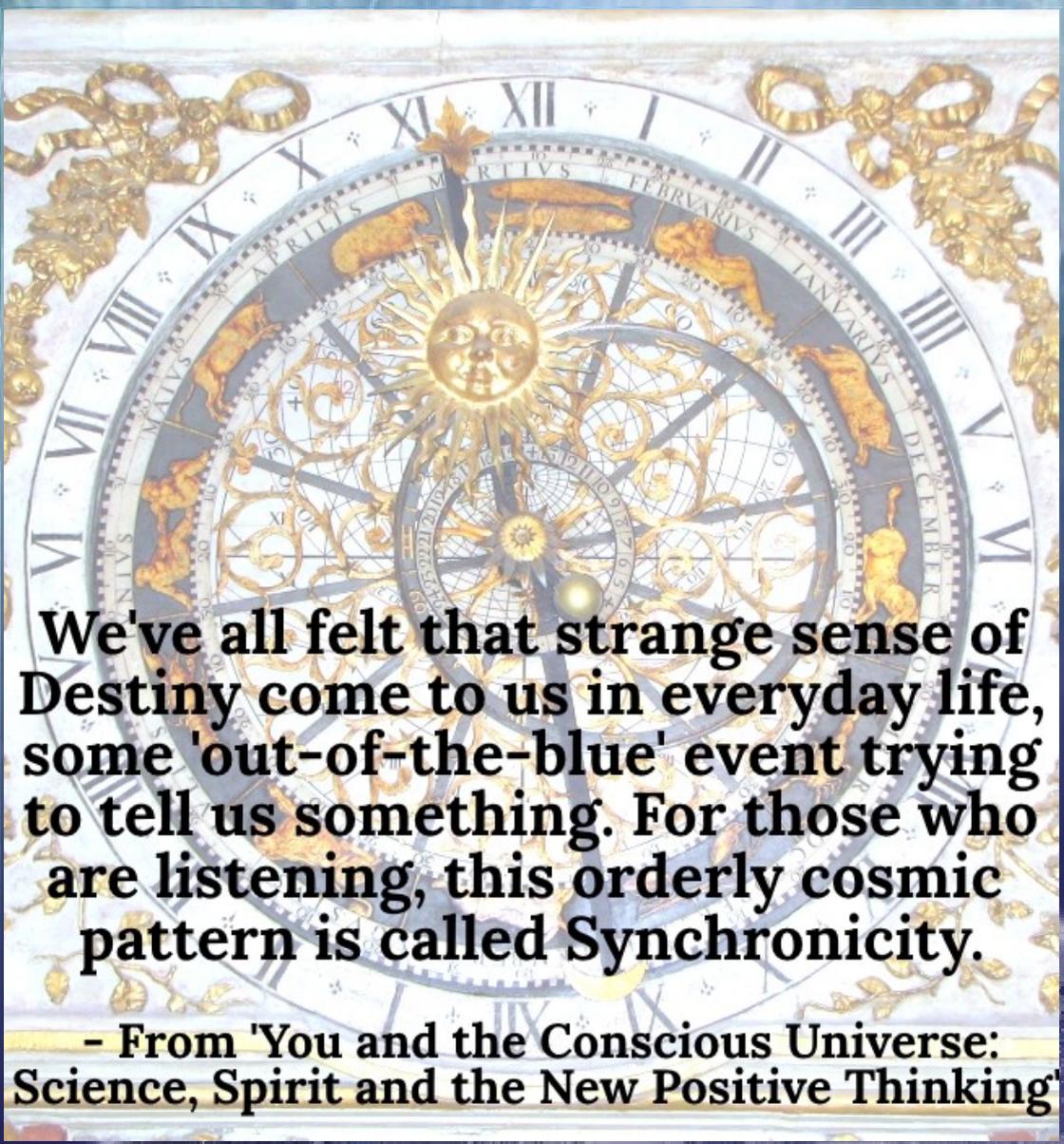
- Freeman Dyson (physicist)⁵

Bodies are composed of millions of millions of mobile atoms, which do not even touch one another, and are in perpetual movement round each other : these infinitely minute atoms are now considered centres of force. Where, then, is matter? It disappeared under dynamism ... The law of progress which regulates all life, the physical organism of this life itself, the instinctive foresight of plants, insects, birds, etc., to assure the propagation of these species, and an examination of the principal facts in natural history will result ... in convincing us that there is a spirit in nature.

- Flammarion

And what does the Religion of the Mind teach us of God, the universe and man ? It teaches us many things of great solemnity and joyous presage ; but one thing especially it seems to teach, and that is the impossibility of human speech to tell the mystery. For every man is but a letter in the language of the Gods so that all that a man may write, no matter how well stocked his mind may be with systems of the world or of theology, or with the science of the human state, no matter how exactly he may reproduce his thought and trick it forth in fairest human language all that he can express is but a single letter of his Word.

- G.R.S Mead



We've all felt that strange sense of Destiny come to us in everyday life, some 'out-of-the-blue' event trying to tell us something. For those who are listening, this orderly cosmic pattern is called Synchronicity.

- From 'You and the Conscious Universe: Science, Spirit and the New Positive Thinking'

Although I think that life may be the result of an accident, I do not think that of consciousness. Consciousness cannot be accounted for in physical terms. For consciousness is absolutely fundamental. ⁶
- Erwin Schrödinger (physicist)

Among conscious activities, the unique characteristic of self-observation cannot exist in any type of machine. Human thought has a mechanism that computers cannot compute or be programmed to do.
- Professor Daegene Song⁷

I regard matter as derivative from consciousness ... Everything that we talk about, everything that we regard as existing, postulates consciousness.
- Max Planck (physicist)

My conclusion is that consciousness is not a thing or substance, but is a nonlocal phenomenon ... If something is nonlocal, it is not localized to specific points in space, such as brains or bodies, or to specific points in time, such as the present ... Nonlocal phenomena are omnipresent, everywhere at once.
- Larry Dossey⁸

Nobody has the slightest idea how anything material could be conscious. So much for our philosophy of consciousness.

- Jerry A. Fodo (philosopher)

We do not find obvious evidence of life or mind in so-called inert matter, and we naturally study them most easily where they are most completely manifested; but if the scientific point of view is correct, we shall ultimately find them, at least in rudimentary form, all through the universe.

- J. B. S. Haldane⁹

*'(F)ar from being a rare occurrence in complex biological or computational systems, mind is a fundamental process in its own right, as widespread and deeply embedded in nature as light or electricity.'*¹⁰

Nick Herbert (physicist)

Now consider all the stars and the moon and the years and the months and all the seasons: what can we do except repeat the same story? A soul or souls . . . have been shown to be the cause of all these phenomena, and whether it is by their living presence in matter . . . or by some other means, we shall insist that these souls are gods. Can anybody admit all this and still put up with people who deny that "everything is full of gods"?

- Plato

The most advanced philosophers of the day are inclined to the opinion that both Matter and Mind are both differing aspects of some one fundamental Something; or, as some of the closest thinkers state it, both are probably two apparently differing manifestations or emanations of an Underlying Something which, as Spencer says: “transcends not only our reason but also our imagination.

- William Walker Atkinson

The whole theory of [Gnostic] attainment was conditioned by the fact that man in body, soul and mind was a world in himself, a little world, it is true, so long as he is content to play the part of a procession of Fate. But his Destiny is greater than that Fate, or rather, let us say, his Unknowingness is Fate, his Awareness will be his Destiny. Man is a little world, little in the sense of personal, individual, separate; but a world for all that.

- G.R.S. Mead

Matter, force, life, thought, are all one ... In reality, there is only one principle in the universe ... embracing all that is and all that possibly can be. That which we call matter is only a form of motion. At the basis of all is force, dynamism, and universal mind, or spirit.

- Flammarion

It seems that in every, or nearly every, man who enters into cosmic consciousness apprehension is at first more or less excited, the person doubting whether the new sense may not be a symptom or form of insanity.

Mohammed was greatly alarmed. I think it is clear that St. Paul was, and others to be mentioned further on were similarly affected. The first thing each person asks himself upon experiencing the new sense is: Does what I see and feel represent reality or am I suffering from a delusion? The fact that the new experience seems even more real than the old teachings of simple and self consciousness does not at first fully reassure him, because he probably knows that delusions, when present, possess the mind just as firmly as do actual facts.

[Finally] ... there comes to the person an intellectual illumination quite impossible to describe. Like a flash there is presented to his consciousness a clear conception (a vision) in outline of the meaning and drift of the universe. He does not come to believe merely; but he sees and knows that the cosmos, which to the self conscious mind seems made up of dead matter, is in fact far otherwise--is in very truth a living presence. He sees that instead of men being patches of life scattered through an infinite sea of non-living substance, they are in reality specks of relative death in an infinite ocean of life.

- Richard Maurice Bucke

There is no matter as such. All matter originates and exists only by virtue of a force which brings the particle of an atom to vibration and holds this most minute solar system of the atom together. We must assume behind this force the existence of a conscious and intelligent Mind. This Mind is the matrix of all matter.

