

INVITATION FROM THE EARTHFOLK

What is Sensual Preciousness? Who are the Earthfolk? Both are uncommon terms and images of an uncommon imagination which is expressed through practices and rituals of precious intimacy. You should anticipate that our Earthfolk words and images do not exactly mean what you think or feel they do on first pass. Our way of imagining presents you with a challenging vision of what it means to be human, that is, to be sensually precious.

We invite you to explore our *Sensual Preciousness* vision and its practices which are expressed through rituals of intimacy. Through Sensual Preciousness practices and rituals you will experience a startling presence of personal and communal intimacy. This is the intimate presence of yourself and others as precious and Beloved. Your and others' preciousness and Belovedness is made present as you couple in a precious intimate embrace. From within this embrace of Beloveds arises the source for your personal and Living Earth's communal transformation. This source for transformation we call "vital zest." We Earthfolk anticipate that some will assess our way as peculiar, even strange, and at times discomfoting. For the Earthfolk invitation is nothing less than a call for you to transform your life and undergo a conscious physical, mental and spiritual metamorphosis.

As a people, we humans are at a crucial point of conscious evolution. We can choose to imagine and so create a humanity which is peacefully and comfortably at-home on Living Earth. One which makes present intimate preciousness. Or, we can choose to linger at the present level of human imagining, which, when closely examined, is sourced in dreadful fear and endless warring. One wherein the Other—*you*—is seen as Intimate Enemy.

It is also a catastrophic time because the choice has *already* been made to vaporize the Enemy through nuclear warfare. This is a choice which inevitably finds fulfillment in self-annihilation, which is the logical, practical and perverse characteristic of the Warrior's Quest and its nuclear imagination.

We Earthfolk observe that this dreadful fear and endless warring is the emotional ground of the three globally dominant Big Stories which provide Big Answers to Life's Big Questions. These are the Religious (Abrahamic), the Secular and the Scientism Big Stories. These three Big Stories vary in their narratives but each evokes the same basic feeling, namely, of being uncomfortable with and discomfoted by living on Living Earth. They share, at their core, a vision of the Warrior's Quest which sees the Other as Intimate Enemy. In complete and utter contrast, the Earthfolk Big Story's vision of Sensual Preciousness invites you to practice "living as if you are no one's Enemy." Living as if you are no one's Enemy is ground for your

experiencing yourself and others as preciously intimate, that is, as precious and Beloved. Earthfolk consciously choose to live peacefully and comfortably at-home on Living Earth, living as if no one's Enemy.

We Earthfolk were awakened in 1968 by the first snapshot of Living Earth from outer space. This is the famous picture which is called the Blue Marble or Spaceship Earth. Our awakening was an unintended consequence of America's military expedition, that is, the Space Race against the former communist USSR. Once awake we clearly saw that the vision and imagination which dominates the Living Earth reveals itself through two iconic images, namely, that of the atomic Mushroom Cloud and the militarized Spaceship Earth. This is a vision of the **Warrior's Quest** imagination, and it seeks its final and spiritual fulfillment in an apocalyptic End-of-Time catastrophe.

As we awakened, we Earthfolk became acutely aware that humanity is entering a new phase of the ongoing global nuclear war. This is the phase during which nuclear weapons will be used on a small scale or triggered by accidental actions or governmental negligence. It is the phase where one individual, just one person terrified out of their mind and soul by dreadful fear could unleash the End-Time. It is the phase of the nuclear terrorist.

In a curious alignment with the character of this new nuclear phase is our emergence as Earthfolk. We understand and experience that it takes one individual, just one person living as if no one's Enemy and peacefully and comfortably at-home on Living Earth to unleash the vital zest of Sensual Preciousness. In sum, that it takes just you—just *you*—to transform the Living Earth and the Other as you discover your preciousness, your own Sensual Preciousness.

Icons make visual and graphic the deep seated beliefs, values and emotional bonds of a people. As icons, the Mushroom Cloud and the militarized Spaceship Earth reveal that the dreadful fear which the Bomb unleashes is the necessary and defining emotion of the Warrior's Quest. As such, it appears grimly inevitable that the Bomb will be exploded again. We Earthfolk grasp that humans have not only created more nuclear bombs than we can control but that the same Warrior's Quest imagination which created the Bomb continues to create other weapons which we humans also cannot control—these being sourced in biological, technological and cyber-space devices and inventions.

We Earthfolk are staggered by the dreadful terror which grips humanity. As fitting a people who have drifted into a dread-filled age, wherein they are ruled by the Shadow of their Dark Side, those of the Warrior's Quest live in

denial. Their basic denial is that they are not living in dreadful fear. To Earthfolk, the Warrior's Quest's dreadful fear is clearly manifest in how the individual and the group approaches the Other, that is, as Intimate Enemy. Yet, the Warrior's Quester denies that Endless War is his/her ritual. Rather, the Warrior's Quester claims to be what he/she is not, namely, a Peacemaker. For Earthfolk, this claim is an artful act of misdirection because the Warrior's Quester will not cease waging war until he/she has achieved complete Dominion over all forms of life. Her/His is an End-Time chant of, "War is Peace," and, "We make war so that we can live in peace."

