

THRONES TO FLOWER

You soften people. I know that because I have watched people who are close to you do it. I have watched resentment go from faces and a peace come. And I too have felt your presence melt my bad feelings into a flood of ease and acceptance.

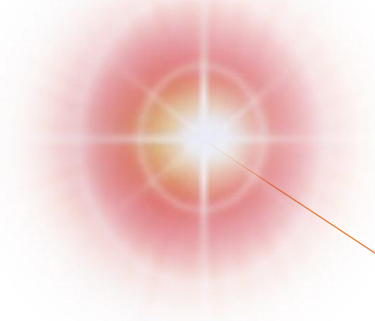


You soften people. I know that because I have watched people who are close to you do it. I have watched resentment go from faces and a peace come.



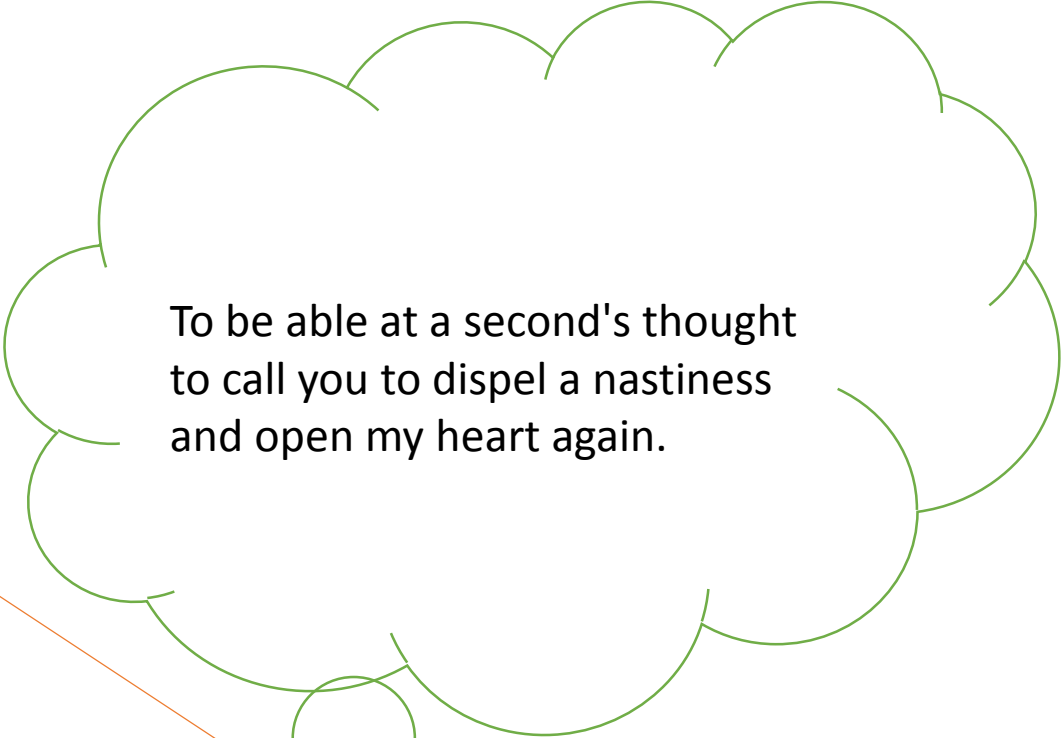
I too have felt your presence melt my bad feelings into a flood of ease and acceptance.

I want to keep you in this form on the line between my kindness and my cruelty. To be able at a second's thought to call you to dispel a nastiness and open my heart again.



My kindness

My cruelty



To be able at a second's thought to call you to dispel a nastiness and open my heart again.



Nastiness hurts the giver as much as the receiver—more—but sometimes the love that follows it is stronger: I want so much to compensate that my gestures are large and expressive. But a beautiful life is one free of those contrasts as a sea is beautiful when unbroken by rock or morning landscape by people.



Nastiness hurts the giver as much as the receiver—more—but sometimes the love that follows it is stronger: I want so much to compensate that my gestures are large and expressive.



But a beautiful life is one free of those contrasts as a sea is beautiful when unbroken by rock or morning landscape by people.

I must call you earlier, at the very inception of nastiness, before it has had time to find a form in thought.



To keep you close, I know I must
accept my own capacity to hurt, to
move the wrong way.

If I forget that, I cannot find you until
it is too late and I have spoken.

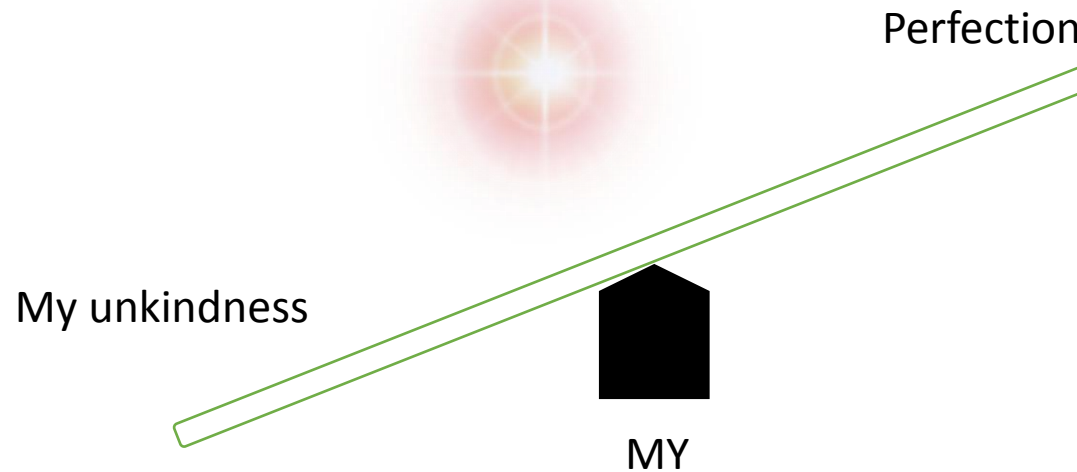


To keep you close,

- ✓ I know I must accept my own
capacity to hurt,
- ✓ to move the wrong way.



Honesty is what attracts you in this form and the knowledge that your part is played on that uneven stage between my unkindness and perfection.



POWERHOUSE

It would be a whirlwind. I am a little afraid of that: you may dismantle my thoughts, wipe everything away with your touch and make me start again.



There were people in my life who could do that. With a single word, they destroyed my hopes and remade them differently. Looking back, I am grateful to them because they changed me for a while.



Your power changes me forever. It knocks whole walls down, even washes my house away completely. But I trust you and need to know that you are capable of such dynamism.



It excites me to think of you as a thunderbolt and all the more because I know that as quickly you will become gentle and involve yourself in my destiny. I would like to be resilient enough to take you, to make myself a tiny replica of your strength: unflinching, uninfluenced, eternal.



Quickly you will become gentle and involve yourself in my destiny.



It excites me to think of you as a thunderbolt and all the more because I know that as quickly you will become gentle and involve yourself in my destiny.

I would like to be resilient enough to take you, to make myself a tiny replica of your strength: unflinching, uninfluenced, eternal.

MASTER OF THREE WORLD

I know people who are very spiritual and those who are practical and well earthed. They need each other to stay steady and balanced. You are the only being I can think of who has the art of living at all levels so tuned. You don't have a body, but you know how one works as finely as if you had lived in one for years.



You are the only being I can think of who has the art of living at all levels so tuned.

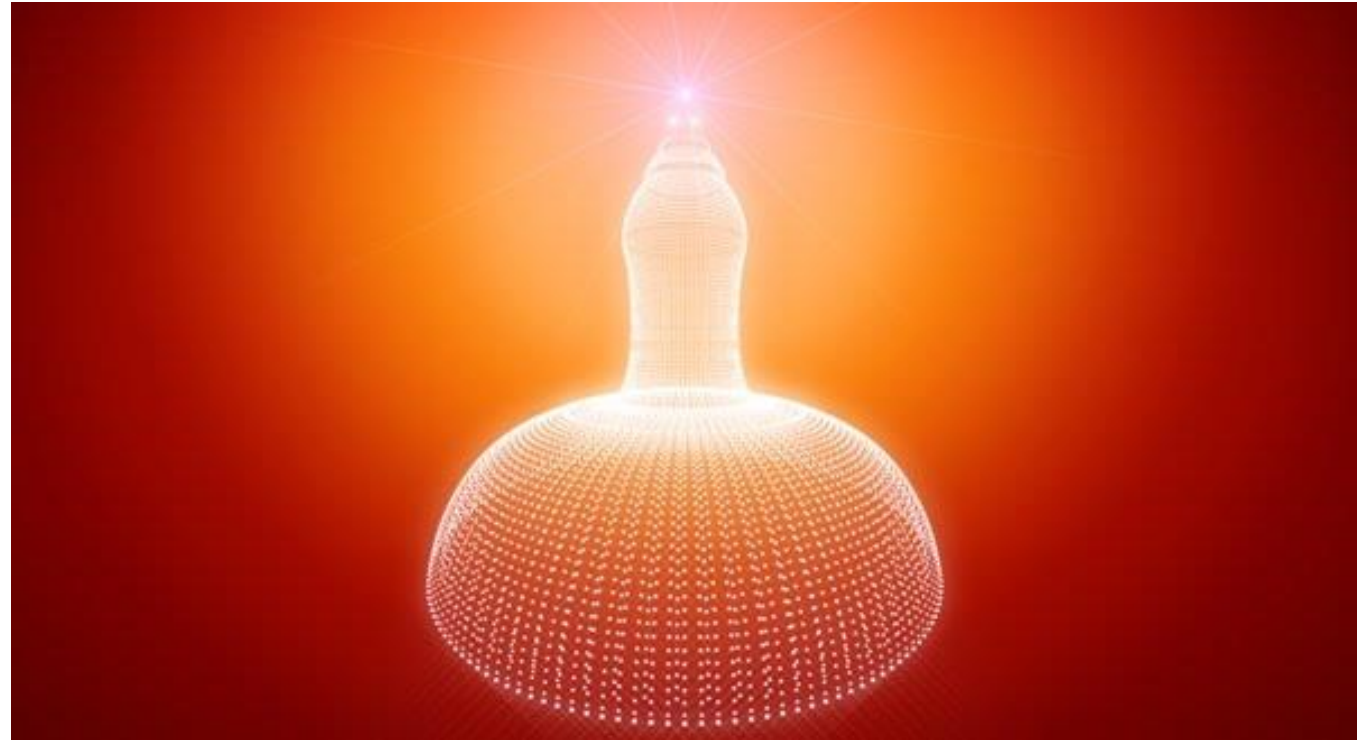


I know people who are very spiritual and those who are practical and well earthed. They need each other to stay steady and balanced.