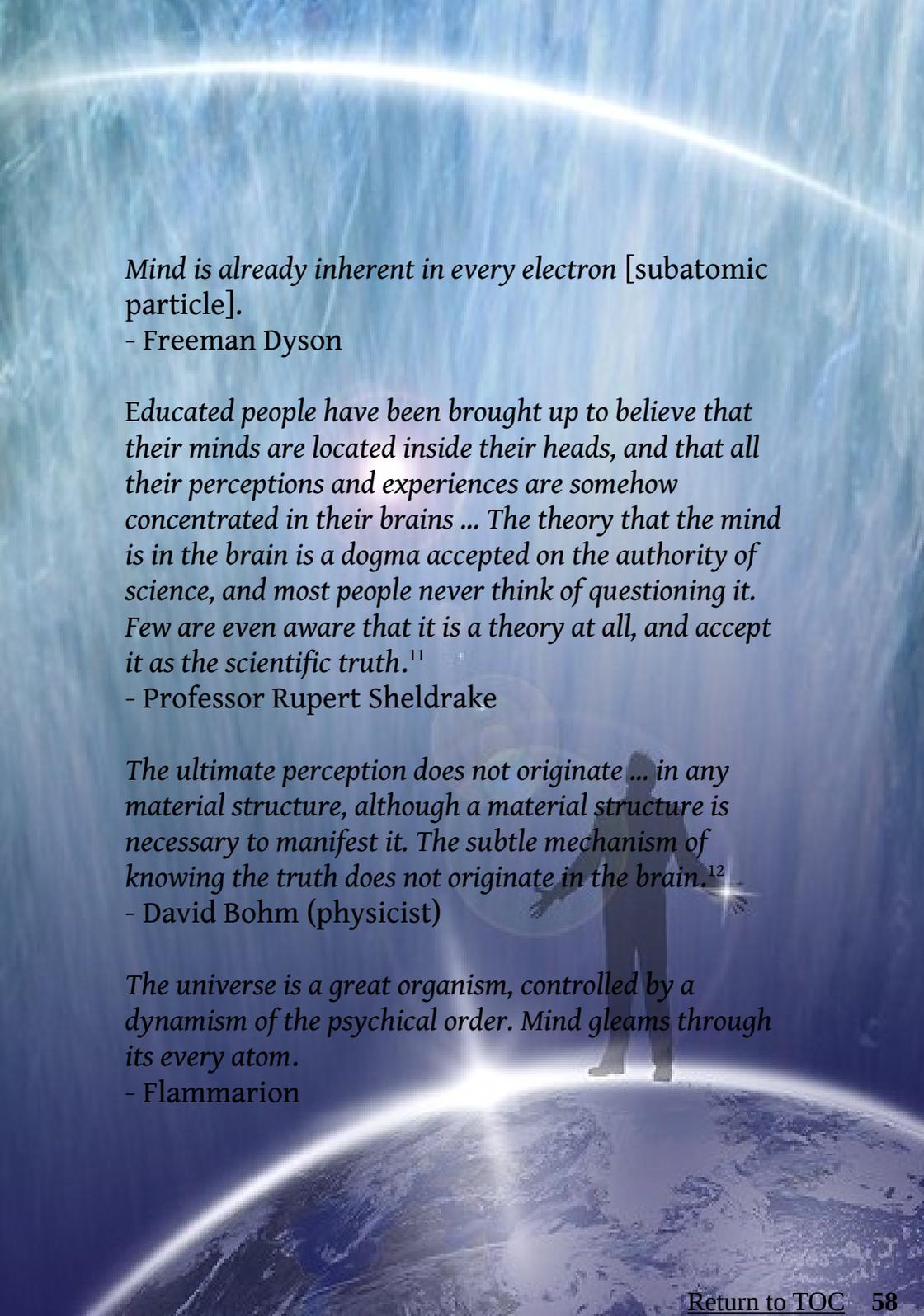
- Max Planck (physicist)

One benefit of switching humanity to a correct perception of the world is the resulting joy of discovering the mental nature of the Universe.

- Richard Conn Henry

Sometimes, when I compare myself with other men, it seems as if I were more favored by the gods than they, beyond any deserts that I am conscious of; as if I had a warrant and surety at their hands which my fellows have not, and were especially guided and guarded. Any prospect of awakening or coming to consciousness to a dead man makes indifferent all times and places. For the most part we allow only outlying and transient circumstances to make our occasions. They are, in fact, the cause of our distraction. Nearest to all things is that power which fashions their being. Next to us the grandest laws are continually being executed. Next to us is, not the workman whom we have hired, with whom we love so well to talk, but the workman whose work we are.

- Henry D. Thoreau



Mind is already inherent in every electron [subatomic particle].

- Freeman Dyson

Educated people have been brought up to believe that their minds are located inside their heads, and that all their perceptions and experiences are somehow concentrated in their brains ... The theory that the mind is in the brain is a dogma accepted on the authority of science, and most people never think of questioning it. Few are even aware that it is a theory at all, and accept it as the scientific truth.¹¹

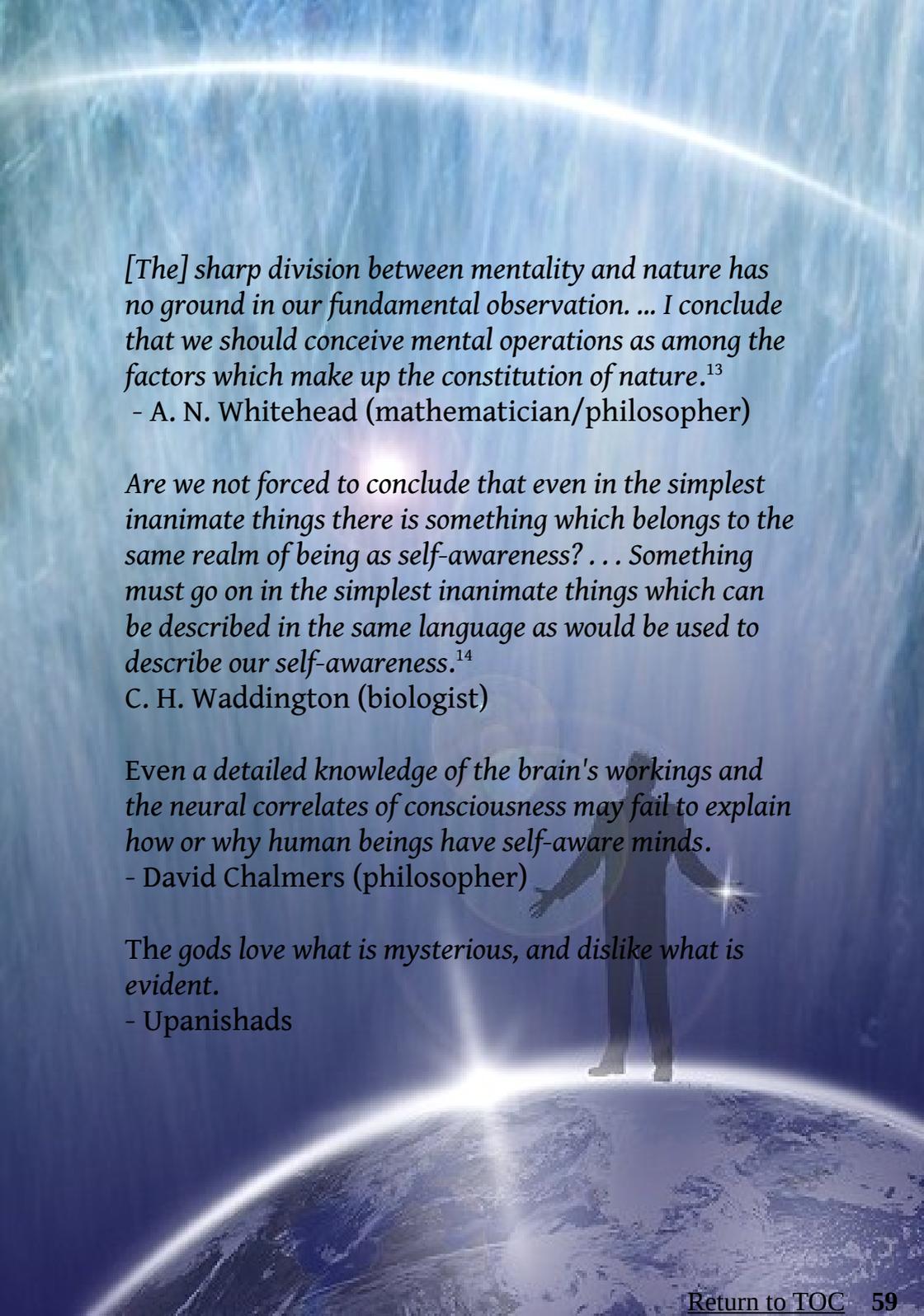
- Professor Rupert Sheldrake

The ultimate perception does not originate ... in any material structure, although a material structure is necessary to manifest it. The subtle mechanism of knowing the truth does not originate in the brain.¹²

- David Bohm (physicist)

The universe is a great organism, controlled by a dynamism of the psychical order. Mind gleams through its every atom.

