

APPENDIX A – BIG STORY AND PERSONAL STORY WORKSHEET

At various times in reading *Sensual Preciousness*, you might find it beneficial to return to this page to answer additional questions and/or amend and annotate your previous answers.

A. Big Questions

Here are the Big Questions used in the body of *Sensual Preciousness*. The bullets are additional questions to assist you in your self-analysis. You should jot down other questions which come to you as you use this worksheet.

1. *Where do humans come from?*
 - Are humans created? “Created from nothing”?
 - Did whatever is “human” exist, always? Meaning, is whatever makes humans “human” an integral part of some primary substance or energy or source?
 - Is what is “human” a product or end-result or manifestation of a primary non-human process, e.g., did Life evolve or develop from non-living matter or elements?
 - Is the human race a seed from an alien culture?
 - Other:
2. *How did humans get here?*
 - A Creator god created them.
 - A creating force created them, e.g., evolution.
 - A creating presence created them, e.g., Intelligent Design.
 - Humans have always been “here” on Earth as part of the Living Earth.
 - Other:
3. *Where are humans going?*
 - To a heavenly place.
 - To a higher plane of consciousness.
 - Nowhere. “Life” just blips out!
 - Nowhere human. Part of the Eternal Return/Recurrence pattern of all Life.
 - Nowhere. All Life and Earth will be destroyed. Entropy triumphs!
 - Wherever they “consciously” choose to “imagine.”
 - Back to a Mother Planet once the alien Mothership returns.
 - Evolve into an integration of technology and biology, a new bio-tech life form.

- Other:

4. *Why are humans on Earth?*

- To serve a god who has a Plan for humans. Humans are god's stewards.
- To atone for an original offense, such as "Original Sin." Fell out of Paradise.
- To achieve personal fulfillment, e.g., psychological integration, and be healthy.
- To unleash their interior powers, e.g., of higher consciousness.
- Humans are an "evolutionary epi-phenomenon," and as such will eventually disappear as all species will. That is, humans are an evolutionary *blip!* on the cosmic radar screen.
- A question which cannot be answered?
- Other:

5. *How are humans to act?*

- Follow absolute moral code sourced in a Revelation.
- By guidelines of human Reason.
- In pursuit of Truth, as known through the scientific method.
- According to dictates of the survival of the fittest.
- Follow legal rules of a given, sovereign nation state.
- Whatever is necessary to achieve ecological balance and harmony.
- Whatever maximizes and optimizes achieving status of being "Number 1."
- By determining what is the path to personal health.
- By balancing individual needs with social goods.
- By dictates of social justice, with a special focus on helping the less able and less fortunate.
- Other:

6. *Why is there Evil in the world?*

- There is an Evil god.
- The Benevolent god tests humans by tempting them.
- Humans brought it upon themselves by defying God. This is conveyed in the story about Eve and The Apple.
- Evil is merely the absence of Good. If people took time to reason matters through, and then act upon their insights, they would prevent Evil.
- Individuals are Evil, not humanity. That is, "Immoral Man, Moral Society."

- Evil describes actions which logically follow from who you imagine Other people are. If you imagine them to be your Intimate Enemy, then many things they do are Evil.
- Evil normally results from collective stupidity, that is, the group cannot see what the individual can. That is, "Moral Man, Immoral Society."
- Other:

B. Personal Story

Based on what you determined about the general outline of your Big Story, what is the range of your heartfelt actions? That is, what are you convictions? These are beliefs, actions, values, etc., for which you are willing to risk your life, even to the point of putting yourself in harm's way and/or sacrificing your life. Here are some opening notions to stimulate your self-reflection.

- I am willing to die for my country.
- I am willing to kill others to protect my country.
- I am ready to protect my family, even at the cost of my own life.
- I would never lie.
- I would never lie in a situation where someone else might suffer physical harm.
- I would never intentionally harm someone.
- I would use violence for a just cause.

- No one has the right to tell me what to do.
- If I consider a law immoral, I will not comply, no matter what the risks or penalties.
- I would never knowingly break a law. I respect all legal authorities.
- I am prepared to lay down my life for my neighbor, in a perilous situation.
- I always seek counsel before making a significant moral decision.

- I see Others as my Intimate Enemy.
- I am comfortably at-home here on Earth.
- I would never intentionally pollute any aspect of the Earth.
- I would never take a life, not even support an abortion.
- No one is perfect. I strive to be non-judgmental about someone until they prove beyond a reasonable doubt that they are wrong, have erred or are immoral.

- God is watching me. I'm just human. I seek to comply, as best I can, with divine truths.

- The best we can do is determine what is best for all in any given situation of common concern.
- Every person is on a spiritual journey. There is nothing bad or evil about people, they just do bad or evil things. They can be healed and/or forgiven.
- It is stupid to do other than play it safe. Watch out for yourself and the rest of the world will be better for it.
- There is no such thing as the “Common Good.”
- I’m here to serve others, pure and simple. Life doesn’t make sense, but I can make sense out of Life!
- The best each of us can do is give and receive pleasure. Whenever I can, that is how I judge why I do something, that is, to obtain and give pleasure.
- It’s a fact, this “War between the Sexes”!
- As long as no one’s health is harmed, any high-risk or out-of-the-mainstream physical, sexual or psychological act is okay. Be healthy and play!
- When I am in a society with values other than my own, I comply with them. If something is legal there but not in my own society, that’s okay with me.
- Others:

C. For Further Self-Clarification

- What is your overall emotional feeling about life?
- Do you believe that there is such a thing as “communal feeling”? If so, does it impact your individual feelings and thoughts?
- What is your definition and description of “intimacy”?
- Have you ever felt “Precious”? and/or “Beloved”?
- Is there such a thing as “sexual morality”?
- In what situations do you or have you ever felt a) shame, b) embarrassment, c) pride, d) deep fear, e) upsetting confusion, f) deep happiness?