You aren't an angel or a poet, but you understand the world of imagery and subtle gestures. And as total spirit, free of ties, you are the perfect master of the highest world, which is just silence.

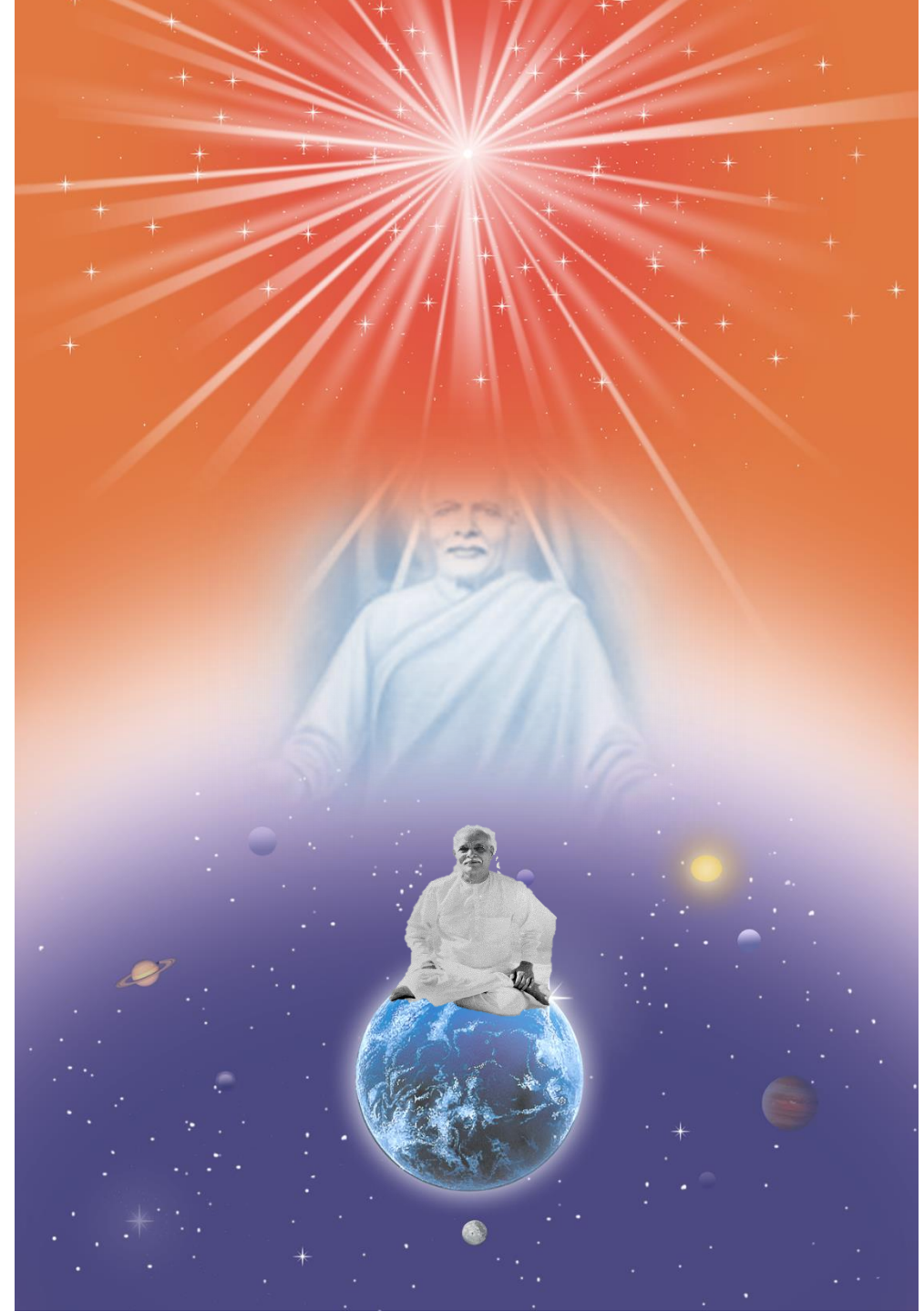


You aren't an angel or a poet, but you understand the world of imagery and subtle gestures



And as total spirit, free of ties, you are the perfect master of the highest world, which is just silence.

More than all of that is the skill with which you move between all three. You are not shocked by the tumult of matter nor do you feel naked in silence. In seconds you can go from one to the other, like someone dying and being born again a different sex and colour with no gestation time.



I should like that speed and bravery, to stop this gradual growing into spirituality and to be able to go in a second to a different state of mind. Then be still within it without looking back or wondering if something is left behind



For that you will need to make my inner house into a tardis, a time machine. Not a cosy, rooted place, but a light container that can move at will. In preparation for that I shall wipe its interior clean of ornament or sentimentality.

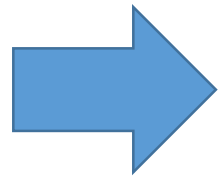
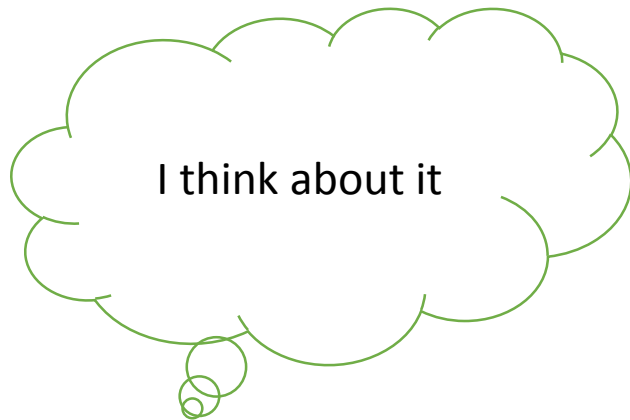


MY LIBERATOR

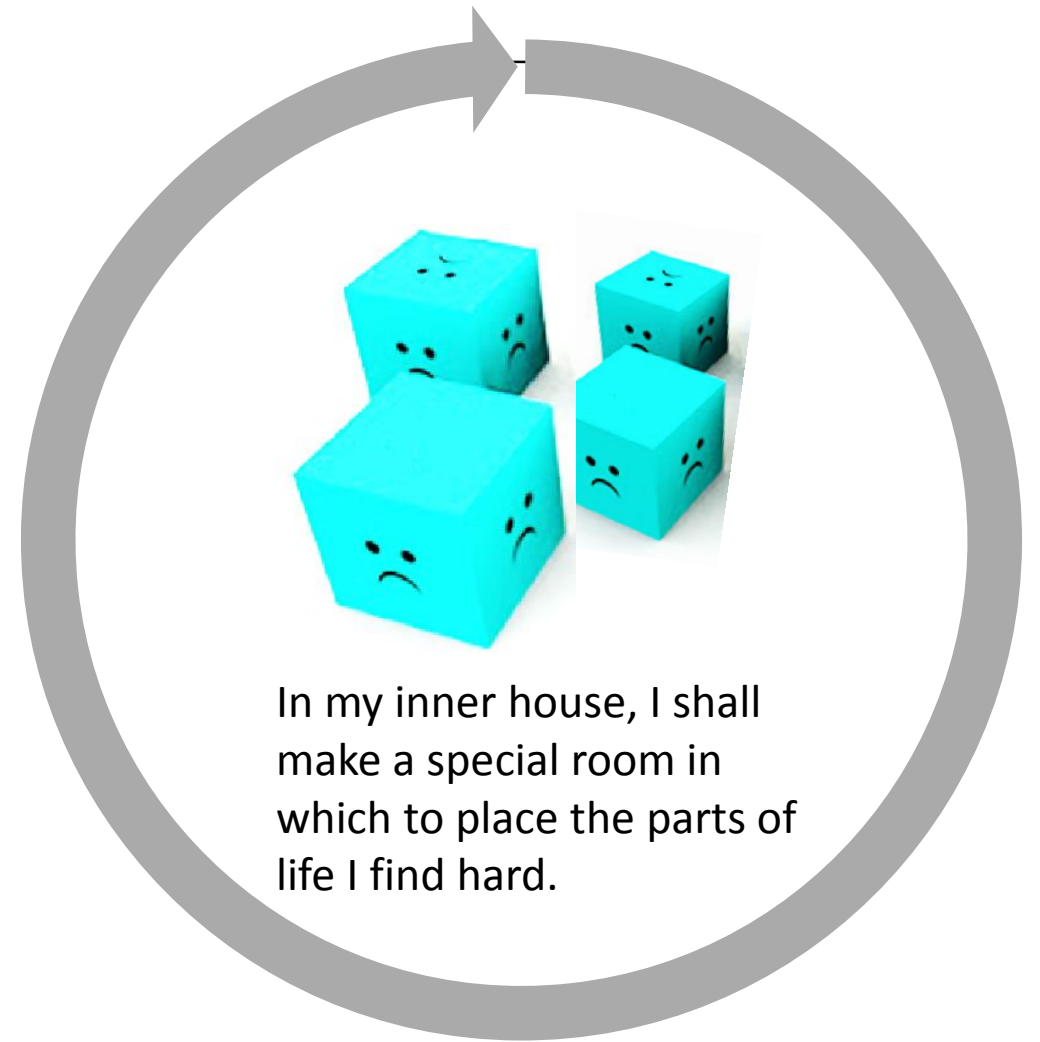
WHEN I LOOK INTO YOUR
EYES, you liberate me. I can
feel the problems that
make life tighten around
me like a straitjacket,
loosening and reducing
until they are small enough
to enter you and be taken..
Eye to eye, you free me so
that one moment I am
caught and the next I can
fly.