- Flammarion



[The] sharp division between mentality and nature has no ground in our fundamental observation. ... I conclude that we should conceive mental operations as among the factors which make up the constitution of nature.¹³

- A. N. Whitehead (mathematician/philosopher)

Are we not forced to conclude that even in the simplest inanimate things there is something which belongs to the same realm of being as self-awareness? . . . Something must go on in the simplest inanimate things which can be described in the same language as would be used to describe our self-awareness.¹⁴

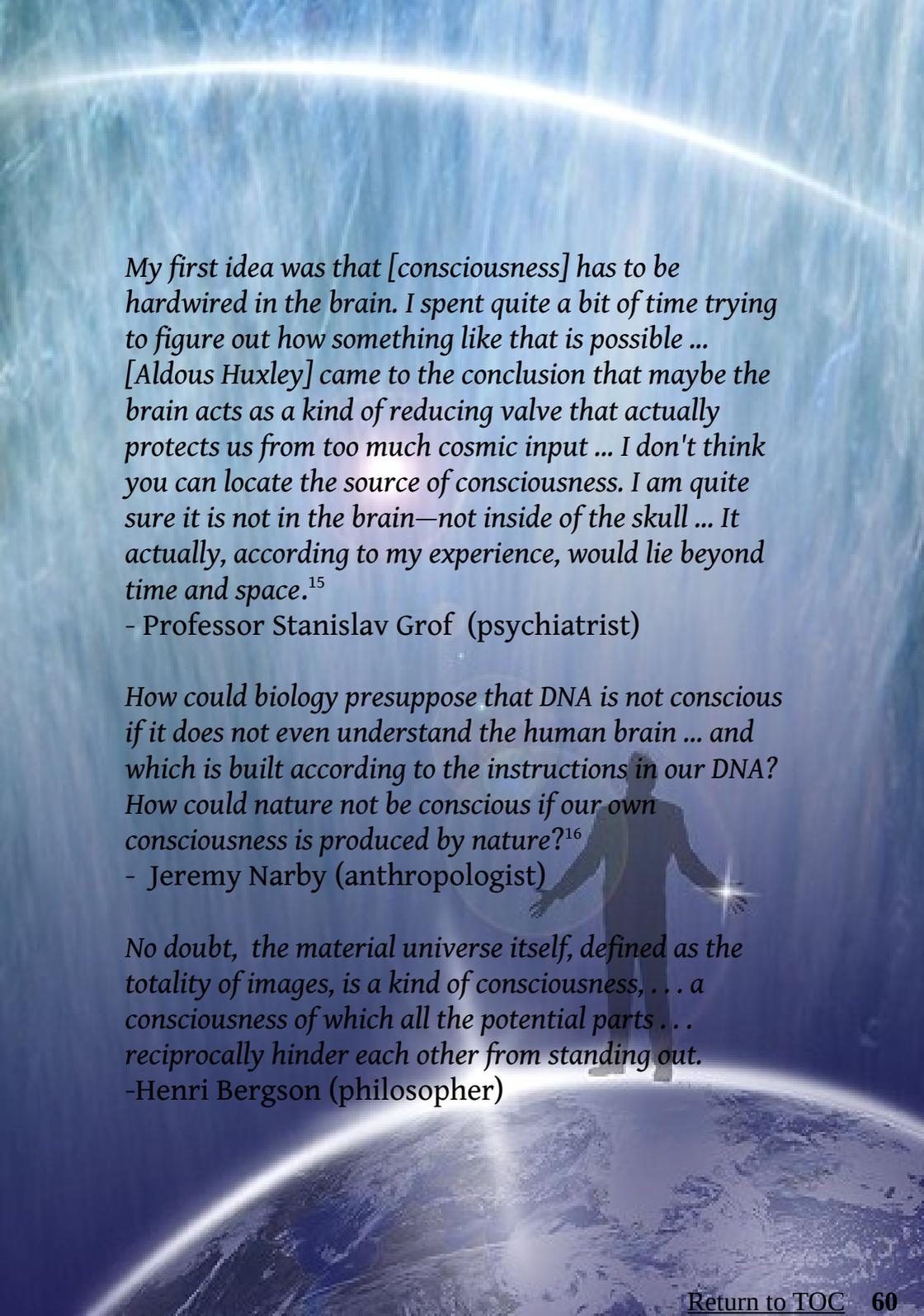
C. H. Waddington (biologist)

Even a detailed knowledge of the brain's workings and the neural correlates of consciousness may fail to explain how or why human beings have self-aware minds.

- David Chalmers (philosopher)

The gods love what is mysterious, and dislike what is evident.

- Upanishads

The background of the page is a blue-toned image of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and a bright light source on the horizon. A silhouette of a person stands on the horizon line, with their arms slightly outstretched. The person's right hand is holding a small, bright, star-like object.

My first idea was that [consciousness] has to be hardwired in the brain. I spent quite a bit of time trying to figure out how something like that is possible ... [Aldous Huxley] came to the conclusion that maybe the brain acts as a kind of reducing valve that actually protects us from too much cosmic input ... I don't think you can locate the source of consciousness. I am quite sure it is not in the brain—not inside of the skull ... It actually, according to my experience, would lie beyond time and space.¹⁵

- Professor Stanislav Grof (psychiatrist)

How could biology presuppose that DNA is not conscious if it does not even understand the human brain ... and which is built according to the instructions in our DNA? How could nature not be conscious if our own consciousness is produced by nature?¹⁶

- Jeremy Narby (anthropologist)

No doubt, the material universe itself, defined as the totality of images, is a kind of consciousness, ... a consciousness of which all the potential parts ... reciprocally hinder each other from standing out.

-Henri Bergson (philosopher)

Modern science has discovered ... that on certain plates the impression of sound can be made clearly visible. In reality the impression of sound falls on all objects, only it is not always visible ... When we look further into this subject from a mystical point of view we see that every syllable has a certain effect ... therefore every sound made or word spoken before an object has charged that object with a certain magnetism. This explains to us the method of the healers, teachers and mystics, who by the power of sound charged an object with their healing power, with their power of thought.

- Hazrat Inayat Khan

All experience is in its degree conscious. . . .We must ascribe consciousness to every living agent, such as a plant cell or bacterium, and even (if the continuity of nature is not to be broken) to an electron.¹⁷

- W. E. Agar (zoologist)

This earth is the honey (madhu, the effect) of all beings, and all beings are the honey (madhu, the effect) of this earth.

- Brihadaranyaka Upanishad

*The brain is not an organ that generates consciousness, but rather an instrument evolved to transmit and limit the processes of consciousness and of conscious attention so as to restrict them to those aspects of the material environment which at any moment are crucial for the terrestrial success of the individual. In that case such phenomena as telepathy and clairvoyance would be merely instances in which some of the limitations were removed.*¹⁸

- Sir Cyril Burt (psychologist/geneticist)

Consciousness exists already, behind the scenes, coeval with the world ... A medium, for example, will show knowledge of his sitter's private affairs which it seems impossible he should have acquired through sight or hearing, or inference therefrom ... On the transmission-theory, the[se impressions] don't have to be produced – they exist ready-made in the transcendental world, and all that is needed is an abnormal lowering of the brain-threshold to let them through.

- William James

If you want to understand all the Buddhas of the past, present and future, then you should view the nature of the whole universe, as being created by Mind-only

- Avatamsaka sutra

*The opinion which seems to me to be most justifiable is that life in all its forms is the phenomenal disturbance created in the world of matter and energy when mind comes into it. Living matter is the outward and visible sign of the presence of mind, the splash made by the entry of mental existences into the sea of inert matter.*¹⁹
- Joseph Needham (biologist)

Now what the [musical Instrument is to the Musician, the Brain may be to the Mind, for aught we know to the contrary ; and to pursue the figure, as the musician has an existence distinct from that of the instrument, so the Mind may have an existence distinct from that of the Brain ; for in truth we have no proof whatever of Mind being a property dependent upon any arrangement of Matter.

- Charles Caleb Colton

As large as this ether (all space) is, so large is that ether within the heart. Both heaven and earth are contained within it, both fire and air, both sun and moon, both lightning and stars; and whatever there is of him (the Self) here in the world, and whatever is not (i. e. whatever has been or will be), all that is contained within it.

- Chandogya Upanishad

*The stark division between mind and world sanctioned by classical [i.e. old world] physics is not in accord with our scientific worldview. When non-locality is factored into our understanding of ... parts and wholes in physics and biology ... human consciousness must be viewed as an emergent phenomenon in a seamlessly connected whole called the cosmos.*²⁰

- Robert Nadeau & Menas Kafatos (historian & physicist)

*There probably is a God. Many things are easier to explain if there is than if there isn't.*²¹