D. Your Specific Thoughts and Comments

END

APPENDIX B - GLOSSARY

Abrahamic Tradition

A tradition of those who consider the Biblical Abraham to be their cultural and spiritual Father. This includes people of the Jewish, Christian and Islamic faiths. The Abrahams consider themselves a Chosen People. They are monotheists. Earthfolk cite the Abrahamic tradition as the source for the dominance of the values and rituals of the Warrior's Quest. In that this tradition denies the existence of other gods and goddesses, and explicitly denies the existence of a Creator Mother god, Earthfolk judge it as vitalized at its core by an atheistic movement.

Addressing

Addressing is a ritual which opens the four directions of the Earth: North, South, East and West. It is a way of orienting yourself and your Beloved so that each of you becomes the Earth.

Attend and Attending

Attending is becoming aware of and engaging your Other through every sense to finally evoke a coupled presence of precious intimacy.

Beloved and Belovedness

The Beloved is the precious Other. You become Beloved when you both recognize and receive a precious Other as they recognize and receive your precious Otherness. The state of being Beloved is a state of ecstatic communion wherein two manifest a new oneness, a new presence, that of Belovedness. Beloveds experience a birthing which is a new birthing of two, already alive in time and space, as one. And as they uncouple, as never the same again. Sensual Preciousness

blossoms as a vision of the Beloveds, and its ritual act is the nurturing embrace of the Beloveds.

Big Story

Big Story is a people's source for answering all their questions, large and small. Knowing these Big Stories and their answers form part of a group's identity. Acting out these Big Stories through ceremonial ritual acts initiates the individual into the group. Big Stories do not readily sit quietly or peacefully next to one another, nor do their initiates.

Knowing a Big Story is a serious matter, and not infrequently one of life and death.

A Big Story has a set of Big Answers to shared key Big Questions. These Big Answers are expressed in words, images and ritual acts. Every group has a Big Story, although while the basic questions about the origin, purpose and meaning of life are shared, each group's Big Answers differ in respect to images, words and ritual acts.

Big Stories are vast and complex. They carry fabulous accounts, histories, images, rituals, songs, etc., which often overwhelm the individual's imagination. Individuals live out their Big Story in particular ways. Each selects and arranges certain aspects of the Big Story which becomes their "personal Story." Their selection is based upon those parts of their Big Story which speak to the individual's strongly held heartfelt beliefs and convictions. These are heartfelt because they concern matters over which the individual is willing to surrender many things, including her worldly possessions, family and friends, even life, itself. Though it is fairly easy to get people to agree about the

commonalities of their Big Story, it is very difficult to get them to change their personal Story.

Bodywandering

Bodywandering is a playful approach to your Beloved's body. It starts when you peer at your Beloved's body and perceive that it is a map of mobius pathways. When you bodywander you Attend to the flesh of your Beloved with every sense: sight, smell, taste, hearing and on every level and on every level: physical, mental, spiritually, astrally.

Comforting

This is the act of consciously Intending to evoke the sensual presence of comforting and of being comforted. It is letting rise from within your heart the ecstatic joy of just being here, today, right now, this instant.

Crowning

Crowning is a ritual where the body of your Beloved is revered and worshipped at the points of wand and womb.

Deep-sleep Dreaming

Collectively and communally, every night when you go to sleep, you become a deep-sleep dreamer. You re-dream the Biblical stories. You are commonly told that sleeping is a state of unconsciousness or non-consciousness, meaning that nothing happens. Earthfolk hold that there is a tremendously significant "more" to this "deep-sleep dreaming" imagery. In *Genesis*, the woman, the female, the feminine is found from within a deep-sleep dream.

Dominion

The power of Dominion, of total control over the Earth and all creatures is how the Abrahamic tradition has interpreted certain passages in *Genesis*. Chapter 1:26, "Let us make man, in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

Chapter 1:28, "And God blessed them ... and have dominion over"

Chapter 2:19, "And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof."

Earthfolk

Earthfolk became aware of themselves—*Awoke!*—when they first saw the snapshot of Earth from outer space taken by the Apollo 8 astronauts in 1968. Their vision is that every human is a parent and child in the Forever-Family which is immortal. They praise and worship the Other as a precious Other. They hold that the preciously intimate erotic presence that is made manifest when two couple and express a newborn precious Otherness unleashes the energy, called vital zest, which heals and whole humans and the Earth. This intimate vital zest is more powerful than nuclear energy. Consequently, Earthfolk ritualize every aspect of their living, for ritual is the way they Invite the Other into their nurturing embrace.

Nurturing Embrace

The nurturing embrace is a simultaneous invitation to accept and receive the full sensuality of the Other and make present Belovedness.

To prepare for the nurturing embrace, Earthfolk practice living "as if I am no one's Enemy."

Emotion

Earthfolk use "emotion" to define and describe that which individuals share as they experience themselves as a group, whether a pair or a nation. Emotion is that something which no individual can describe in terms of its origins for it is evoked by another rather than generated by an idea. Humans are born from within emotion and have meaning only as they experience emotion, which is a relationship with an Other. What makes humans human is that which they describe in relational terms, for example, love, honor, respect, being free, beauty, harmony, warring, hating, murdering and so forth.

Forever-Family

With just a slight bit of peering it becomes clear that all human experiences are emotionally relational and familial. Everyone comes from the human family which has always been and will always be, that is, Forever.

Heartfelt Action

A heartfelt action is a defining action of a Big Story. It is how the Big Story is made manifest through the actions of an individual. A heartfelt action describes an act or group of acts which believers in a Big Story *must* do. A heartfelt action is not optional, it is required. It is the testimonial act which endows the believer with personal and group identity as a proponent or confessor of the truths of the Big Story.