For this, I have to draw a line around a situation and contain it. Not let it spill into all my life, but make of it a prohibited place. It is easier for you to lift away something I have not touched too much. If I think about it, I make it too heavy to carry upwards into your eyes. So in my inner house, I shall make a special room in which to place the parts of life I find hard. I shall not invite you into that room, for that would be like inviting royally into the garden shed.



I make it too heavy to carry upwards into your eyes




For this, I have to draw a line around a situation and contain it. Not let it spill into all my life, but make of it a prohibited place.

Instead when you are there, I'll bring to you a part of myself that I have stored there and watch you not just take it, but turn it into a treasure. I shall give it to your eyes and you will return it, changed.





MY SERVANT

YOU SERVE ME when I am honest about my needs. When I tell someone, whom in your wisdom you have placed above me, what quality it is I lack, you bring it to me direct.



YOU SERVE ME
when I am honest
about my needs.



When I tell someone, whom in your wisdom you have placed above me, what quality it is I lack, you bring it to me direct.

I shut you out when I do not admit that I need anything, am too proud to own up to my failures. As you are humble in serving me, I must be humble in expressing my dependence on you.



As you are humble in serving me, I must be humble in expressing my dependence on you.



I shut you out when I do not admit that I need anything, am too proud to own up to my failures.

For you to be my servant, I have to risk my reputation and say squarely where I stand. But not in public, not to anyone—just to that particular person whom you have appointed. I need faith then as well as honesty, that in telling them, I am telling you. They have won that position because of their transparency, their ability to reflect you as you are, at the moment of my asking.

For you to be my servant, I have to risk my reputation and say squarely where I stand. But not in public, not to anyone—just to that particular person whom you have appointed. I need faith then as well as honesty, that in telling them, I am telling you.



They have won that position because of their transparency, their ability to reflect you as you are, at the moment of my asking.

You fill in the gaps in my spirit so quietly as though I had done it myself.
And so that when the problem next occurs, your hand is upon it, gently edging it to the side to make room for the virtue that I lack.

And so that when the problem next occurs, your hand is upon it, gently edging it to the side to make room for the virtue that I lack.



You fill in the gaps in my spirit so quietly as though I had done it myself.

To have you as servant, I declare openly my shortcoming and you respond to it in such a concealed way, I hardly notice. There needs to be other people admitted into my inner house if I want you as my servant.



To have you as servant, I declare openly my shortcoming and you respond to it in such a concealed way, I hardly notice.



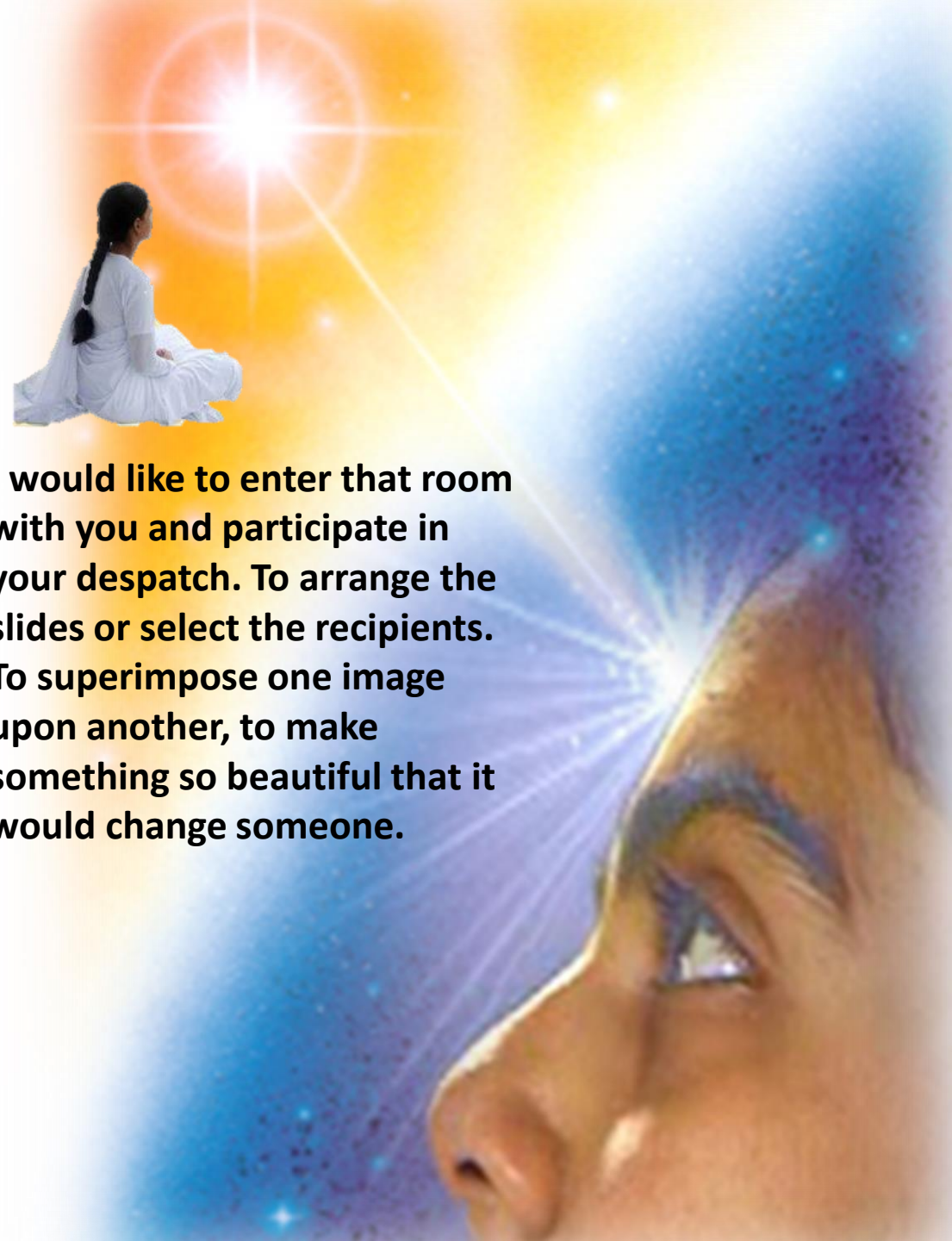
There needs to be other people admitted into my inner house if I want you as my servant.

ONE WHO GIVES VISIONS

Visions. What is behind that door which you hold locked? An image bank, a subtle cinema, what is it? More than to receive a vision, I would like to enter that room with you and participate in your despatch. To arrange the slides or select the recipients. To superimpose one image upon another, to make something so beautiful that it would change someone. Better, I would love you to make a room of my house for this task: a dark room for developing pictures to send to people.