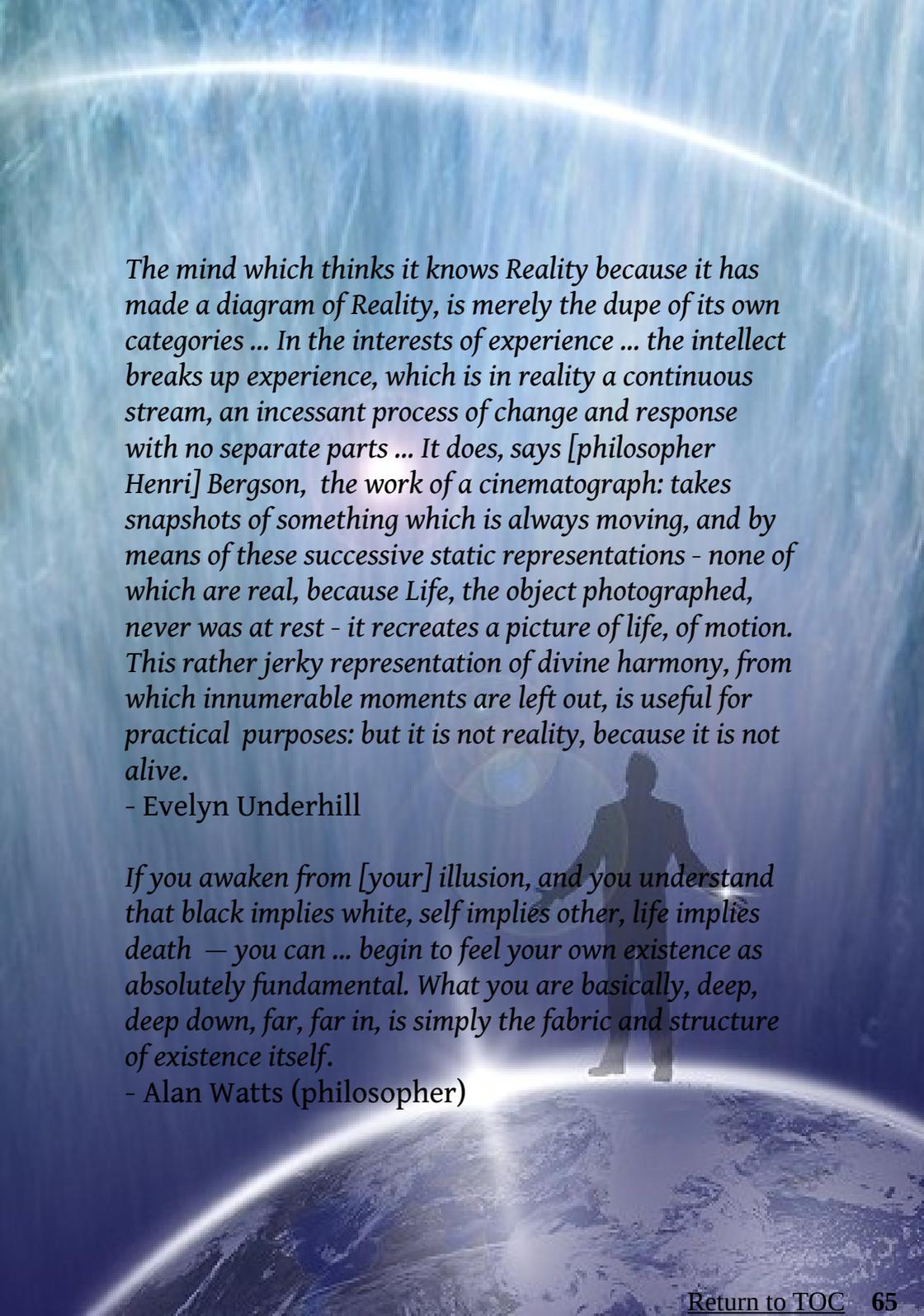
- John von Neumann (mathematician)

*The mind is a separate entity from the brain [for] mental processes cannot be reduced to neurochemical brain processes, but on the contrary direct them ... a mind may conceivably exist without a brain.*²²

- Sir John Eccles (neurophysiologist)

Just as the power of the lily breaks forth in perfume which is invisible, so, the invisible body sends forth its healing influence. Just as in the visible body are wonderful activities which the senses can perceive so, too, lie powers in the invisible body which can work great wonders.

- Paracelsus



The mind which thinks it knows Reality because it has made a diagram of Reality, is merely the dupe of its own categories ... In the interests of experience ... the intellect breaks up experience, which is in reality a continuous stream, an incessant process of change and response with no separate parts ... It does, says [philosopher Henri] Bergson, the work of a cinematograph: takes snapshots of something which is always moving, and by means of these successive static representations - none of which are real, because Life, the object photographed, never was at rest - it recreates a picture of life, of motion. This rather jerky representation of divine harmony, from which innumerable moments are left out, is useful for practical purposes: but it is not reality, because it is not alive.

- Evelyn Underhill

If you awaken from [your] illusion, and you understand that black implies white, self implies other, life implies death — you can ... begin to feel your own existence as absolutely fundamental. What you are basically, deep, deep down, far, far in, is simply the fabric and structure of existence itself.

- Alan Watts (philosopher)

But death is only a second birth into a freer existence, in which the spirit breaks through its slender covering and abandons inaction and sloth. Then ... the spirit will no longer wander over mountain and field, or be surrounded by the delights of spring, only to mourn that it all seems exterior to him; but, transcending earthly limitations, he will feel new strength and joy in growing. He will no longer struggle by persuasive words to produce a thought in others, but in the immediate influence of souls upon each other, he will not outwardly appear to the loved ones left behind, but will dwell in their inmost souls, and think and act through them.
- Gustav Theodor Fechner ('The Little Book of Life After Death')

A kind of walking trance I have frequently had, quite up from boyhood, when I have been all alone. This has often come upon me through repeating my own name to myself silently till, all at once, as it were, out of the intensity of the consciousness of individuality, the individuality itself seemed to dissolve and fade away into boundless being; and this not a confused state, but the clearest of the clearest, utterly beyond words, where death was an almost laughable impossibility, the loss of personality (if so it were) seeming no extinction, but the only true life.
- Alfred, Lord Tennyson

We may think rationally, but thinking is derivative, a secondary process. We experience phenomenologically, as a felt movement of body and soul ... Those who have primal encounters, such as falling in love or witnessing the birth of their child, know that ordinary concepts are inadequate to the task of understanding. On such occasions we 'think in our bones' or 'feel in our gut.

- Dr. James Hollis²³

Matter, life and consciousness: all of these have been considered to be projections of a common ground. This we may call the ground of all that is, at least in so far as this may be sensed and known by us, in our present phase of unfoldment of consciousness ... Is this ground the absolute end of everything?²⁴

- David Bohm

The physical world is only known as regards certain abstract features of its space-time structure – features which ... do not suffice to show whether the world is, or is not, different in intrinsic character from the world of mind.²⁵

- Bertrand Russell (philosopher)

What doesn't make sense—and which many atheistic evolutionists are conceding—is the idea of getting a mind to squirt into existence by starting with brute, dead, mindless matter. That's why some of them are trying to get rid of consciousness by saying that it's not real and that we're just computers.²⁶

- J. P. Moreland (philosopher)

Physics is the knowledge of structural form, and not knowledge of content. All through the physical world runs that unknown content, which must surely be the stuff of our consciousness.²⁷

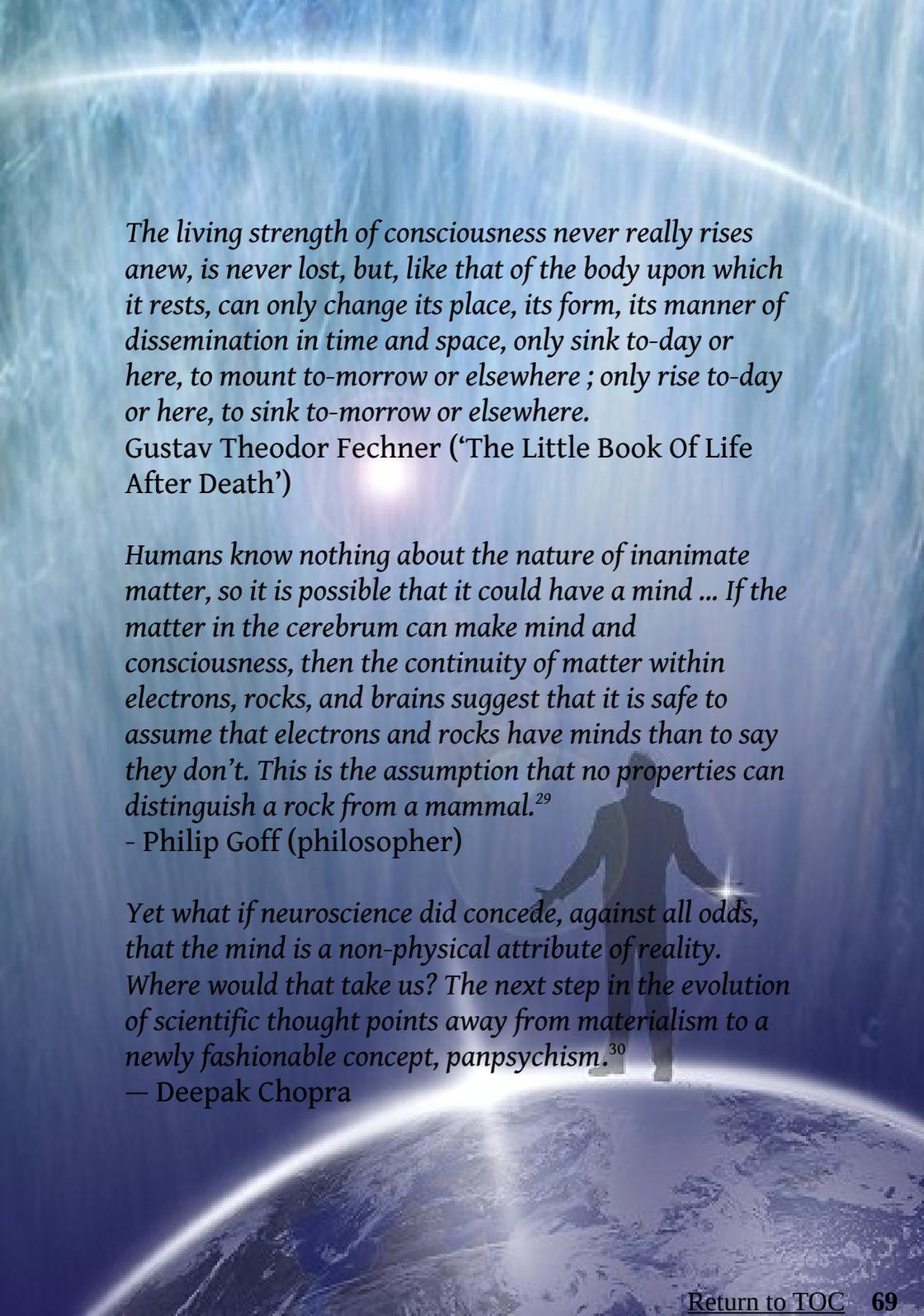
- Sir Arthur Eddington (astronomer)

Looking for consciousness in the brain is like looking in the radio for the announcer.

