



The Nature of Reality

It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye – Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Reality vs. ‘reality’

To grasp the significance of the Law of Emergence, you need to embrace a new paradigm not just of the Self, but of the entire universe. You can't put new wine in old wine skins. The butterfly can't live in the world of caterpillars. And this larger Self cannot live in the limited world of Newtonian physics. This chapter builds upon the previous one as we dive deeper into the nature of reality, as described by cutting-edge quantum physics and mystics of every age (at least to the extent we can in this short course). More than just giving us a larger framework in which to live, this new model of life will enable us to depend more on the invisible side of reality (primary causation) than the visible. This is a good thing, because we now know that the atom, once believed to be the building block of life, is not solid at all. Like I already mentioned in the previous chapter, it is 99.999% empty space. What we perceive with our senses, what we've built our whole world on, is based on 0.001% of reality. If that number represented our level of sight, we would be walking around blind — which turns out to be more true than most care to admit.

So it would appear that everything is made up of nothing. But this ‘nothing’ is quite full of something – energy and information, or the ‘field’ that was described earlier. And we are a field within this field, like a wave upon the ocean, individual but inseparable. When we understand that we're not a person, but a state of consciousness without boundaries, we confront the reality that everything and everyone ‘out there’ is actually an extension of what's ‘in here’; the world is our larger body and every person represents a part of us.

There was a reason the great prophet of Galilee entreated us to ‘love our neighbor as ourselves’. He wasn't preaching a doctrine of being good for goodness sake, he was pointing to a mystical truth that when we love our brother (or sister), we are loving an aspect of ourselves – literally. And when we withhold from another, we are withholding from our Self. As we tap into our larger Self, it manifests as opportunity,

relationships, and abundance 'out there' — but what is really appearing is just a greater manifestation of our Self.

A Universe of Ideas

The 'invisible' realm of energy and information is where the divine ideas exist, where the oak lives before it emerges through the acorn; where the perfect idea of 'You' is before you're born, and where the perfect idea behind everything, known and unknown, resides — waiting to be discovered. Plato talked about this in his Allegory of the Cave, where he explained how man is caught in a dark cave, chained to his seat, staring at shadows on the wall that he perceives as reality, but which are actually projections of objects behind him illuminated by a flame (objects of our mind being projected). The first stage is getting unchained and turning to see where the projections are coming from.

The next stage is leaving the cave (our circumscribed sense of reality or ego), where we discover, in the real Light, the true forms of Life, the prototypes or eternal patterns of which everything else is a mere shadow.

Many writers, artists, and musicians have talked about having the experience of suddenly tapping into this dimension of their being where they could see the whole painting already done, or sense the whole book already done, or literally hear the completed song playing — and all they had to do was be a channel for it or take 'divine dictation'. The word 'human' actually comes from a Sanskrit term meaning 'the dispenser of divine gifts'. And that is what we're here to do — to draw these patterns from the invisible and dispense them on earth.

Michelangelo knew this when he created the David. He saw the completed masterpiece already in the block of marble and just chipped away everything that wasn't David. He based his life on the idea that these divine perfect forms already existed and his job, rather than creating something out of nothing, was to reveal this heavenly perfection on earth. The universe is not a vast sea of random energy moving in arbitrary ways; there is order, intelligence, and divine ideas waiting to be caught and brought to shore. That's why an acorn always becomes an oak, a caterpillar doesn't become a cat, and we can discover laws that always work. As Einstein said, 'God does not play dice with the universe.'

Now I'm being a little simplistic here. It's not that this invisible realm is filled with ideas of cars, cabbages, and kings, just waiting for us to make them visible. In the invisible realm, which is timeless and infinite, the nature of ideas is quite different. For example, in a dimension where there is no space, you wouldn't have an idea for a plane, train, or automobile — because you wouldn't need to get from 'here' to 'there'

when all there is is Here. In other words, the nature of the eternal realm, whether you call it God, Higher Power, or the Quantum Field, is Omnipresent, or everywhere-present simultaneously. But as that idea of Omnipresence breaks into space, it takes on progressive expressions of 'being everywhere present'. Our history of movement is really the unfoldment of the eternal idea of Omnipresence; we started moving around by foot, then evolved to riding animals, chariots, boats, cars, jets, and spaceships! With each unfoldment, we get closer to being everywhere. In fact, with the advent of internet and advanced communications, we are experiencing 'virtual omnipresence'. That is the divine idea behind all of these forms. And it is uniquely expressed through each of us.

We can see the same thing happening with the idea of Omnipotence, or all-power. As we look around, we see unlimited forms of power, in people and objects, in an ever-expanding expression. Or Omniscience, all-knowing, all-intelligence; our ability to have instant internet access to almost any knowledge we could ever need is an expression of this idea. It's also an expression of Omnipotence and Omnipresence. We could also look at the idea of Infinity and realize that all expressions of space are relative expressions of this idea; or contemplate Eternity, and realize that all expressions of time are expressions of that.