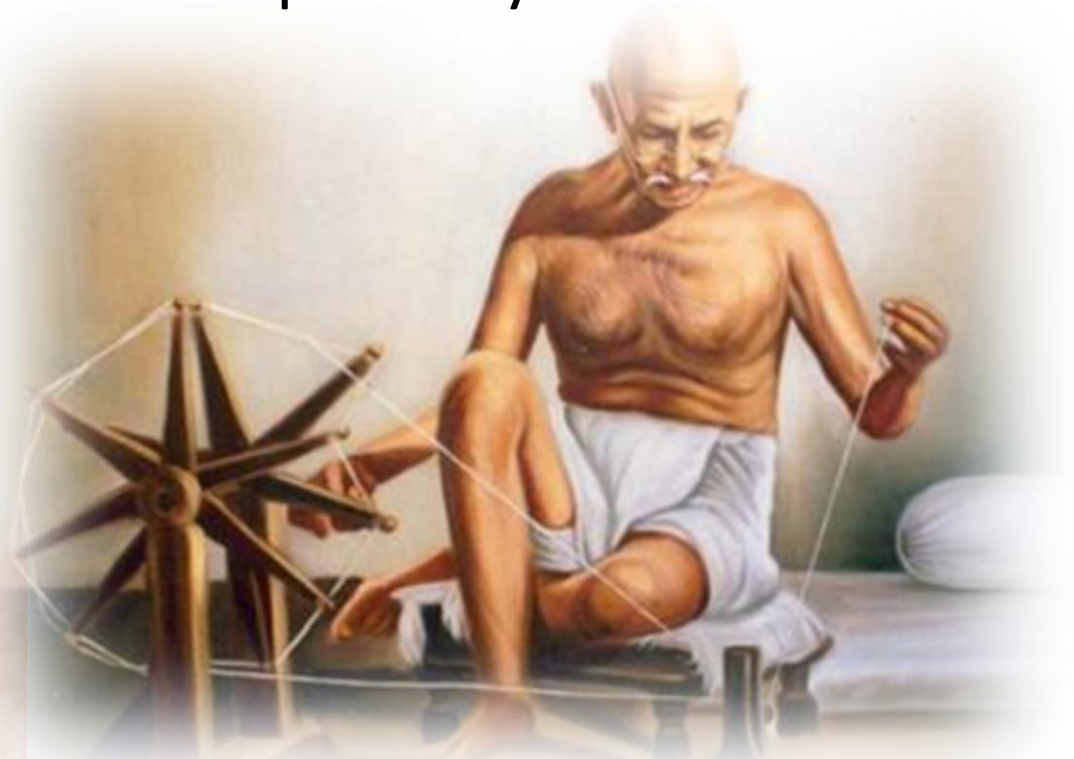
What is behind that door which you hold locked? An image bank, a subtle cinema, what is it?



I would like to enter that room with you and participate in your despatch. To arrange the slides or select the recipients. To superimpose one image upon another, to make something so beautiful that it would change someone.

I have a feeling that this part of your work is deeply personal. Maybe it is the private pleasure you keep for quiet moments between your other obligations, like a hobby, a sport. Maybe doing this gives you the same feeling as spinning cotton gave Gandhi, the activity he returned to in the peace of his evening verandah after too much publicity.

I have a feeling that this part of your work is deeply personal. Maybe it is the private pleasure you keep for quiet moments between your other obligations, like a hobby, a sport.



Maybe doing this gives you the same feeling as spinning cotton gave Gandhi, the activity he returned to in the peace of his evening verandah after too much publicity.

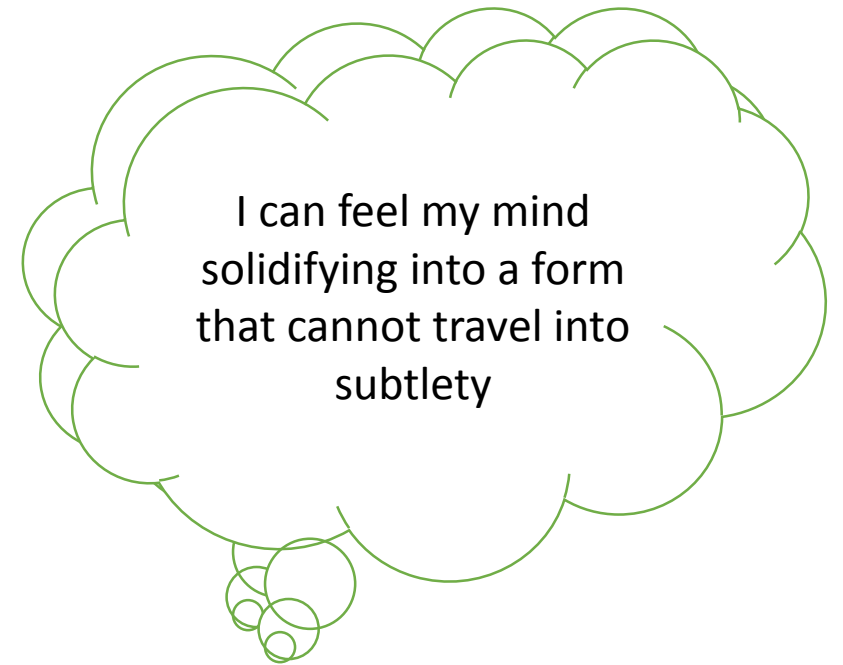
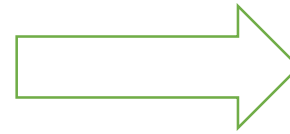
I should like to be one of your family, like Gandhi's wife, and watch you as you do this. If I could not participate, I could promise quietness and an appreciation of the pictures you make.



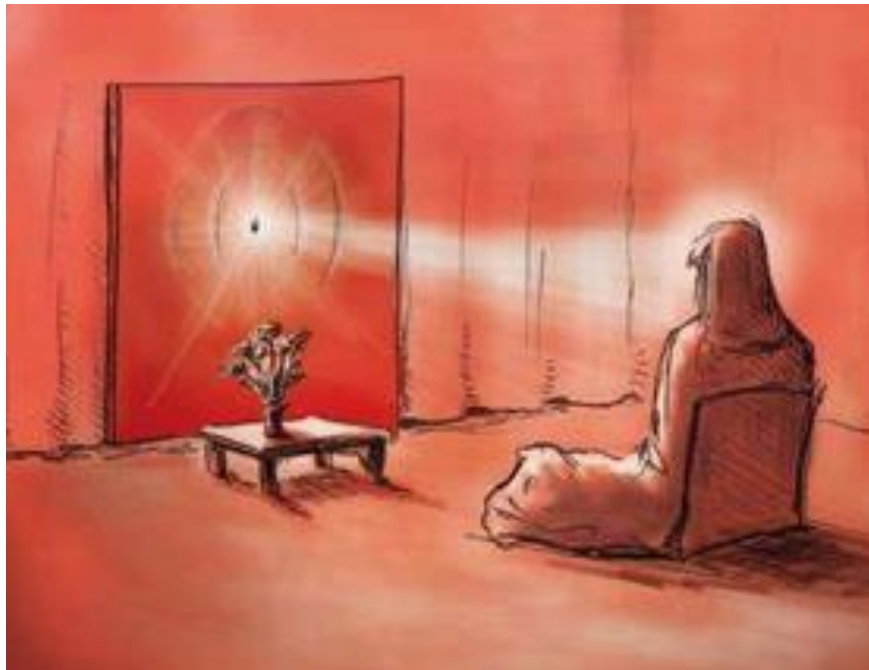
If I could not participate, I could promise quietness and an appreciation of the pictures you make.

ONE WHO SINGS SONGS OF
KNOWELDGE

WHEN I READ too many books or stay too long with people who question, I can feel my mind solidifying into a form that cannot travel into subtlety.



As alchemist, I call you in the quiet of the morning to shift my mind and make it into a fluid shine. But now I'd like to feel you not just in the morning but between the pages of the books I read, the words of the adults I mix with so that I stay golden all the time.



As alchemist, I call you in the quiet of the morning to shift my mind and make it into a fluid shine.



At the moment when the shine is dulling, I shall turn to you and briefly absent myself from my surroundings to catch your eye and see the truth, because truth is what makes me gold. Stone is so unhopeful. And being golden all the time, will you turn me too into an alchemist, a person who polishes the minds of other people? I should like to be your apprentice in this.



At the moment when the shine is dulling, I shall turn to you and briefly absent myself from my surroundings to catch your eye and see the truth, because truth is what makes me gold. Stone is so unhopeful.



And being golden all the time, will you turn me too into an alchemist, a person who polishes the minds of other people? I should like to be your apprentice in this.

MAGICIAN

Your presence makes magic happen.
What was hard evaporates into a
pleasure; what was a carelessness on
my part suddenly becomes a point of
attention.



Carelessness

What was a carelessness on my part
suddenly becomes a point of attention.



Your presence makes magic happen. What
was hard evaporates into a pleasure;

You change the furniture in my mind so that my house looks different.



To invoke you, I must face you as I am. Not quickly rearrange myself to be presentable, but look with that lovely feeling of openness that is a giving of oneself entirely; a child's way. Yes I am a child before you, who has not yet learned possessiveness.



To invoke you, I must face you as I am. Not quickly rearrange myself to be presentable, but look with that lovely feeling of openness that is a giving of oneself entirely; a child's way. Yes I am a child before you, who has not yet learned possessiveness.

You can touch what you like and change it. My looking at you in this way is a surrender of my own features. My mind and heart, my face and eyes slip unafraid into yours for a moment and re-emerge changed.