- Nassim Haramein

To put the conclusion crudely — the stuff of the world is mind-stuff ... The mind-stuff of the world is, of course, something more general than our individual conscious minds; but we may think of its nature as not altogether foreign to the feelings in our consciousness ... The mind-stuff is the aggregation of relations ... which form the building material for the physical world.²⁸

- Eddington



The living strength of consciousness never really rises anew, is never lost, but, like that of the body upon which it rests, can only change its place, its form, its manner of dissemination in time and space, only sink to-day or here, to mount to-morrow or elsewhere ; only rise to-day or here, to sink to-morrow or elsewhere.

Gustav Theodor Fechner ('The Little Book Of Life After Death')

Humans know nothing about the nature of inanimate matter, so it is possible that it could have a mind ... If the matter in the cerebrum can make mind and consciousness, then the continuity of matter within electrons, rocks, and brains suggest that it is safe to assume that electrons and rocks have minds than to say they don't. This is the assumption that no properties can distinguish a rock from a mammal.²⁹

- Philip Goff (philosopher)

Yet what if neuroscience did concede, against all odds, that the mind is a non-physical attribute of reality.

Where would that take us? The next step in the evolution of scientific thought points away from materialism to a newly fashionable concept, panpsychism.³⁰

— Deepak Chopra

If I pour into the same glass, by turns, water and wine, the two liquids will take the same form, and the sameness in form will be due to the sameness in adaptation of content to container. Adaptation, here, really means mechanical adjustment. The reason is that the form to which the matter has adapted itself was there, ready-made, and has forced its own shape on the matter. But, in the adaptation of an organism to the circumstances it has to live in, where is the preexisting form awaiting its matter? The circumstances are not a mould into which life is inserted. There is no form yet, and life must create a form for itself [and] such adapting is not repeating, but replying —an entirely different thing ... It is necessary then to introduce, as for the solution of a problem of geometry, an intelligent activity.

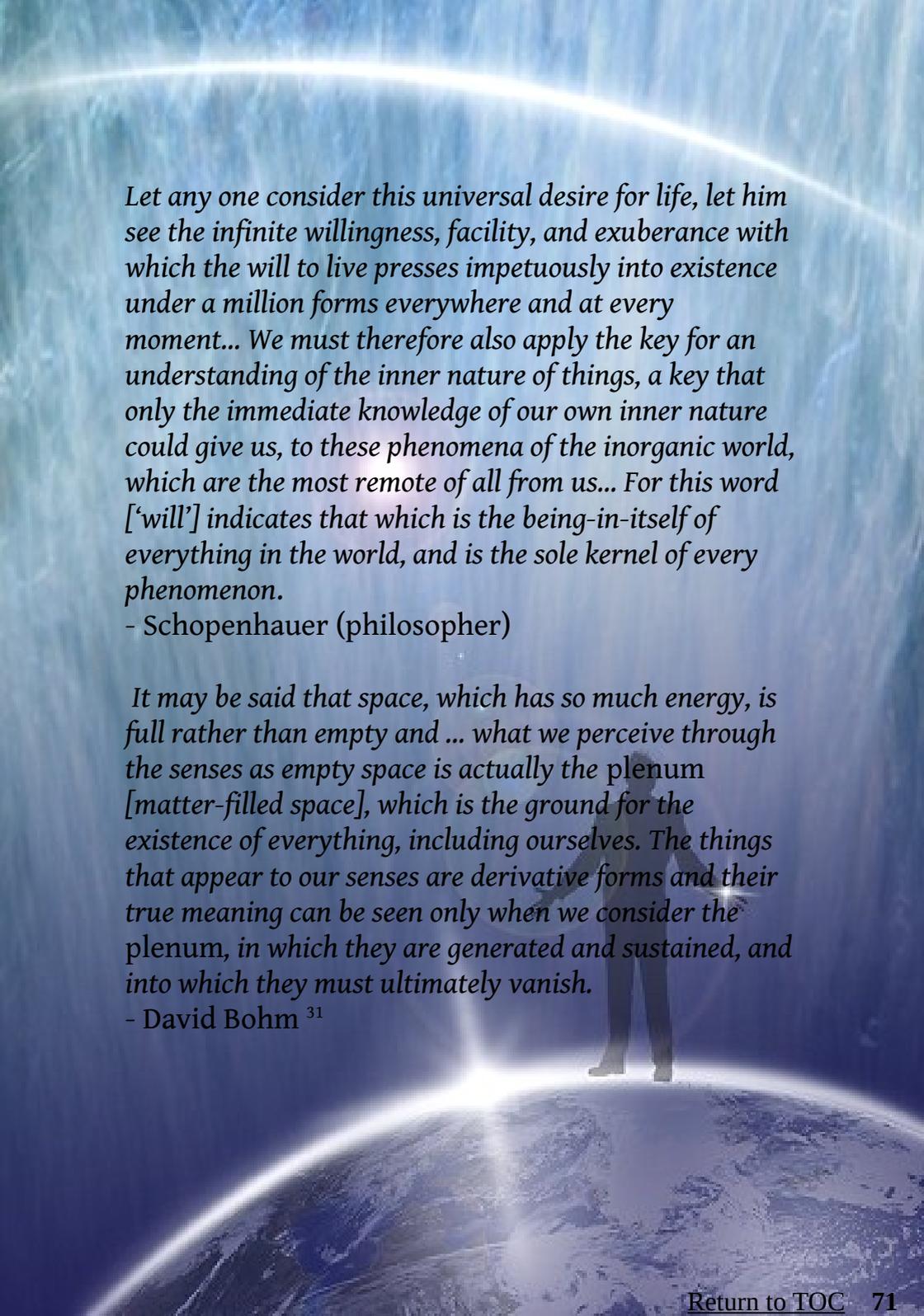
- Henri Bergson

But even if man lives in the energy, he does not see the energy [of Mind], just as fishes live in water but do not see the water.

- T'ai I Chin Hua Tsung Chih

The activity of the Universal Mind can only come to the consciousness of those whose spheres of mind are capable of receiving its impressions.

- Paracelsus ('Philosophia Sagax')