Sensual Immersion

This describes the immersion of information gathered from the five senses in the emotions of the experience. From this moment of sensual immersion do humans form their thoughts, unleash their intuitions, and free their imaginations.

Intend and Intending

This is a consciously chosen way to approach an Other through inviting him/her into your intimacy. Intending is a conscious act but it is not simply one of thinking. It is a bit more like perpetual meditation on your Beloved.

Interiority

Interiority is an individual's self-awareness, her/his self-identity. Your concept of interiority, e.g., of your self or ego or person, determines how you understand and value your intimacy. Your intimacy is discovered, notably, only when you are in relationship, and as you become aware of your intimacy so does your grasp on the character of your interiority become clearer.

Intimacy

Intimacy can only occur when two share their interiorities in such a way that each experiences their own preciousness as they are embraced as a Beloved. Earthfolk use the imagery of two candles merging their flames to form a third which is a oneness of a couple who then become, as they move apart, separate identities, again. For Earthfolk, intimacy cannot be experienced alone. It is a communal presence.

Inviting

To Invite is to open oneself, sensually, so that your preciousness is made present. When two humans are Inviting, they open for a nurturing embrace. It is a giving through receiving. It is an act of vulnerability, of open-heartedness, and fearless surrender to your Beloved.

Memory and Remembering

Remembering is not just a wistful act of sentimentality. Rather, it is a centering sensual act of sensual immersion wherein your whole body, every sense, is tuned to your presence in the Now with you feeling yourself as one with all who have preceded you and all who shall yet come. Remembering is a relational act wherein you open yourself to relate to the Past and the Future in a robust Now. Remembering is the act of making yourself through relationship with your Beloved present as Forever-Family.

Obliterated Womb

Genesis is the story of the Obliterated Womb. There, Adam's body is substituted for the female womb. From his body a Rib is taken and with that the Lone Male god creates a woman. Earthfolk understand the Rib as the allegorical penis, and see the act of female creation as one of masturbation. In *Genesis* the visual icon is Adam's penis and the hidden icon is the Obliterated Womb. The concept of the Obliterated Womb stands as the primary Lone Male Sensual Preciousness concept. It is what the Lone Male god proclaims, namely, that there is no womb! Earthfolk ritualize to make present this Obliterated Womb so as to heal this Shade act through the presence evoked by the nurturing embrace.

Nurturing Embrace

Sensual Preciousness peers and grasps that your body is only fully present when coupled, that is, embraced. When in a nurturing embrace, your body changes. All of your skin becomes your mouth. You speak to your Beloved with and through every fleshly aspect and Memory. Your whole body becomes tongue. You taste each other as you lie upon each other. Every fiber of your being reaches out and grasps your Beloved. Through the nurturing embrace you and your Beloved remember what the Lone Male wants you to forget: Her coupled with Him. God the Mother coupled with God the Father: our divine parents.

Peering

Peering is not just staring or a visual act. It is also an act of acceptance, here, an acceptance of the Shadow, of the dark which accompanies light. It involves quieting the senses to open them to fuller input, from a trickle to a flood, of information and/or insight. This is a sensual discipline in that Earthfolk seek to evoke the full range and subtlety of emotion which accompanies peering and sitting in silence. They hold that until the emotion of a word, sound, image or insight is grasped in its robustness, the depth of information and truth is not properly tapped.

Precious and Preciousness

The iconic Starship Earth image stunned the gathering Earthfolk as they sensed that other human bodies were their own. That every Other is a precious Other, and that through nurturing embracing is how everyone's precious Otherness is evoked. The nurturing embrace

of the precious Other makes present each as Beloved. The discovery of the precious Other as Beloved is a sensing which redefines and re-images who we are as individuals and who we can become in group identity, namely, a Forever-Family of Beloveds.

Presence

Presence describes that moment when the womb is no longer Obliterated. It is a flowering of the nurturing embrace. Presence evokes the Memory of Forever-Family. It is a moment of being in the Now with all Memory, which Memory is also anticipation of the Future.

Religious Big Story

The Religious Big Story is robust. Its defining characteristic is that it seeks to answer all of the Big Questions, once and for all. It has well defined doctrines and required dogmas, and a profusion of ceremonial rituals. While there are quite a few Religious Big Stories, the dominant one which reflects the values of the others, is that which sources the West's quest for global dominion. This is the Abrahamic Big Story which encompasses the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions.

Ritual

A ritual is a performance that normally employs all five senses to make present a new presence. It is a repeated performance which builds upon Memory. For Earthfolk, ritual is the way two Others approach one another as they seek each other's preciousness. Ritual is the defining of a special space and time in which two seek the Other as Beloved.

Sensual Preciousness

Sensual Preciousness reflects the vision which sees that the life force is, itself, and arises from, a preciously intimate nurturing embrace. The preciously intimate nurturing embrace of Beloveds releases the creative precious Otherness from which all life flows. Sensual Preciousness' vital zest expressed by Beloveds through a nurturing embrace is the only energy which can counteract and deactivate nuclear energy.

Scientism Big Story

Scientism applies the scientific method to obtain an understanding of what something is or what is happening. Since the scientific method properly works with exploring and ascertaining empirical data, there is no necessary theory or Big Story that emerges from its application. Scientism is the peering at and sitting in silence with empirical data and telling a Big Story which makes a whole narrative out of discrete parts.

Secular Big Story

The Secular Big Story's defining characteristic is that it develops its Big Answers primarily as a negative reaction to the claims of the Religious Big Story. In contrast to the Religious Big Story the Secular has not evolved a tradition with well defined doctrines and required dogmas, nor a profusion of ceremonial rituals, nor authoritative institutions. While individuals will claim to be secular and scholars will cite a "secularizing" influence or trend, there is no indisputable definition of "secular" or "secularizing." Earthfolk see this Big Story as a movement within and not outside of the Religious Big Story. Secularism describes the transfer of spiritually erotic power from traditional religious

language, imagery, laws and institutions to secular language, imagery, laws and institutions.