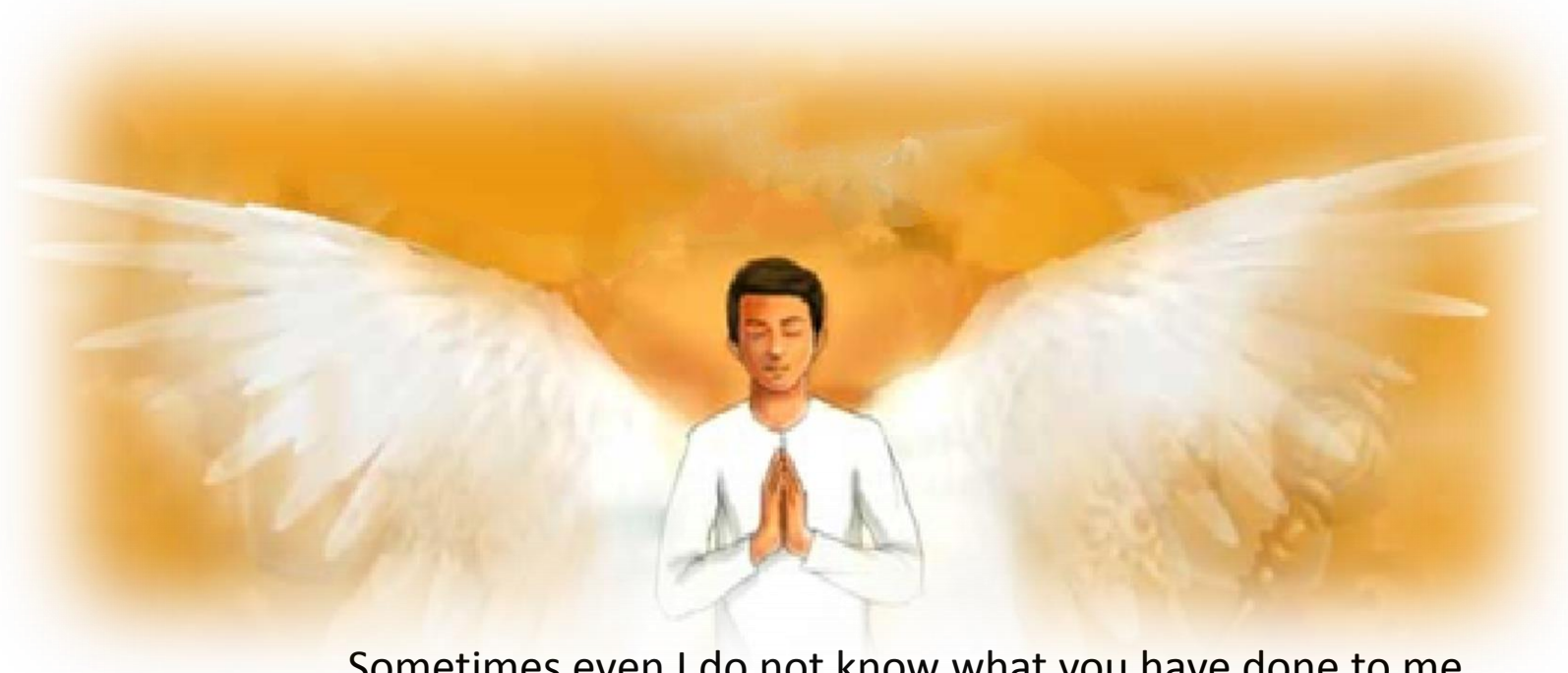
If I have not given myself to anyone else, then you come to me.
Otherwise I am a mind already fingered and you will not touch.



And what is most beautiful about you in this role is that you work in secret. Sometimes even I do not know what you have done to me until it has happened, so complete are you that you do not need an entourage or publicity to announce your work. The purer I am, the more quietly you can do your task.



And what is most beautiful about you in this role is that you work in secret.



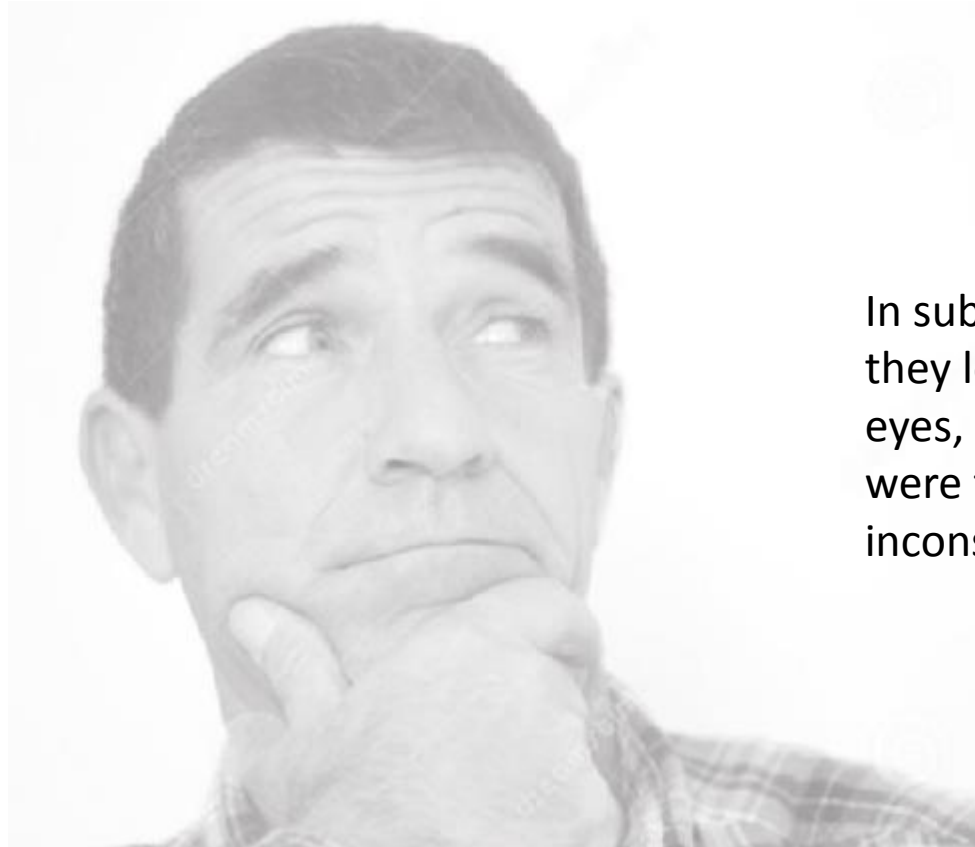
Sometimes even I do not know what you have done to me until it has happened. The purer I am, the more quietly you can do your task.

PSYCHIATRIST

You are an impersonal Force that moves through us like a storm, but you are also intricately involved.



Many people have tried deconstructing me. In subtle ways, when they looked into my eyes, I could see they were trying to find the inconsistency. Maybe I have done it myself. If so, I am sorry, because it is a sin.



In subtle ways, when they looked into my eyes, I could see they were trying to find the inconsistency.

When you look at me in that piercing way, I am happy because your perfection makes you a safe doctor. You do not need my weakness to make you strong.



I should like you to sit here in front of me and dig up my mind completely, bring to its surface the worst atrocity and the greatest strength and make of that combination what you will.



PURIFIER

A single thought caught from you in passing is like a storm of rain, washing silt away, moving buildings, changing the landscape, separating people from what they know.



If I have the choice, I would prefer to be cleansed by you and not by flood or fire. Because you do it logically and to a plan. Your thought comes to me and everything wrong that it encounters inside falls away. Water and fire push themselves upon people, indiscriminately.



If I have the choice, I would prefer to be cleansed by you and not by flood or fire. Because you do it logically and to a plan. Your thought comes to me and everything wrong that it encounters inside falls away.

I know that to have you cleanse me, I must already be clean; must be a bright, spacious house inside where you feel happy to sit. That is the readiness you ask for.



And I remember that your coming is a sign that I am fit for your fierceness. If I am too casual, I know that you do not bother. You just think: let life work on him, not me. And you withdraw.



If I am too casual, I know that you do not bother. You just think: let life work on him, not me. And you withdraw.

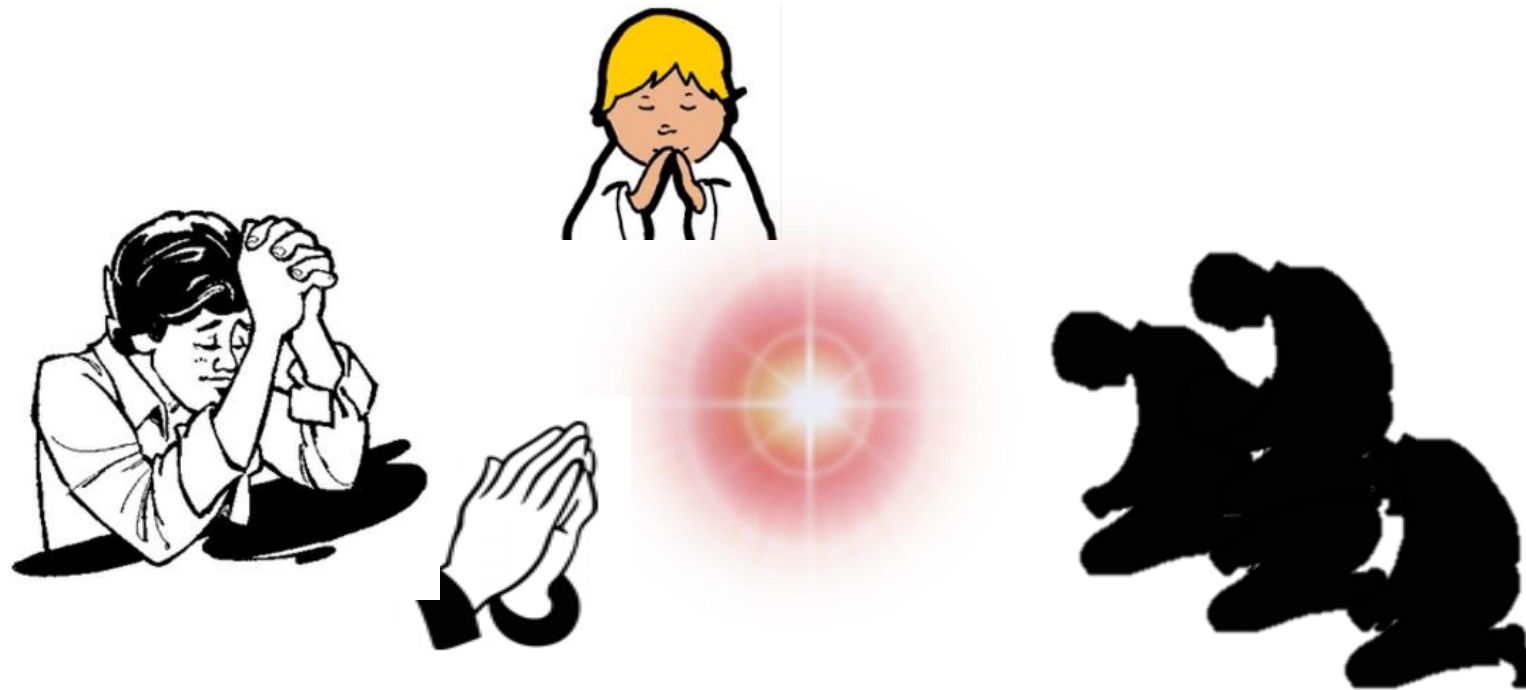
I like the feel of your intervening thoughts. The feel of your strong laws standing between me and myself. You make me free by the boundaries you set around me; the silent warnings which I once longed for from teachers and friends. You do not destroy my sins, but you stand me at a distance from them, so that if I touch, I am shocked. To touch is to be impure.