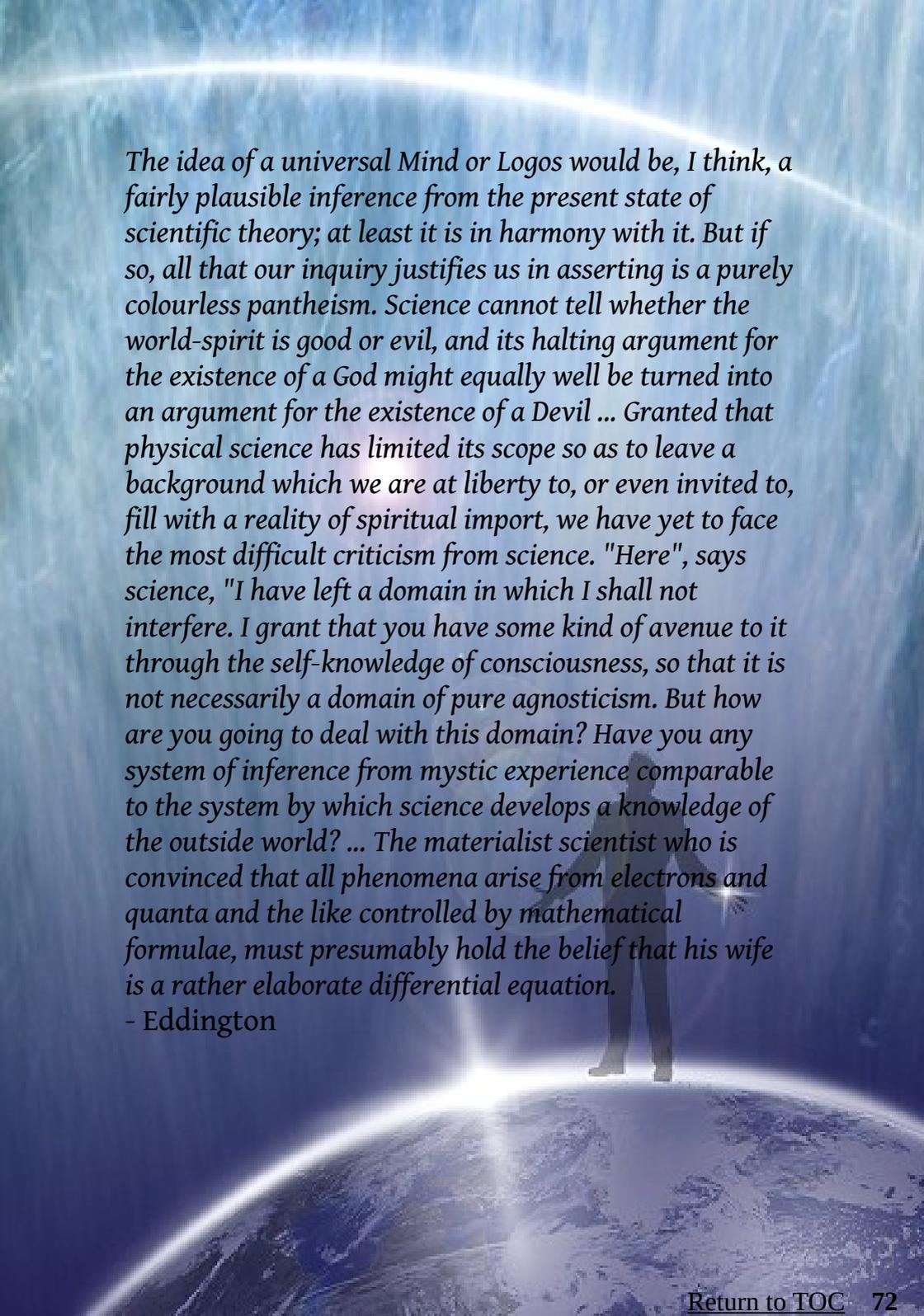


Let any one consider this universal desire for life, let him see the infinite willingness, facility, and exuberance with which the will to live presses impetuously into existence under a million forms everywhere and at every moment... We must therefore also apply the key for an understanding of the inner nature of things, a key that only the immediate knowledge of our own inner nature could give us, to these phenomena of the inorganic world, which are the most remote of all from us... For this word [‘will’] indicates that which is the being-in-itself of everything in the world, and is the sole kernel of every phenomenon.

- Schopenhauer (philosopher)

It may be said that space, which has so much energy, is full rather than empty and ... what we perceive through the senses as empty space is actually the plenum [matter-filled space], which is the ground for the existence of everything, including ourselves. The things that appear to our senses are derivative forms and their true meaning can be seen only when we consider the plenum, in which they are generated and sustained, and into which they must ultimately vanish.

- David Bohm ³¹



The idea of a universal Mind or Logos would be, I think, a fairly plausible inference from the present state of scientific theory; at least it is in harmony with it. But if so, all that our inquiry justifies us in asserting is a purely colourless pantheism. Science cannot tell whether the world-spirit is good or evil, and its halting argument for the existence of a God might equally well be turned into an argument for the existence of a Devil ... Granted that physical science has limited its scope so as to leave a background which we are at liberty to, or even invited to, fill with a reality of spiritual import, we have yet to face the most difficult criticism from science. "Here", says science, "I have left a domain in which I shall not interfere. I grant that you have some kind of avenue to it through the self-knowledge of consciousness, so that it is not necessarily a domain of pure agnosticism. But how are you going to deal with this domain? Have you any system of inference from mystic experience comparable to the system by which science develops a knowledge of the outside world? ... The materialist scientist who is convinced that all phenomena arise from electrons and quanta and the like controlled by mathematical formulae, must presumably hold the belief that his wife is a rather elaborate differential equation.

- Eddington

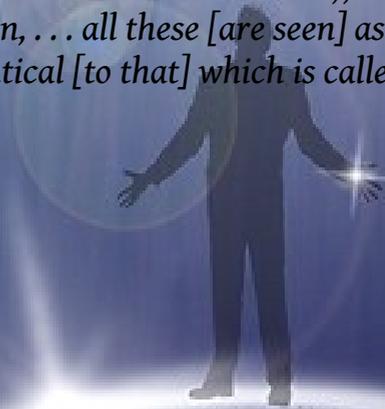
Q: “Then a dead body has a soul? So, my clogs, my slippers, my boots . . . are supposedly animated?”

A: “Such “dead” things are not to be considered animate in themselves ... a table is not animated as a table, nor are the clothes as clothes . . . but as natural things and composites, they have within them matter and form [i.e. soul]. All things, no matter how small and minuscule, have in them part of that spiritual substance . . . For in all things there is spirit, and there is not the least corpuscle that does not contain within itself some portion that may animate it.

- Giordano Bruno (philosopher/mathematician)

The force which stirs and vegetates in the plant, and indeed the force by which the crystal is formed, that by which the magnet turns to the North Pole, the force whose shock [results] from the contact between different metals, . . . even gravitation, . . . all these [are seen] as in their inner nature . . . identical [to that] which is called will.

- Schopenhauer

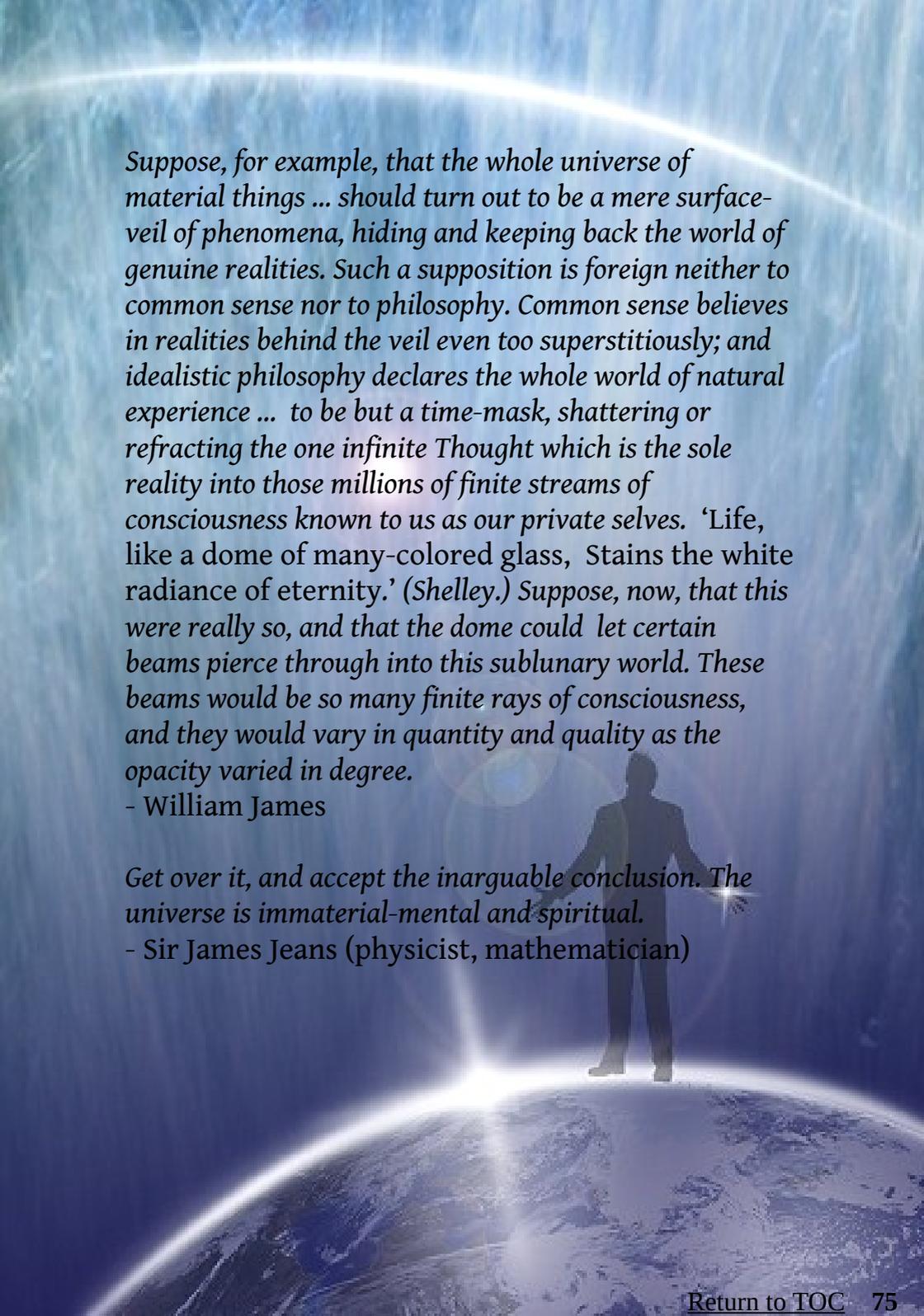


If thou shouldst plant these things in thy firm understanding and contemplate them with good will and unclouded attention, they will stand by thee for ever every one, and thou shalt gain many other things from them; . . . for know that all things have wisdom and a portion of thought.

- Hippolytus (quoting Empedocles)

Is it merely a well-meaning kind of nonsense for a physicist to affirm this necessity for a [pan-psychist] outlook beyond physics? It is worse nonsense to deny it. Or as that ardent relativist the Red Queen puts it, "You call that nonsense, but I've heard nonsense compared with which that would be as sensible as a dictionary". For if those who hold that there must be a physical basis for everything hold that these mystical views are nonsense, we may ask—What then is the physical basis of nonsense? The "problem of nonsense" touches the scientist more nearly than any other moral problem. He may regard the distinction of good and evil as too remote to bother about; but the distinction of sense and nonsense, of valid and invalid reasoning, must be accepted at the beginning of every scientific inquiry:

- Eddington

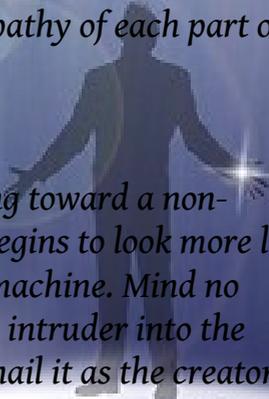


Suppose, for example, that the whole universe of material things ... should turn out to be a mere surface-veil of phenomena, hiding and keeping back the world of genuine realities. Such a supposition is foreign neither to common sense nor to philosophy. Common sense believes in realities behind the veil even too superstitiously; and idealistic philosophy declares the whole world of natural experience ... to be but a time-mask, shattering or refracting the one infinite Thought which is the sole reality into those millions of finite streams of consciousness known to us as our private selves. 'Life, like a dome of many-colored glass, Stains the white radiance of eternity.' (Shelley.) Suppose, now, that this were really so, and that the dome could let certain beams pierce through into this sublunary world. These beams would be so many finite rays of consciousness, and they would vary in quantity and quality as the opacity varied in degree.