Sitting in Silence

To initiate sensual immersion, Earthfolk peer as they sit in silence. Sitting in silence is the practice of opening one's self to what is not apparent or obvious. It is a way of tuning one's senses to pick up information which lingers around, within and surrounds a commonplace image, word or insight.

Sojourning Aliens

The unintentional impact of the military expedition which took the snapshot of Starship Earth is that it awoke the Earthfolk. All at once they were present on Earth but as if aliens from outer space. They felt themselves as sojourners who were present among others who did not and could not see them. They realized that they began to see Others in a profoundly new way, namely, as precious Others. They realized that, while many Earth people were living in misery and found the earth to be just a ball of dirt, they were comfortable and at-home on Earth, which, for Earthfolk, is a Living presence.

Stirring

A ritual which is a preparation for the exploration of intimacy. The Beloveds grapple and lock, hinge and enfold each other in a nurturing embrace so that everything physical and emotional and mental and astral has been stirred.

Vision

Vision is seeing. Every people has a vision, that is, a way of looking at what is around them and interpreting it in a certain way. This is a way which is particular and often peculiar to them and not to other people. For Earthfolk, a vision of a people includes what they claim to see and what others who do not share their vision see that they do not see.

Wand

This is Earthfolk's word for the penis when understood as a ritual instrument of a Sensual Preciousness ritual. The word carries a sense of magicalness and the power to make something appear which was not there. It also carries a sense of trickiness. Earthfolk spied the wand in *Genesis*, hidden there in its character as trick. For the trick of *Genesis* is to assert that the penis is only a penis and not a wand.

Warrior's Quest

The Warrior's Quest is to vanquish the Intimate Enemy. In the Abrahamic tradition the Warrior's Quest is the singular way a male experiences and understands his masculinity. There are no other manly options except to find both initiation and redemption through the warrior act of slaying an Intimate Enemy. In other traditions the warrior is simply one among many masculine expressions. In them the male has a broad-range of possible heartfelt acts which can define him, including acts of healing, compassion, etc., or what the Abrahamic would, condescendingly, call feminine traits. The Abrahamic Warrior's Quester is hard as steel, and his penis is both Adam's Rib and Aaron's Rod.

As Earthfolk see it, the Warrior's Quest is sourced in *Genesis'* Obliteration of the Womb. Consequently, the Abrahamic Warrior's Quest's prime Intimate Enemy is Her, the Mother Goddess, and every female. Warrior's Quest sex is termed the War of the Sexes. Endless warring is the Abrahamic idea of "peace." The Mushroom Cloud and Starship Earth are fitting icons of the Abrahamic Warrior's Quest tradition.

Womb

Womb is Earthfolk's word denoting all of a woman's private parts. Just about every Warrior's Quest word for a female body part is a denigrating one, part of a vocabulary of sexual abuse. Earthfolk use womb because it carries many notions, such as the sensually precious ground where semen seeds and life begins to grow, the cave in which all human life resides in preparation for the transformation into an independent living being, the power which a male has when he couples as Beloved and is Invited to the Crowning ritual. While the Warrior's Quester will endow no word referencing the female with honor and respect, when Earthfolk say womb they are making present a moment of worship.

Worship

The ultimate comforted presence to be evoked through all rituals is that of the worshipping moment. This is the instant of breakthrough to the sense of thirdness: of the two Beloveds as freshly One. The worshipping *Flash!* for Sensual Preciousness is that breakdown/breakthrough experience and event when two couple and become one. This is not a "egoism of two." Rather, it is a marrying and parenting moment. Marrying in that it is the unleashing of the dynamic precious

eroticism that vitalizes the personal relationship of the two who are intimate foci, each for the other.

APPENDIX C - LINKS

The Internet as an information resource has changed an author's presentation of references and sources. Formerly, a Bibliography revealed, to a great extent, the intellectual works which were stored in the author's personal bookcases or accessible through his academic institutions. A Bibliography conveyed the sense that the works cited were "official" or "mainstream" or "approved by peers." With the Internet, treasure chests of documents and information are made available with just a browser and a mouse-click from anywhere around the globe, at anytime. Unfortunately, the Internet's strength is its weakness, at least from the "authoritative source" perspective. That is, anyone can post a website and "publish" information, however shoddy, ignorant, prejudicial and/or silly.

The following *Links* are listed in respect to the Internet's best quality, namely, that you can be networked. Almost every informational website has its own "Links" to other websites. Quickly, you can obtain counter-views, dissenting opinions, in-depth research, contact information for an authority or authoritative institution, or even link with a bizarre and "far out" commentator. At the least, "surfing the Net" sharpens one's skepticism as it simultaneously never ceases to amaze in respect to "where" it takes you. After all, it is all "cyber-space" and, like it or not, by using it you are a "cyber-naut."

One hard-copy, "offline" book or article is cited for those who do not have ready access to the Internet.

The *Links* are presented in respect to key ideas in Volume 1. None of these *Links* should be taken as evidence or proof of what Earthfolk

believe. For many of these *Links* are “roots.” Others are texts which “leak.” The topic headers are intended as Search phrases.

At anytime, you can readily shift to your own linkage. There are free and subscription services for every thematic encyclopedia you can imagine. From the subscription Encyclopedia Britannica to the free Wikipedia to various encyclopedias of religion, scientific disciplines, etc. There are also online libraries, one of note is the subscription service “Questia.”