SOCIAL WORKER

WHEN I THINK of you as this, I wonder if I can accommodate people's needs as generously as you do. I prefer your quiet self to you, the benefactor.

WHEN I THINK of you as this, I wonder if I can accommodate people's needs as generously as you do.



But this thought does not last long, for I know you have a way of serving people that brings them to the quietness that is intrinsic to your own being.



You must be sent so many messages, so many pleas, but when I think of you I do not see you crowded because you have a way of giving just the right thing and so satisfying people without a song and dance. You find a means to give that makes the gift unrecognisable as yours. It comes through another person's eyes or the casual reassurance of their words. And then you slip away.



You must be sent so many messages, so many pleas, but when I think of you I do not see you crowded crowded because you have a way of giving just the right thing and so satisfying people without a song and dance.

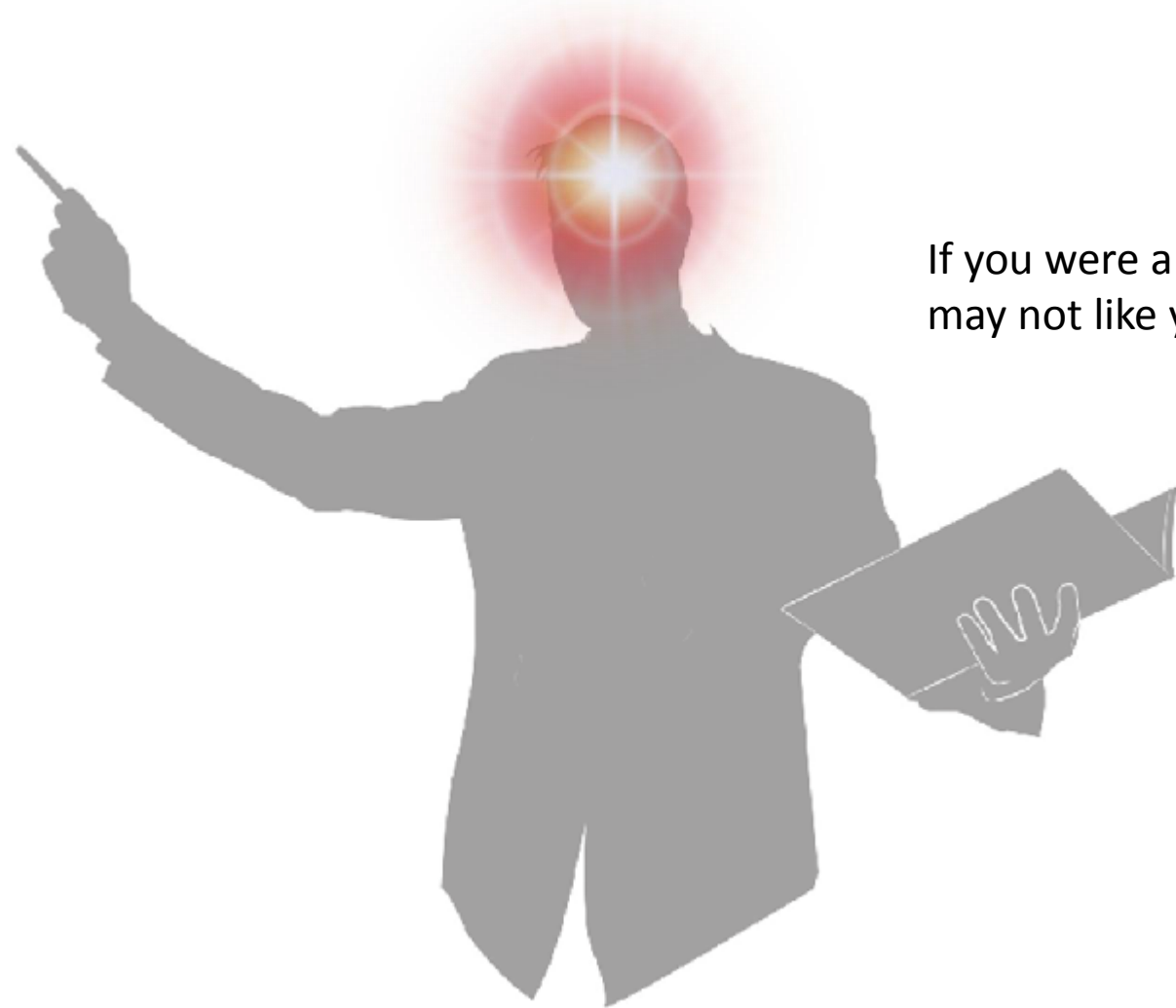


You find a means to give that makes the gift unrecognisable as yours. It comes through another person's eyes or the casual reassurance of their words. And then you slip away.

I like it that you cannot be seen. And I like it that those gifts do not offer soft consolation or encourage liberalism. They set a fire alight inside that makes one want to sacrifice everything.



If you were a person, people may not like your toughness. That makes me like you more.



If you were a person, people may not like your toughness

SURGEON

I am afraid of surgeons. They do not ask permission for what they do. Their entry is cold, They cannot achieve anything without cutting and, as I rise out of sleep, I say things they shouldn't hear. Why is it that I do not mind your free access to my soul?



What is it about you that makes me
feel so safe? I know that what you
can do to me is more far-reaching
and dramatic than what an ordinary
surgeon can do and that it may
involve some pain, but I relish it
because it cannot fail to lighten me,
You can do what no surgeon can, You
can make my spirit young again,



Lighten me,
Make my spirit young again

You cut away my prejudice so my responses are fresh and spontaneous.



Sometimes I do not know when you have been until afterwards. I know there was a slowness, an inwardness to the day, but I did not know it was you at work and so I had not the chance to worry or question. It is better when you do not ask.

Sometimes I do not know when you have been until afterwards. I know there was a slowness, an inwardness to the day, but I did not know it was you at work and so I had not the chance to worry or question



THE BEAUTIFUL ONE

You are beautiful to me because you are pure. I go on and on thinking about you and I come only to more purity. There is no stopping point, no disappointment, you are utter.



Ocean of purity

You are beautiful because you do not
compromise your truth to console me.
You tell me I QM a sinner if it is true.
Humans forgive me too easily.