- William James

Get over it, and accept the inarguable conclusion. The universe is immaterial-mental and spiritual.

- Sir James Jeans (physicist, mathematician)



By Plato and Aristotle the divinity of the stars themselves was affirmed; and it afterwards became an article of faith with what we may call pagan philosophical orthodoxy. It was for the philosophers a mode of expressing the teleological relation between the supreme Deity and the animated universe ... This theory, founded by Plato in the Timaeus, was an assertion of teleological optimism against the notion that the stars are products of chance aggregation ... A current form taken by this modification of star-worship was astrology. ... Along with magic or "theurgy," it came to be practised by some though not by all the members of the Neo-Platonic school... According to those even who attached most importance to "theurgy," [high magic] this was to be regarded as a means of preparation for the soul itself in its progress ... 'Magical' powers, when real, were held to be due to a strictly "natural" sympathy of each part of the universe with all the rest.

- Thomas Whittaker

The stream of knowledge is heading toward a non-mechanical reality; the universe begins to look more like a great thought than like a great machine. Mind no longer appears to be an accidental intruder into the realm of matter, we ought rather hail it as the creator and governor of the realm of matter.

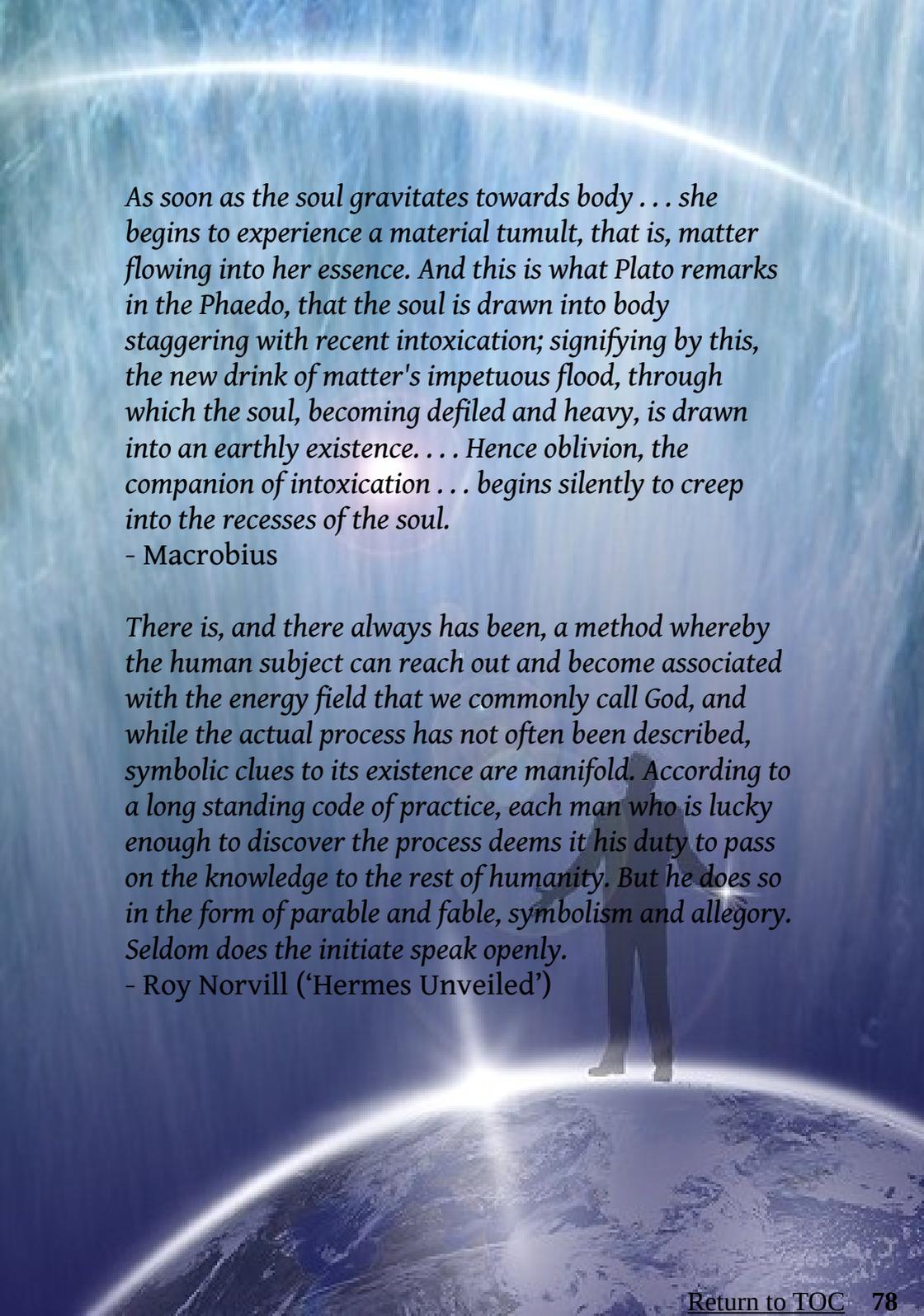
- Sir James Jeans

What we wish to establish is that we cannot speak of a reality that endures without inserting consciousness into it. . . . It is impossible to imagine or conceive a connecting link between the before and after without an element of memory and, consequently, of consciousness. We may perhaps feel averse to the use of the word "consciousness" if an anthropomorphic sense is attached to it. [But] there is no need to take one's own memory and transport it, even attenuated, into the interior of the thing . . . It is the opposite course we must follow. . . . Duration [the Eternal Now] is essentially a continuation of what no longer exists into what does exist. This is real time, perceived and lived. . . . [This] therefore implies consciousness; and we place consciousness at the heart of things for the very reason that we credit them with a time that endures.

- Henri Bergson

*Nor Aught nor Nought existed; yon bright sky
Was not, nor heaven's broad roof outstretched above.
What covered all? what sheltered? what concealed?
Was it the water's fathomless abyss?
There was not death—yet there was nought immortal.
There was no confine betwixt day and night;
The only One breathed breathless by itself.
Other than It there nothing since has been.*

- Hymn of Prajapati (The Rig-Veda)



As soon as the soul gravitates towards body . . . she begins to experience a material tumult, that is, matter flowing into her essence. And this is what Plato remarks in the Phaedo, that the soul is drawn into body staggering with recent intoxication; signifying by this, the new drink of matter's impetuous flood, through which the soul, becoming defiled and heavy, is drawn into an earthly existence. . . . Hence oblivion, the companion of intoxication . . . begins silently to creep into the recesses of the soul.

- Macrobius

There is, and there always has been, a method whereby the human subject can reach out and become associated with the energy field that we commonly call God, and while the actual process has not often been described, symbolic clues to its existence are manifold. According to a long standing code of practice, each man who is lucky enough to discover the process deems it his duty to pass on the knowledge to the rest of humanity. But he does so in the form of parable and fable, symbolism and allegory. Seldom does the initiate speak openly.

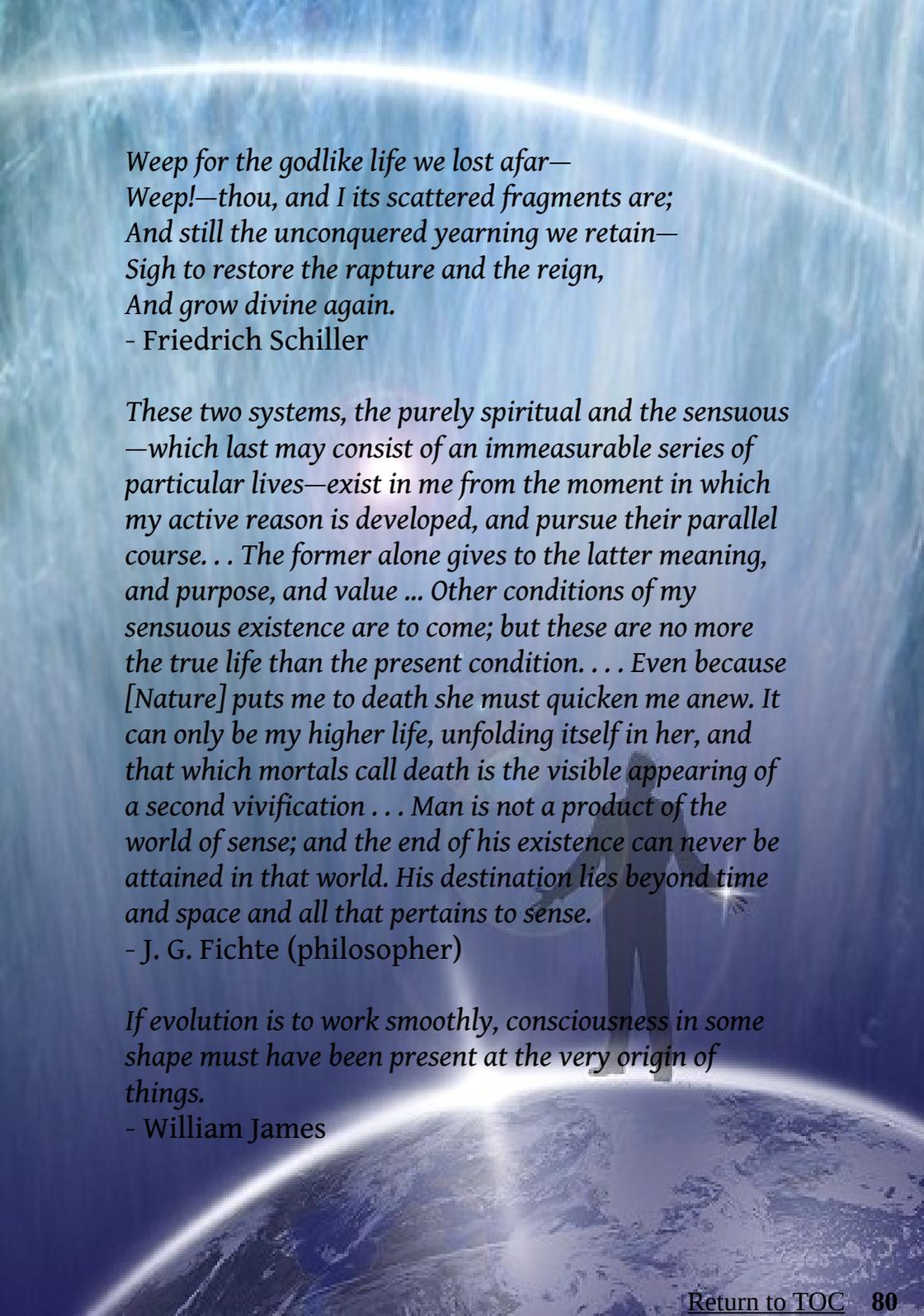
- Roy Norvill ('Hermes Unveiled')