“Google” and “Yahoo” are your doors to research and imagination. Who would have imagined that “serious scholars” would *google* and *yahoo!*? But such “cyber-sounds” are just one indication of the merriment of Linking.

ATOMIC BOMB

Manhattan Project Preservation Association.

http://www.childrenofthemanhattanproject.org/CG/CG_03A.htm

<http://www.atomicheritage.org/>

Remembering the Manhattan Project: Perspectives on the Making of the Atom Bomb and Its Legacy, Cynthia C. Kelly, editor, World Scientific Publishing Company (April 2005)

Nuclear Weapons Image Gallery.

<http://zvis.com/nuclear/nukimgdht.shtml>

Starship Earth.

http://www.lpi.usra.edu/expmoon/Apollo8/A08_MP.PhotosFS.gif

<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/expmoon/Apollo8/Apollo8.html>

Lord Shiva the Destroyer. <http://www.lotussculpture.com/shiva1.htm>

J. Robert Oppenheimer, video clip.

<http://www.atomicarchive.com/Movies/Movie8.shtml>

CONSCIOUS EVOLUTION

Evolve <http://www.evolve.org/pub/doc/index2.html>

Association for Global New Thought <http://www.agnt.org/>

Noetic Sciences <http://www.noetic.org/>

Conscious Evolution: Awakening the Power of Our Social Potential,
Barbara Marx Hubbard, New World Library (January 1998)

GLOBALIZATION

International Monetary Fund

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/ib/2000/041200.htm>

The Wombat. <http://www.globalcommunity.org/flash/wombat.shtml>

Bioneers. <http://www.bioneers.org/>

History of the Internet. <http://www.davesite.com/webstation/net-history.shtml>

International Forum on Globalization. <http://www.ifg.org/>

Global Research. <http://www.globalresearch.ca/>

Globalization and Its Discontents, Joseph E. Stiglitz, W. W. Norton & Company; 1st edition (April 2003)

OUTER SPACE

Review and evaluation of early projects.

<http://www.newint.org/issue123/space.htm>

Space Colony Art from 1970s

<http://www.nas.nasa.gov/About/Education/SpaceSettlement/70sArt/art.html>

Review of book which started space colony movement.

<http://www.space-frontier.org/HighFrontier/>

High Frontier: Human Colonies in Space, Gerard K. O'Neill, Collector's Guide Publishing Inc; 3rd edition (October 2000)

"We stay bound to Earth at our peril."

http://www.space.com/scienceastronomy/generalscience/colonize_no_w_011030-2.html

"Space and Human Survival."
<http://www.sylviaengdahl.com/space/survival.htm>

PLANETARY CULTURE
Earth Charter. <http://www.earthcharterusa.org/>

Sri Aurobindo. <http://www.sriaurobindosociety.org.in/index.htm>

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin
The Future of Man, Image (April 20, 2004)
<http://www.godweb.org/godand.htm>
<http://www.gaiamind.com/Teilhard.html>

Riane Eisler
The Chalice and the Blade: Our History, Our Future, Harper, San Francisco (September 1, 1988)
<http://www.partnershipway.org/>
<http://www.scottlondon.com/interviews/eisler.html>

The Gaia movement
<http://www.gaiamind.com/evolve.html>

Jean Gebser
Ever Present Origin : Part One: Foundations Of The Aperspectival World, Ohio University Press; Reprint edition (August 31, 1986)
<http://www.gaiamind.org/Gebser.html>
<http://www.noetic.org/>
<http://www.gebser.org/publications/index.html>

Marija Gimbutas
Goddesses and Gods of Old Europe, 6500-3500 B.C.: Myths, and Cult Images, University of California Press (June 1982)
<http://www.levity.com/mavericks/gim-int.htm>
<http://www.shadowdrake.com/neopagan/marija.html>
<http://www.telesterion.com/esotericbooks/gimbutas.htm>

Lindisfarne Association. <http://www.pacweb.com/lindisfarne/> Its "Fellows" link presents a long-list of interrelated thinkers.

James Lovelock
Gaia : A New Look at Life on Earth, Oxford University Press, USA (November 23, 2000)
<http://www.ecolo.org/lovelock/>

Partnership Way. <http://www.partnershipway.org/>

Elizabeth Sahtouris

EarthDance: Living Systems in Evolution, iUniverse (October 2000)

<http://www.ratical.org/LifeWeb/>

William Irwin Thompson

Coming Into Being : Artifacts and Texts in the Evolution of Consciousness, Palgrave Macmillan (June 15, 1998)

<http://www.rain.org/~da5e/Thompson.html>

http://photosynthesis.com/William_Irwin_Thompson.html

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

National Center for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder.

<http://www.ncptsd.va.gov/>

Robert J. Lifton

Destroying the World to Save It : Aum Shinrikyo, Apocalyptic Violence, and the New Global Terrorism, Owl Books (September 1, 2000)

<http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article5531.htm>

Christopher Lasch

Culture of Narcissism: American Life in an Age of Diminishing

Expectations, W. W. Norton & Company; Revised edition (May 1991)

<http://www.renewamerica.us/columns/hutchison/040208> "Narcissism and the culture war."

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RELIGIOUS BIG STORY: ABRAHAMIC TRADITION

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APPENDIX D: THE AUTHOR'S ENCOUNTER WITH EARTHFOLK

I am writing *Sensual Preciousness* in the early winter of my life. It has been a seed I've carried all my life, deep within my heart and imagination, although only recently have I sensed its stirring presence. Shall this seed erupt into shoot and then blossom in the deep winter of my yearning? Shall it be, against all odds, a bloom upon the icy landscape? I laugh at this improbability, but then, as I've sensed since it first began to germinate, this is a question only *you* can answer.