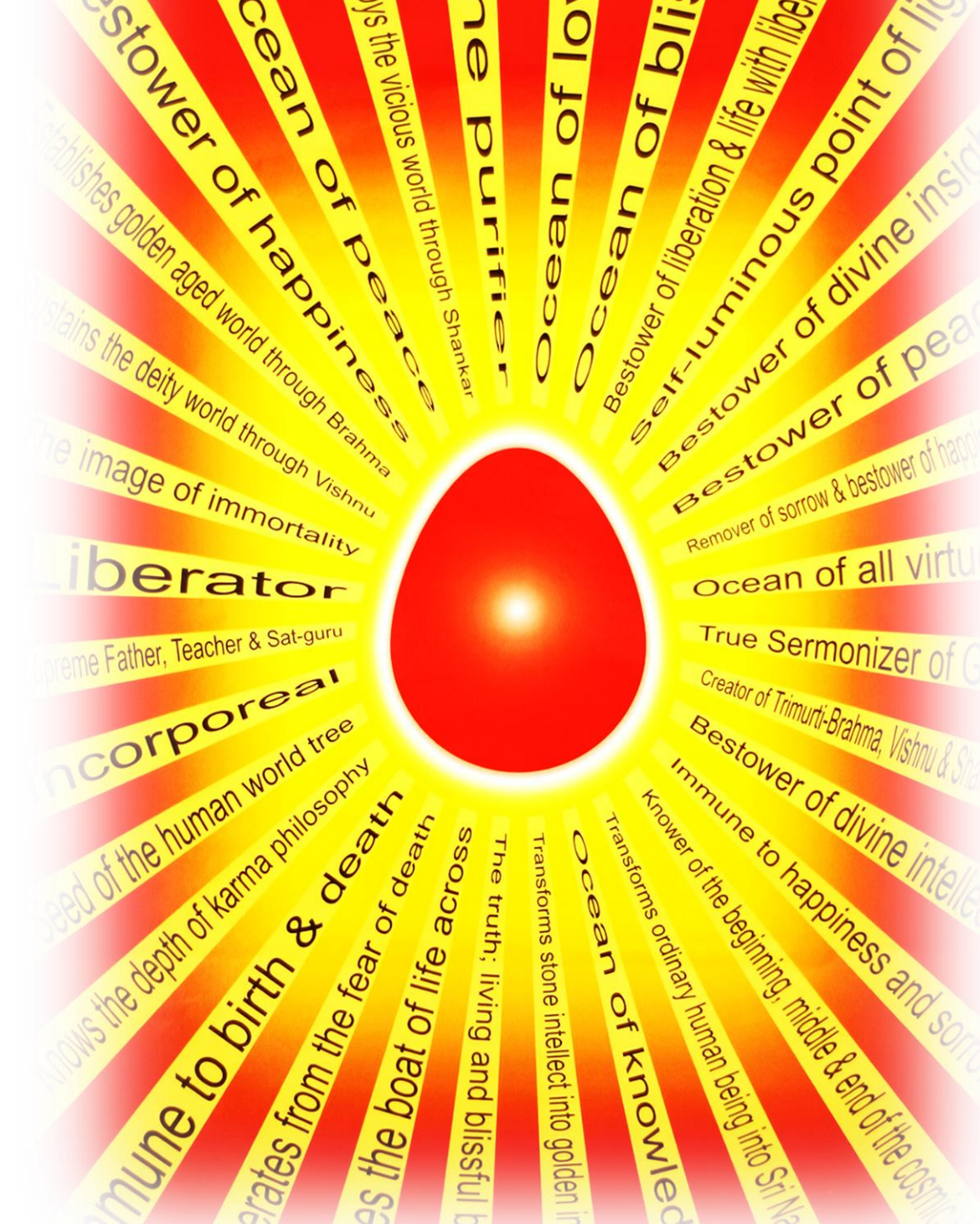
You are beautiful because your
absoluteness creates in me a longing to
please you and that longing is not
subservience but self-improvement.



You are beautiful because your qualities have not grown out of experience. They are not the sweetness that follows pain bravely borne, they are there because they are there: still, unchanged strengths.



You are beautiful because your qualities have not grown out of experience. They are not the sweetness that follows pain bravely borne



And each one is separate and distinct. Your peace is different from your purity. Your role as judge is distinct from the warmth of your mothering. There are endless opportunities in the thinking of you. Like a face that, changing by the second, is a pleasure to watch. You are so various; so full of surprises.



And each one is separate and distinct. Your peace is different from your purity. Your role as judge is distinct from the warmth of your mothering.

There are endless opportunities in the thinking of you.

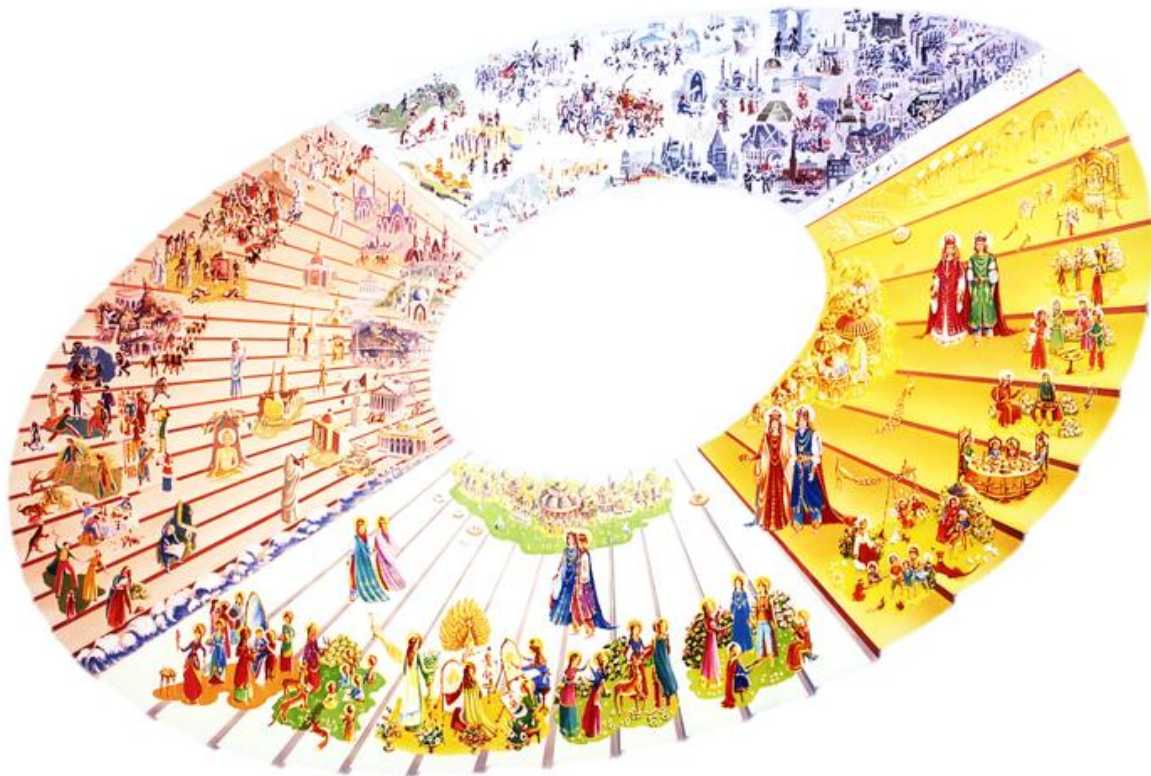


WHO CAN SEE FUTURE

Thank God for someone who knows how it will all turn out, The rootedness of that makes me feel strong like a tree under which new lovers come and go every day. It is the source of your stillness, this knowledge.



We move from past to present, present to future as if it were all new, but you have the future already set out before you so in a sense you have to do nothing.

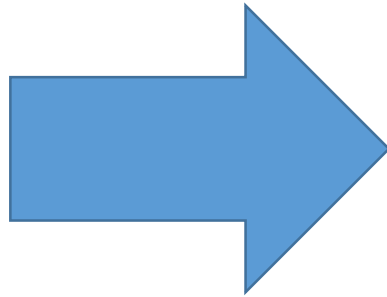


You have the future already set out before you so in a sense you have to do nothing.

When I close my eyes and meet you in this form, I invoke a stability, a resistance to shock which I need, as my wings grow lighter and more refined.



When I close my eyes and meet you in this form - WHO CAN SEE FUTURE



You are so refined we cannot even see you, and yet you are utterly solid and unshakeable.

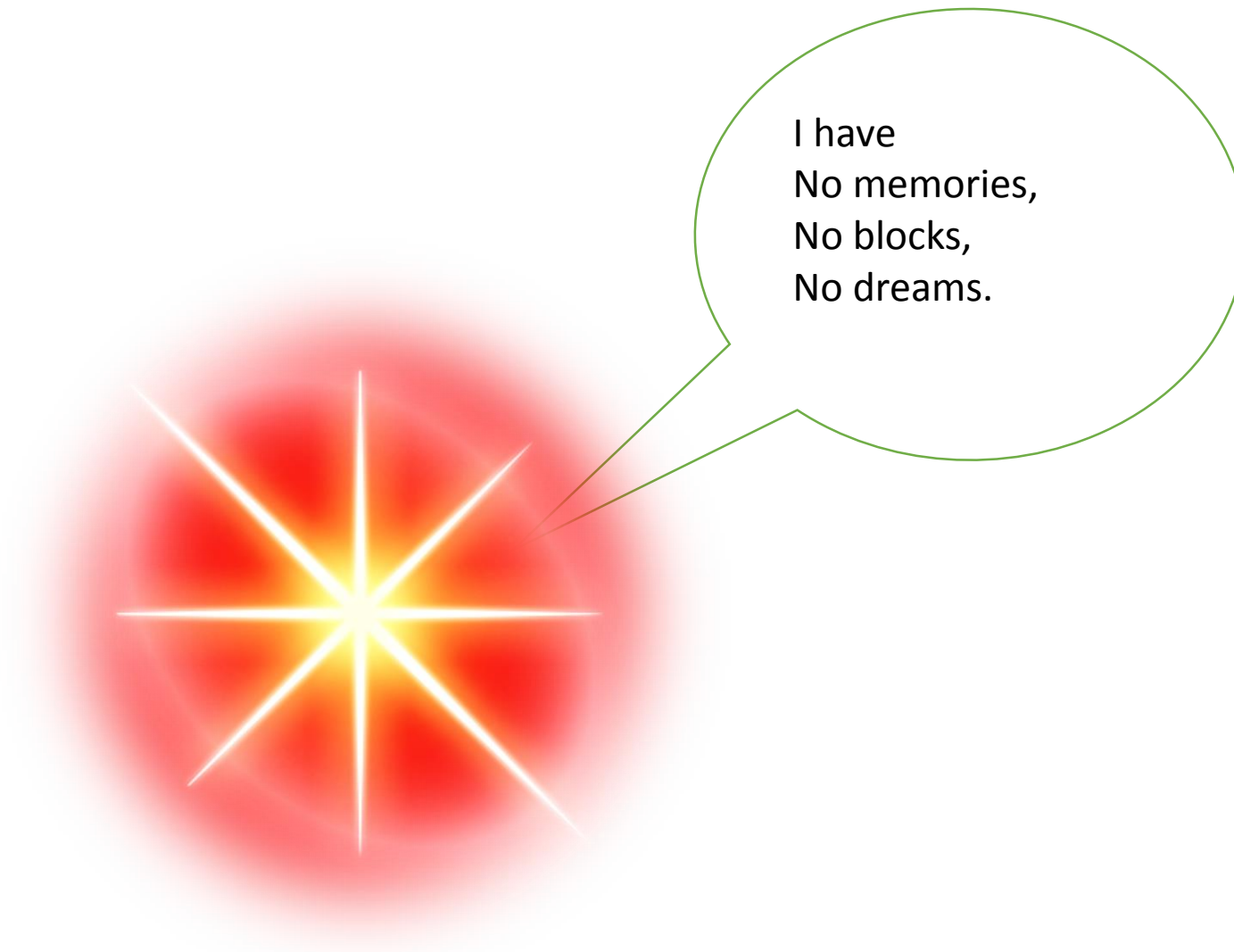
I should like my small house to have that same combination of delicateness and brute strength. So that even if the sea swallowed it, it would go down intact—dignified and quiet—and rest on the seabed until it were safe to surface again.