Not this way of wealth hast thou chosen, in which many men sink. . . . The great Beyond gleams not for the child led away by the delusion of possessions. "This is the world, there is no other," he thinks, and so falls again and again under my dominion. . . . The knower is never born nor dies, nor is it from anywhere, nor did it become anything. Unborn, eternal, immemorial, this ancient is not slain when the body is slain. . . . Smaller than small, greater than great, this Self is hidden in the heart of man. ... In all beings it shines not forth; but is perceived by the piercing subtle soul of the subtle-sighted. . . . Understanding this great lord the Self, bodiless in bodies, stable among unstable, the wise man cannot grieve. . . . He is released from the mouth of Death, having gained the lasting thing which is above the great, which has neither sound nor touch nor form nor change nor taste nor smell, but is eternal, beginningless, endless.

- Katha Upanishad

It is impossible for anything to come to possess intelligence apart from soul.

- Plato



*Weep for the godlike life we lost afar—
Weep!—thou, and I its scattered fragments are;
And still the unconquered yearning we retain—
Sigh to restore the rapture and the reign,
And grow divine again.*
- Friedrich Schiller

*These two systems, the purely spiritual and the sensuous—
—which last may consist of an immeasurable series of
particular lives—exist in me from the moment in which
my active reason is developed, and pursue their parallel
course. . . The former alone gives to the latter meaning,
and purpose, and value ... Other conditions of my
sensuous existence are to come; but these are no more
the true life than the present condition. . . . Even because
[Nature] puts me to death she must quicken me anew. It
can only be my higher life, unfolding itself in her, and
that which mortals call death is the visible appearing of
a second vivification . . . Man is not a product of the
world of sense; and the end of his existence can never be
attained in that world. His destination lies beyond time
and space and all that pertains to sense.*
- J. G. Fichte (philosopher)

*If evolution is to work smoothly, consciousness in some
shape must have been present at the very origin of
things.*
- William James

[The evolution of a] new organ ... involves nothing more mysterious than differential growth ... Emergence of [this kind] ... poses no serious philosophical difficulty.

Emergence of mind from no mind at all is sheer magic ... Mind must already have been there when life arose and indeed must be a universal aspect of existence.³²

- Sewall Wright (geneticist)

If the physical world has an inner being ... that inner being must be psychical [sentient] if it is to be anything intelligible at all.³³

- T. L. S. Sprigge (philosopher)

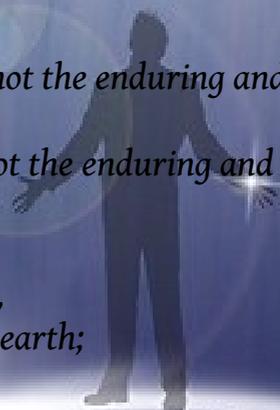
The plant ... is without belief or reason or understanding but has appetite and a sense of pleasure and pain.

- Plato

The Tao that can be described is not the enduring and unchanging Tao.

The name that can be named is not the enduring and unchanging name.

*(Conceived of as) having no name,
it is the Originator of heaven and earth;
(conceived of as) having a name,
it is the Mother of all things.*



*Always without desire we must be found,
If its deep mystery we would sound;
But if desire always within us be,
Its outer fringe is all that we shall see.*

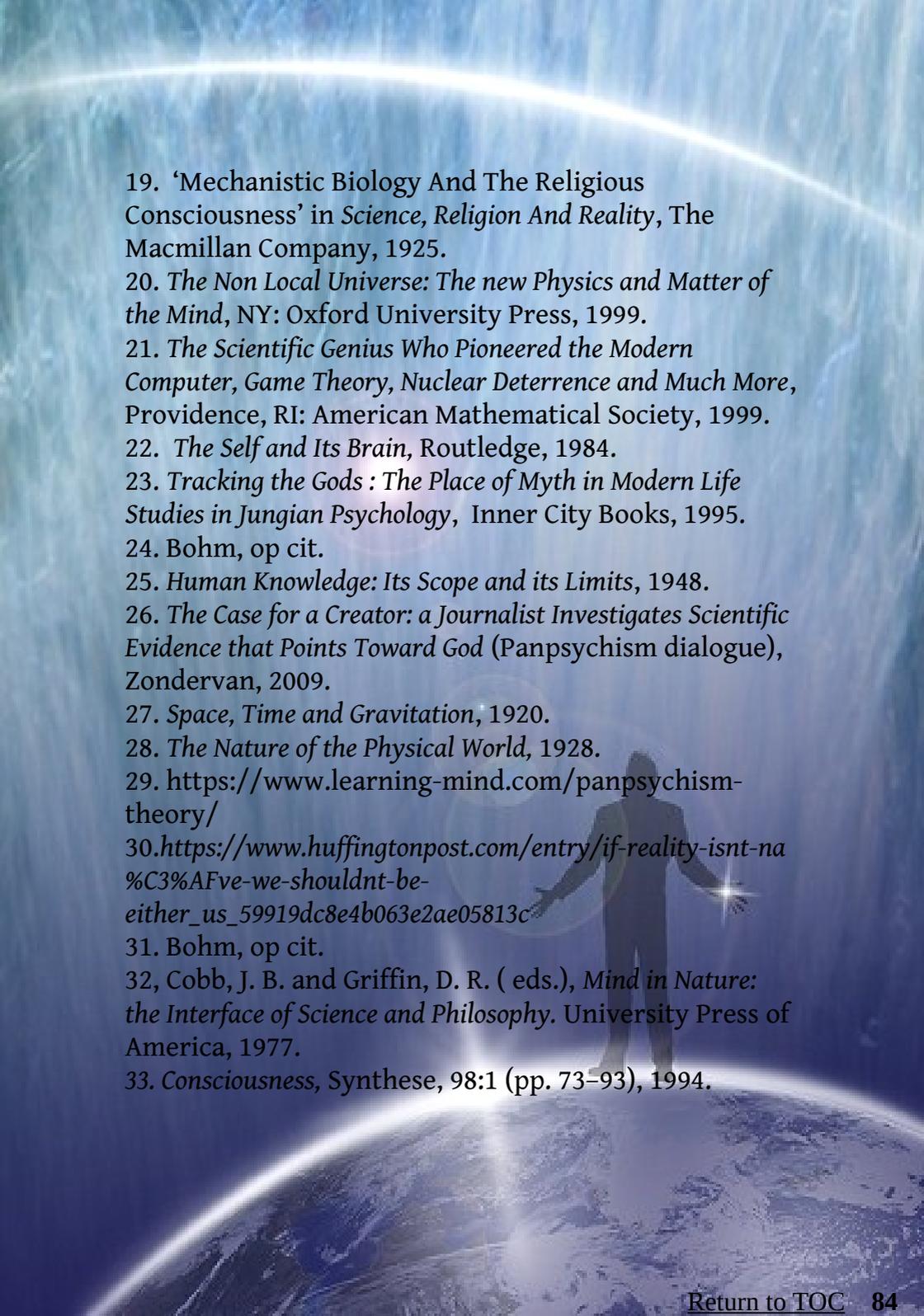
*Under these two aspects, it is really the same;
But as creation takes place, it receives different names.
Together we call them the Mystery.
Where the Mystery is the deepest is the gate of all that is
subtle and wonderful.*

*There was something undefined and complete,
coming into existence before Heaven and Earth.
How still it was and formless, standing alone,
Undergoing no change, reaching everywhere
In no danger (of being exhausted)!
It may be regarded as the Mother of all things.
- Lao Tzu ('Tao Te Ching')*



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