You could say that the fundamental archetypes or building-blocks of the quantum or spiritual realm are Omnipotence, Omniscience, Omnipresence, Infinity, and Eternity. You could also add Love, Peace, Joy, Beauty, Supply, and many others, and start to realize that everything we see is some expression of these ideas, mixed and matched in an infinitely unique variety, like a kaleidoscope. My spiritual mentor Michael Beckwith (of The Secret and Agape International Truth Center) has said that we are 'holographic, kaleidoscopic expressions of God.' Coming from this perspective, that makes sense.

You Are an Idea In the Mind of God

Your assignment until the next chapter is to take this concept and turn it on yourself, realizing that you are an idea in the Mind of God, or Universal Intelligence. That might sound odd, to think of yourself as being an idea in the mind of Supreme Being. But understand that you aren't just an idea, you are the very Life animating it. You aren't separate from this Higher Power, you are a unique individualization of all that it is.

I like to think of it like this: I am a whole person, but in my mind there are many roles I play, many ideas or dimensions of me; there's the Father, Husband, Son, Friend, Writer, Teacher, etc. When I'm being one of those, I'm being all of me but in a totally unique way specific to that idea. Think of God as having an infinite number of roles He/She/It plays. You

are one of those roles. You are God being God in a unique way. Not your ego, but your Real Self. Your ego or human personality is just one small part of this expression, like the tip of the iceberg. The vast majority of you is beneath the surface of your conscious mind, invisible, waiting to emerge.

Take time each day until we meet again, contemplating this idea, turning within and asking who and what you really are. Journal about your insights. And keep contemplating the deeper idea behind other forms and other people as well. Have fun with it. Be a scientist of the soul.

Everything Works Together For Good

In this unified field, you are completely supported; everything is conspiring to awaken you to your true identity and fulfill your great destiny. You can relax into this truth, lean on it, and from this deeper sense of peace, allow your life to unfold in ways that are truly beyond your imagination.

When you realize the true nature of life and see that everything is already in this 'field' within you, you drop the struggle of trying to 'make something of yourself.' You see that the great Prophet of Galilee was right when he said, "Who by taking thought can add one cubit to his stature." You discover that self-actualization and true fulfillment are not about adding anything to you, but about 'seeing' your True Self, releasing everything it isn't, and allowing your life to unfold according to its perfect pattern.

Michelangelo knew this when he created the David. As I've talked about before, he saw the completed masterpiece already in the block of marble then chipped away everything that wasn't David. That is what you are called to do as the artist of your life – discover the perfect masterpiece hiding in this block of mortal stone and set it free.

Take a moment to look around you, at the room you're in, the walls that enclose it, the furniture in it, the accessories. Pick one thing and contemplate what the Real idea behind it might be. For example, if you look at a chair, what does that really represent? You can start by asking what its function is. It supports a person's body, so 'Support' could be an idea or quality of it. What other benefits does a chair deliver? It gives you 'Rest', so maybe that's an element of the divine idea behind chair. You can also ask what larger, more archetypal quality might be behind those. For example, 'Support' might be an expression of 'Order', 'Harmony', or 'Love'.

What about that painting on the wall? It could represent 'Beauty', 'Creativity', 'Harmony', 'Abundance', and whatever other ideas the artist was conveying. And what about your body? Think about different parts of it, how they represent ideas in themselves. The legs offer 'Mobility' (an expression of Omnipresence), the torso offers 'Strength' (an expression of Power), the senses are instruments of awareness (an expression of Omniscience), and every organ and function has a bigger idea behind it; blood might be Life, Nourishment, or Circulation. Bones are a form of Support, etc.

Take a moment to contemplate the forms in your space, and the deeper ideas behind them. When you've reached the end of your mind's understanding, close your eyes and open your consciousness to your greater wisdom, asking "What is the divine idea behind (fill in the blank)?" Then be still and listen, and see what comes through. Whether or not something specifically comes through, by being receptive you're setting the stage for a greater awareness of the Reality behind 'reality', the true spiritual forms behind the relative formations.

As I like to say, everything in material existence is a relative expression of an infinite perfection. We have been trained to pay more attention to the relative expression and identify with it, and that has blocked us from fully tapping into the infinite possibility that lies behind form. When we become aware of and identify more with that, real magic and miracles become possible. And this becomes more and more essential as you activate the full power of the Law of Emergence.

This is part of a FREE high-content audio course offered by Derek Rydall. Derek has trained top executives at Fortune 500 companies in communication and relationship skills. His work with *The Law of Emergence* and the process of *Emergineering* ends the struggle of self-improvement and helps people effortlessly achieve their full potential.

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