My relationship with you is what *Sensual Preciousness* is all about. In the most succinct of images, my decision *not* to murder you is the seed which has been deep within my heart and imagination. As strange as that might sound, consider that my life is defined by a search to understand why society has dutifully called me forth and given me reasons to see you as my intimate enemy. The society about us—the global human community—has been endlessly at war since time immemorial. I, like most males in my country, was called in my youth to “step forward” and become the next-generation solider in this endless war. I was told that my slaying of you as intimate enemy would be an act of faithfulness to my State and my Church. I was told that killing you would be evidence and proof of my manliness. There was, in my youth, no vision or imagination which pressed me with insights and reasons not to slay you.

Can I ask you to reflect for a moment, before reading forward, upon the fact that though there are philosophies, religions and spiritualities which value compassion, gentleness, mindfulness, self-sacrifice, and like virtues, that they are aberrations in a world dominated for millennia by endless warring? I admit that I once thought that I could

find a way within one of these more pacifistic spiritualities to claim that you are not my intimate enemy. But I have to admit that I tried and found them all wanting. I will talk more about my attempt to practice a pacifistic spirituality but I will have to be honest and state that, despite my best efforts, none led me to value you as Sensually Precious.

The course of my spiritual journey has been determined by my effort to claim you as other than my intimate enemy. It is a course which wends through years in a Catholic seminary and monastery, decades studying and teaching as a lay theologian, years as an anti-war activist promoting nonviolent Resistance against the government, a sentence of five years in prison for refusing the Call to hunt you down, and years in the darkness of my mind and soul as I wandered, broken but seeking wholeness.

Only my encounter with the Earthfolk rituals and vision provided me with an imagination and practical ways with which to approach you as other than intimate enemy. While I want to invite you to encounter the Earthfolk on your own terms, throughout this book, I'd like to expand upon their vision and rituals with some references to how they changed my life. The first insight that the Earthfolk vision presents is that you—the Other—are precious. I will explain later how they came to this insight. What is of paramount import is that you as the Other are not an intimate enemy to be feared. Rather, you are someone whose embrace makes present a coupled sense of preciousness. More, Earthfolk hold that "you" cannot be you unless and until you are embraced. One simple conclusion from this approach is that if I slay you then I slay myself. Another is that if I am to understand myself then it is imperative and necessary that I preserve your life. If either

of us dies, then each of us dies. As we grow together, so is our self-insight deepened.

This coupled sense of preciousness often transforms the couple and manifests a new presence of each as Beloved. While Earthfolk words and images will be explored in fuller detail, later, they serve to alert you to the special value Earthfolk place on *you*. As common as these Earthfolk terms and images appear, namely, preciousness and Beloved, Earthfolk's understanding of spirituality is anything but commonplace. At its core is the definition of spirituality as a coupled experience. This alone stands 180 degrees from the dominate notion of spirituality which is that such is an individual journey or Quest.

Moreover, if you follow Earthfolk practices and rituals you will experience a profound and radical shift in how you understand your body, your senses, your mind, and what is made present when you spiritually couple as Beloveds. I cannot stress how totally unnerving and exhilarating is the state of being present to your own preciousness and that of another in an embrace of Beloveds. But moving you towards this insight and feeling through following an Earthfolk practice or ritual is one of my tasks.

You can now begin to grasp why I state that for Sensual Preciousness to blossom, I need your answer to, "Are you my Beloved?" I need your answer because I have come to learn that I am only whole when you behold me. Against the popular vision which fosters an extreme notion of rugged individualism and a "go it alone" mentality, Earthfolk state that "I" am only whole when you cherish me. I am not fully me if I am not your Beloved. You are not fully you unless you are my Beloved.

Sensual Preciousness is an invitation for you to examine your own journey and determine how you will answer this question.

I fully grasp how difficult and treacherous my invitation is. I realize that I am a survivor. A survivor of a millennial old war whose vision and imagination are grounded in simple stories but ones which have such deep roots in your and society's mind and imagination that for me to ask you to interpret them as Earthfolk do is to ask you to put your body, mind and soul in harm's way. I have asked, "Are you my Beloved?" at various junctures of my life, and have suffered for simply asking the question. As noted, I was sent "Inside," into society's House of Terror, into a world of darkness, of pain and suffering, into a caged world. They told me that I was no longer Francis X. Kroncke, rather, I am 8867-147. In light of this, I have to be brutally honest and tell you that just asking this question can have dire consequences. You will inevitably confront the darker side of your mind and soul, as you will that of your society and spiritual tradition. As I did, you might even wake up one morning and realize that you are an outlaw or a heretic, someone no longer acceptable to everyday society. Yet, you also might realize, as I did, your own Sensual Preciousness as you hear that you are Beloved.

In most spiritual traditions there is a discussion of the "positive way" (via positiva) and the "negative way" (via negativa). The former is known to most. It is the celebratory aspect of spiritual insight, e.g., when one is moved to ecstasy by a sunrise or at the Baptism of an infant innocent. The latter is not as well known. The "negative way" is often called "The Dark Night of the Soul." I first found the Earthfolk during my stay in prison. As I will explain in increasing detail

throughout the book, at this time, the Earthfolk call is only heard in moments of soulful darkness. While I refer to prison as my Dark Night, you might be called to explore other places and experiences. When I was released from prison and first spoke in public, I was almost always approached by someone who confirmed the character of my Dark Night by referring to a stay in a mental institution or through recalling a battleground experience or discussing the descent into the liquid or hazed hell of booze and addictions. The lesson I want to share with you from all this is that if you don't "own your Shadow" or your Dark Night then it will own you. One of the early insights the Earthfolk vision provided was that the dominant warring spirituality is one which denies its Dark Side. This is a critical insight and one which I will address often.