Of greater note is that for the Warrior's Quester there is no intimate space. When intimacy is discussed, the Warrior's Quester images it in militaristic terms, that is, as a "War between the Sexes." Indeed the Warrior's Quester's denial is counter-evidenced by millennia of endless wars which, for Earthfolk, clearly reveal that the core ritual practice of the Warrior's Quest is warring at every level, from intimate to global. Moreover, we Earthfolk find that the three Big Stories each finds expression in the denial of intimacy as a power. This is manifested in several ways.

One, through the **denial of the existence of or a need for a Mother Goddess** to create the world. It is claimed that Life and human life does not come from a Sensual Preciousness coupling of a Mother and a Father god. Quite conversely, the Religious Big Story can be read as a War against the Goddess. In this light, through its core story of *Genesis*, the Religious Big Story claims that "God is Dead" in respect to the existence of a Goddess. *Genesis*, then, is properly seen as an atheistic tale. It is a story of disbelief, and an account of a lack of faith in the fullness of the spiritual presence of Mother and Father. Earthfolk judge this to be both a secularizing and atheistic claim, and it clarifies the common grounding between the three Big Stories.

Furthermore, a peculiar biology is expressed in the Religious Big Story, namely, that **the male body is the procreative birthing-body**. It is claimed that women, in flesh and spirit, are derived from male flesh and spirit. This is a scientism claim which is common ground for the development of the images and "truths" about women and the feminine forwarded by the Scientism Big Story. Collectively, these three dominant Big Stories appear to claim that intimacy is *not* a Big Question. Yet, each one's denial stands, as we Earthfolk see it, as a Big Answer.

Instead of being stunned by the horror—and in response calling a worldwide halt to the production of technologies we cannot control—contemporary world leaders tell Big Stories whose common vision ceaselessly calls humans to live as if the Other is your Intimate Enemy. Indeed, this Warrior's Quest

vision proudly boasts of a history and tradition replete with victories over enemy after enemy. It is a history and tradition which claims that Peace on Earth will only come by waging an endless and total war. While this seems absurd and self-contradictory to Earthfolk, for the Warrior's Quester the final war, namely, the self-annihilating, apocalyptic End-Time war, is the ultimate ritual which will make present the spiritual triumph of their god, and bring heavenly peace to Earth.

We Earthfolk see that the Warrior's Quester is simply trapped within an imagination wherein humans are fated towards self-annihilation. As we reflect upon the icons of the Mushroom Cloud and the militarized Starship Earth and accept, on its own terms, its imagination of Endless and Total War, we boldly ask, "Can anything be done to stop this self-annihilation?" We Earthfolk answer, "Yes!" But it is a Yes which requires your affirmation for it to be realized. For it is a Yes which is sourced in your vision and practices. It is a Yes which issues forth when you make present yourself and an Other as precious and Beloved.

We Earthfolk accept nuclear power as an expression of Warrior's Quest intimacy. As strange as this might sound, consider that nuclear power was discovered by probing into what scientists call the primary stuff or building blocks of the material world. They probed inside until they came face to face with the vital zest present there. But since their discovery was driven by dreadful fear, such is how they experienced vital zest, namely, as the cold fire heart of the Mushroom Cloud. Consequently, when these scientists—who were military agents—made the Mushroom Cloud present on Earth, what happened? For the first time ever in human awareness, consciousness and understanding other humans were vaporized. *Poof!* They were not just killed, murdered, or slain. They were intimately dissolved—*vaporized!*

For Earthfolk, the only transforming and controllable power which can counter nuclear power's obliteration of intimacy (*Poof!*), and any other dreadful and uncontrollable Warrior's Quest technology, is that vital zest made manifest through and evoked by your rituals of precious intimacy, your practice of Sensual Preciousness. In brief, we Earthfolk practice rituals of precious intimacy every day to evoke and make present a Living Earth where humans are living peacefully and comfortably at-home and living as if no one's Enemy. This is a Living Earth where everyone expresses their sensual preciousness, that is, their preciousness and Belovedness.

It *is* all this simple and achievable: *What we imagine and choose, is.* Your choice is either to continue to make present the self-annihilating, apocalyptic vision and energy of the Warrior's Quest or to experiment with your precious intimacy and make manifest the Sensual Preciousness vision and presence of

yourself as an Earthfolk *Beloved*. You are the source for the personal and global transforming power, the vital zest of preciousness. Making present preciousness day by day is the only way to prevent another Mushroom Cloud *Poof!*

Sensual Preciousness is about your making this conscious choice. It is a choice which only you can make. As we Earthfolk see the situation, the future of humanity rests with you. Why humanity is where it is today, how the Earthfolk understand what must be imagined and chosen, and why the Sensual Preciousness practices of precious intimacy empower you to breakthrough and be transformed as Earthfolk are the core themes of this book.

We Earthfolk have been gathering and our vision continues to unfold. We are your neighbors, your siblings, the man and woman you next encounter. We have been gathering and we've been practicing Sensual Preciousness. We invite you to be peacefully and comfortably at-home with us here on Living Earth expressing your precious vital zest. As you will come to understand, you are Precious to us, and for the Earthfolk vision to blossom we need you to be present among us as Beloved.

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