

1: Articulate the Potential of All Beings

The lives of the deities articulate - actualize - all that is possible for the beings, be they human or gods. This complete potential might be termed totipotential; the totality of potential. This totality of potential carries no implication of values, no commitment to 'good' or 'compassion' versus 'bad' or 'evil'. Such concepts are forever relative within various philosophies and there is no possibility of 'objectivity' in either linguistic definition or actual behavior. Nonetheless, the undesirable, desructiveness of the 'dark side' of human and god nature is clear, and does not need elaborate explanation. The mytho-poetic lives of the gods explore the complete range of the possible. That panorama presents to us the full spectrum of what might be possible under 'ideal' conditions for human transformation. This full range of possibilities contains both 'black' and 'white' powers; sorcerers may do good or evil. But more importantly, it contains possibilities for more than 'power'; it reveals the potential for spiritual transformation. If the Buddhists are right, that is our unique legacy; our unique potential.

2: WISDOM HAPPINESS LOVE

Immortality be damned! In any case, that attribute may be uniquely reserved for the gods. The unique legacy of human beings is the possibility for spiritual transformation and the acquisition of global compassion; love for all beings without exception. The gods, for all their awesome powers, are forever fixed in the particular spiritual state of their niche. Those who acquire compassion, acquire wisdom, happiness and love. Those qualities may be applied to one's close and intimate daily relationships and/or humanity and Gaia at large. We thereby hold in our hands the ultimate power, the possibility of affecting the QUALITY of our emotional/spiritual lives and also the possibility of the affecting the QUALITY of Gaia - Mother Earth - the global ecosystem. We can all be bodhisattvas to Gaia if we choose.

3: Create the Structure of Human Society

The fundamentals of human society; family, clan and tribe with their attendant rituals did not spring de novo from the mind of humankind. Our societies, with their passions, complexity, happinesses and unhappinesses mirror that of gods. We MUST mirror the gods, not because we are inferior parrots, but because the closest of reciprocal relationships provides the most complete, multi-level nourishment for ALL, both the gods and us. The mirror reflects reciprocity and the possibility for the healthiest of symbiosis. If our social and mytho-poetic structures did not mirror 'heaven' than the reciprocal nurturing behavior which leads to the best of all possible 'worlds' would be much more difficult. When our Bicameral Minds Broke Down (c.3,000 B.C. - 0 A.D.) and Consciousness with its Self Awareness and narrative 'I' appeared, we lost the easy

ability to talk to the gods. We MUST regain it if our overall 'health' is to be restored. Isolated regions of recovery, as promoted by Western reductionist science when working alone, will not suffice.

4: Society NEEDS Nurture from the Gods

In principle the rationale is simple. Do you wish to be 'healthy' on both the spritual and physical planes? Of course, you say. Well, there is a price to pay; everything is not possible in all 'worlds'. You must pick and choose and be content with the gains and losses. The exercise of raw, exploitive power in whatever realm can not coincide with the achievement of a totipotent 'health'. The narcotic highs produced by physical or verbal abuse, the pursuits of material wealth, the acquisition of ecological power and the indulgence of pyschological or physical obsessions are forever incompatible with a spritual and compassionate life. They are also incompatible with the achievement of happiness and love, those forever indefinable, but we 'know-it-when-we-find-it' psychic states.

5: The Gods REQUIRE Nuture from Society

Yes, the Gods do require and NEED us. Not simply for the ego gratification of having something worship you. The Gods are dependent upon us for spiritual nourishment, love, respect and acknowledgement that life is rich and worth living. Sounds like some of the qualities of a good human relationship, doesn't it? Well it is; the Gods need our love or they are left alone with themselves and that is not conducive to their happiness. The objective truth is that they possess, as do we, an intense need for intimacy. Love and intimacy appear to be global needs, global truths; there are very few beings who can legitimately do without them. Their existence serves only to illustrate the statistical flucuations from the mean that are possible in large populations; they do not indicate a life path that most of us can follow towards fulfillment. If you don't believe this, contemplate the death of the so-called pagan gods and above all, the near extinction of the Great Goddess. Physically she is immortal, but that is not the point. At the hands of a judgemental, power-oriented, chauvanitstic Christianity, she nearly died a spritual death.

6: That Food is Dreamtime Ritual

Today, we think that the Dreamtime is specific to the native Australians but the historical record suggests otherwise. These extraordinary people are 'simply' the last stewards of the Dreamtime; they have miraculously preserved it into the 20th century. In the Dreamtime, the gods walked the earth and shaped it according to their creative whims and their serious needs. That creation of the 'world' also structured it for us; it provided the frame for the 'mirror' with which we reflect 'heaven'. In ritual, we leave linear, secular time and enter the sacred time of the Dreamtime. In that space, we can communicate with the gods

directly, learn from them and possibly acquire spiritual knowledge of the type that is forever beyond language. In such mytho-poetic rituals, we explore other dimensions of the 'world' and dimensions of ourselves that are not reachable otherwise. If we cannot do so directly, the shaman will do so for us with the difficult techniques of ecstasy, for that is his sacred trust. When the shaman returns from spirit-soul journeys, he or she communicates the experience to the clan and all are enriched and made wiser by the experience.

7: 'Nuture' Allows the Gods to Live and Creat

Nourished by the APPROPRIATE rituals, the gods have their health renewed and are able to continue to live out their mytho-poetic lives and create. BUT, the rituals must be appropriate, they must possess spiritual integrity. Almost any behavior can become ritualistic if repeated within a recognizable structure but all rituals are neither spiritual nor healthy. The obsessive behavior of the autistic person is ritualistic but cannot lead to spiritual growth. Our society's indulgence in the acquisition of material wealth and power, 'professional' sports, material exploitation of the earth, and the obsessive feeding of our immature egos through distorted, immature and often abusive relationships all have ritualistic aspects. However, anyone with a little insight would not label such activities as spiritual ritual. The common element that flows through our impoverished 'rituals' is the infatuation with power and the ego. For ritual to possess integrity and the potential to the contact the Dreamtime, those elements must be absent.

8: Embody the Evolutionary Process

Healthy mytho-poetics is stable, contextual and ever-changing. The embodiment of evolutionary potential is transferred to us, the humans, yet all evolutionary change is not necessarily for the better. The Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind was an epochal evolutionary event and left us with a much more complex 'world' and the gains and losses are difficult to assess. Would you trade 'consciousness', 'self awareness' and the 'narrative I' for a greater sense of spiritual well being. Would you trade modern technological Western society, with all of its material wonders (including this computer!) for a near guarantee of spiritual happiness? Is it necessary to trade, is this concept of gains and losses beside the point? Can we have it all? Can we have great technological understanding with its unavoidable, intense use of the ecology and a Unicameral Mind that is at ease with communication with the gods and is capable of benefitting from such a relationship? Can you imagine a technological West with compassion towards Gaia and all the beings?

9: Reality of Spiritual Transformation

Unknown shamans, Zoroaster, Vardhamana, Buddha, Confucius, Lao-tzu, Jesus Christ, Mohammed