Why is this question, "Are you my Beloved?" so dangerous? You are probably saying to yourself, "This guy had to do something other than ask this simple question to get thrown in jail. What did he really do?" The historical answer is that I raided Selective Service draft boards with seven other men. This is a group the press called "The Minnesota 8." Though I considered it an act of nonviolence, that is, one form of civil disobedience, I was convicted of a crime of violence. This is significant because it underscores that to ask, "Are you my Beloved?" will be taken as an act of violence. See, <http://www.minnesota8.org>

"But what did you think you were doing in that draft board?" I anticipated this question. And here is where you will have to be patient with me as I guide you through my journey. I ask for your patience because almost everything I am going to say as I explain myself will seem wrong-headed, counter to how you've been educated, and

fraught with consequences and challenges you might prefer not to face. So, the simple answer to the draft raid question is that I was performing a spiritual ritual. Yes, I know that it was an act of “breaking and entering.” That was exactly how the prosecutor presented “the facts.” Nevertheless, I hold that the draft raid was my first Sensual Preciousness ritual of Belovedness, although I did not have those terms back then. In short, to understand why it was for me a sensually precious ritual will give you a sense of how I think and interpret matters.

The raids took place in July of 1970. As it is today, American society was steeped in a warrior tradition whose most popular icon, then, was John Wayne. The Catholic Church was likewise steeped in a warrior tradition whose most popular icon was, and is, the “milites Christi” or Soldiers of Christ. “Onward Christian Soldiers!” and all that. When it came to forwarding reasons for me to kill you, each warrior tradition provided plenty of intellectual, moral and spiritual ammo. You were my target either as an Enemy of the State or an Enemy of Christ.

Personally, I first opposed the Call to kill you by getting the State to recognize my claim for Conscientious Objector status. This was an argument that the Christian tradition was, at its core, a religion of peace not war. I claimed that Jesus was a pacifistic leader who made a compelling distinction about what needed to be “rendered unto Caesar.” I claimed that the Christian tradition required that I “render unto God” what was His right and only His right, that is, to take a life. Eventually, I was granted my CO status. It is somewhat ironic that I completed my military obligation through two years of Alternative Service.

Though I had avoided combat, I realized that I was still killing you. I was doing so through the actions of others, of those still being drafted. Somehow I had failed. How? I realized that I had been, in a term of the day, “pacified” by the government. Somehow, instead of having an impact, I had been neutralized. I was perplexed. I had waged my nonviolent war against the violent war by a spiritual act of moral resistance. Or had I? Here is where I began to understand a term and reality which plays a significant role in the interpretations forwarded in Sensual Preciousness. I grasped that I had swallowed—hook, line and sinker—a story of mis-direction.

A story of mis-direction is one which appears, on the surface, to be saying “this” but actually conveys below the surface or subliminally a quite contrary “that.” The story of mis-direction in my case was the Catholic Church’s claim that its tradition contained the rituals which made the spirit of God present. In its own language, the Catholic Church calls these rituals “sacraments.” There are seven sacraments which “make precious” and “make God present” at distinct phases in one’s personal growth. These include sacraments for birth and dying, for atonement and reconciliation, at the moment of marrying, and for expressing a common bond with other believers. During my trial, the federal prosecutor mocked me by stating to the jury that, “Mr. Kroncke is trying to create the eighth sacrament!” More than either he or I knew at the time, he was right.

As draft age men came and went through my office at the Catholic student center, called a Newman Center, I realized the depth of my failure. What had I achieved by obtaining a Conscientious Objector

status, other than protecting myself? Nothing I had done could protect these young men from going forth and hunting you down. When I told them about my CO status and my Alternative Service they expressed admiration and congratulated me on getting out of the war, but it didn't speak to their particular dilemma. Most would step back and say something to the effect that they wished that they were as educated and articulate as I was, but that they couldn't do what I did. Somehow what I did was not morally or spiritually contagious!

In light of my religious background, I prayed, preached at endless Peace Masses, sang rousing anti-war hymns, and wrote letters to the editor. However, the war increasingly escalated and the body bags swelled and multiplied. Worse, despite statements against the war by the Catholic Bishops and other religious authorities, no one who exercised spiritual authority or power was effective or listened to by the government.

Here is how my thinking but more notably my spiritual experience began to change. At this time I began to doubt that I had ever been in a spiritual place, despite my years in the monastery and in churches at Daily Mass. Here is when I began to see the breadth and depth of the story of spiritual mis-direction which had fooled me.

In simple terms, the Church's "seven sacraments" were phony. They were ceremonial performances but they were not truly sacramental, that is, they did not make present "God" or any spiritual power. They mis-directed me away from where the spiritual power which binds a society and a people actually reside. Consider that I could have stood on a street corner and desecrated the Bible (or any precious Book of

other spiritual traditions) and what would have happened? People would shout that I was a hate monger. Or that I was racist. Someone might come up and try to smack me. But what would the police do? Nothing.

Now, consider that I had taken out my draft card and burned it. That I had called to the crowd to do the same and shouted for them to *Resist!* the draft. If I did that, the police and FBI would rush from the crowd with handcuffs and chains, twist my arms around my back, possibly throw me to the ground, even pull out their guns, and speedily whisk me off to sit in an iron cage. Which act, then, would have told you that I had made present the power which gives and takes life? Which act was truly spiritual, in that it expressed the deep beliefs and moral values of a people, here, a people at war? Beliefs and values which challenged—"Resist!"—put the protester's life in harm's way.

You deepen your understanding of the ritual character of the Draft when you realize that it is the only universal act which every male, at 18 years of age, must do. Certain individuals will receive deferments, such as paraplegics, the mentally impaired and seminary students (yes, "Divinity" students!). What an 18 year old cannot do, however, is not register. The act of registering is, then, a "sacramental" ritual act which binds all males and makes each present to the other as a Warrior. As the Earthfolk vision unfolds, you will be asked to examine the many rituals of your current way of living. I anticipate that your immediate response is, "I don't have any rituals." I accept that challenge.