Delicateness and brute strength

You are so refined we cannot even see you, and yet you are utterly solid and unshakeable

Existence is truly a different thing for you completely. There are no memories, blocks, dreams.



I have
No memories,
No blocks,
No dreams.

You are one solid line of goodness that cannot be broken by even the most awful of human atrocities. You see all our changes. but you stay the same. I marvel at that.

You see all our changes. but you stay the same.



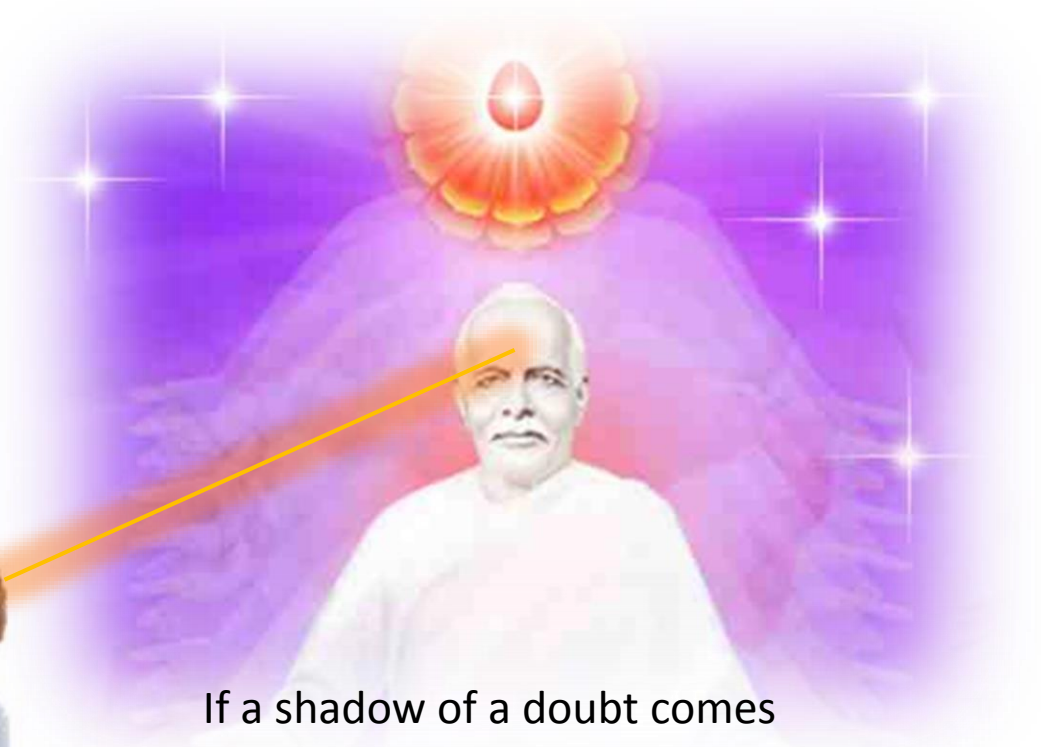
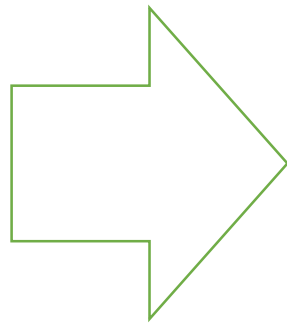
WHO GETS THINGS DONE

This morning I did a lot in a short time.
Yesterday I did a little in a long time. Why?
Was it just a matter of enthusiasm and energy
and the right amount of sleep? Was it just the
state of my body and the willingness of my
mind to focus? Yes, mainly. But there is more
to it than that. **When you consider the task
worthy, your power is behind it and then I
feel that you have done it. If you do not, I
am doing it on my own and that is
dangerous.**



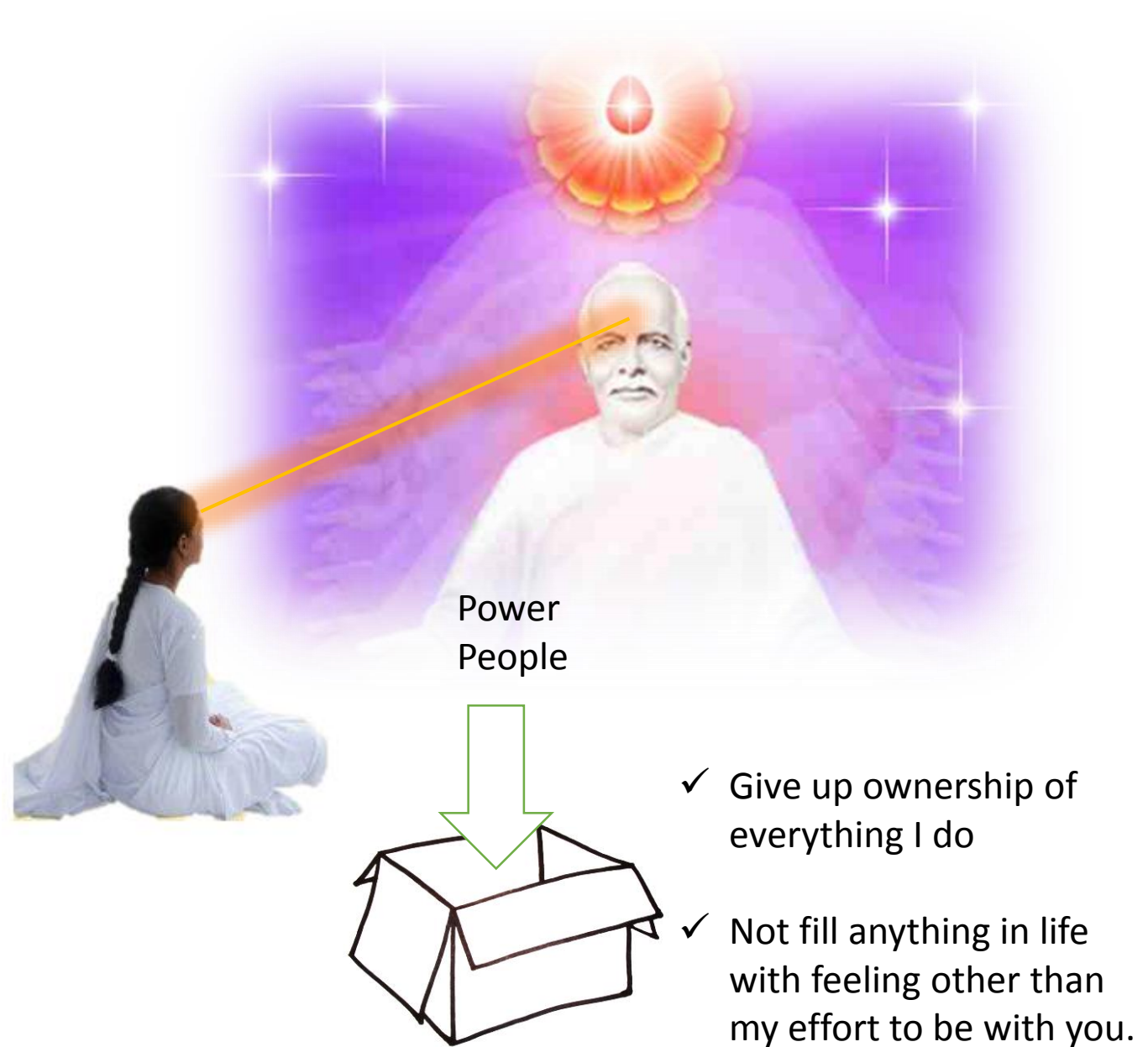
My way to you as God, the one who gets tasks done, is to consult you before I begin. To feel, in my looking at your face, whether or not I am embarking on a worthwhile venture. And if a shadow of a doubt comes between us to block out your presence, then maybe I should stop.

Consult you
before I begin
TASK



If a shadow of a doubt comes between us to block out your presence, then maybe I should **stop.**

For me to feel you in this form I need to give up ownership of everything I do. To make each task an empty container into which you can place the power or the people to get it done or the direction not to do it at all. I must not fill anything in life with feeling other than my effort to be with you. That can never be wrong. Most other things can.



Power
People

- ✓ Give up ownership of everything I do
- ✓ Not fill anything in life with feeling other than my effort to be with you.