Now you can begin to understand how the Sensual Preciousness vision was seeded in my personal life. During the draft raid, I was conducting a ritual which sought to make present you as "not my intimate enemy." I was attempting to make present your and my preciousness. I took your Draft card and your 1-A files, which held your letter of "Greetings" from Uncle Sam, and destroyed them. By doing so I proclaimed and made present to you yourself as Beloved. I called you to step forward and refuse induction into the military, and by so doing proclaim that you accepted yourself as Beloved and that you ceased to see other people as intimate enemy.

This is what I was doing back then, but I did not have the Sensual Preciousness vision or its language to share with you. Back then, I could only speak through my Catholic voice, and I talked about "allegiance to a higher power" and that "It was necessary to break the law of the State to be faithful to the higher law of the Church." I tried to speak with an American voice which spoke of a tradition of non-violent resistance to social evils, such as slavery. But in the end, the Church leaders ignored me, issued orders to prevent me from preaching and condemned me through their collective silence. In like manner, the Judge, in his Instructions to the Jury, stated, "Everything which Mr. Kroncke has said here for the eight days you must consider to be irrelevant and immaterial." I entered prison, vision-less and voiceless. I had hit The Bottom.

You can see why I began to realize that the world wasn't exactly operating the way I thought it was! I had anticipated that the Church would support my theological defense. After all I had been a faithful son and dedicated theologian. More, I had expected some response

from political leaders who, so I believed, would awaken to the truths Resisters were proclaiming, namely, that the war was illegal since it had never been declared and that the Selective Service System was unconstitutional. But since neither had taken hold, I had to ponder, *How does the world work? Why is Democracy always at war? Where is God?*

I sat in prison and had to accept the fact that I was a criminal, one who was living outside the law, an outlaw. I had to accept the fact that the Church was never going to be my home, ever again. I was, obviously, very depressed, somewhat paralyzed. It is simply ironic and darkly humorous to relate that I watched the Attorney General of the United States get indicted as I sat in the prison TV room. My felonious ears also heard a President say what everyone knew was his own indictment, "I am not a crook!" You might think that I felt some joy at all of this. Or that I laughed heartily. I did not. I simply went out and played lots and lots of basketball.

When I left prison in July of 1973 everyone was saying that the war was ending. There were no more significant anti-war rallies. Students and other activists were returning to other issues and pursuits. I, too, went elsewhere. Eventually my path took a turn into marriage and parenthood. I spent three decades in the corporate sector as a salesman and manager. Yet I was still lost and dwelling at The Bottom. I drank to excess. I lusted after Mammon. I tried to live a "normal" life as a youth league basketball coach, a Good Dad, a breadwinner, and, to a degree, I did. But a thought nagged me. "Why hadn't I killed myself when in prison?" Why, when in the pit of darkness where I had

no words to explain myself any longer, where I was deeply disturbed in mind and heart, why, then, had I not taken "Exit, stage right"?

What was I living for? Certainly, my sons and my family. But I had stopped going to church, and the world was still endlessly warring. Moreover, I worked in early Cable TV sales management and not only saw but passively assisted the ominous seeding of telecommunication's pornographic worldwide growth. What happened is something I can only explain as the Earthfolk explain themselves. *I awakened.* This happened when I first heard the call, "Mother." Now here is where the story of Sensual Preciousness truly begins for me. I had just one word, "Mother," but it made me feel what I came to be, that is, sensually precious.

"Mother" came to me in 1983. I wrote an article, "Prison, Bottoming Out, The Mother" which ended, "At The Bottom, angels come to minister. The task ahead: to carve with a tongue unused to these alien categories, my sacrilegious words. God The Mother embracing God The Father made present through Child: each and everyone one of us ... each and all present, here at The Bottom, my family: Precious."

I had written this article in an effort to get a perspective on the question of why I had not killed myself while in prison. After all, I had lost everything, at least I had felt that I had lost everything. What remains, I pondered, when one Judge thunders, "You gentlemen are worse than the average criminal who strikes at the taxpayer's pocketbook. You strike at the foundation of government, itself." The other, "I direct you that everything which Mr. Kroncke has said here

for the last eight days is irrelevant and immaterial.” *Worse than the average criminal. Irrelevant and immaterial.* Where to go from here?

Here is where the Earthfolk come in. I realized that when I had resisted the war that I had done so not as an American nor as a Catholic but as a member of something called “The Movement.” No one took time to strictly define what The Movement was. There was no membership ID cards. No entry fees. But in all the papers and through the TV reports the reference was to The Movement. Indeed, I was in prison because I was a member of this elusive, subversive, counter-cultural “something” which the government—and the Church—feared, this “Movement.”

When I heard “Mother,” I also sensed that I was part of something, but it was again as elusive as was The Movement. In the beginning it didn’t make much difference to me. As I became more aware of the Earthfolk, or as they frame it, as I awoke and then continued my awakening, I realized that what “they” were called or named was irrelevant. What made us present, each to the other, was the insight and sensibility given through the core practice of “living as if I am no one’s Enemy.” This is how people began to perceive that they were among others who were awakening. Somewhere, in a discussion or while dancing, at table sharing bread of mind and soul, sometimes in a moment of simply beholding the other, I’d feel the other make me present as “not an Intimate Enemy.” There is much to discuss about this as Sensual Preciousness unfolds.

So, I am going to say to you that you will never meet an Earthfolk, other than as you might have met someone in The Movement. That is,

that it is through a ritual action that the Earthfolk are present to you, just as it was through the ritual action of protesting that one “became” and “met” Movement people. In fact, the word “Earthfolk” was initially tolerated simply because this book needed a name. Later, as the Internet grew, some preferred to say that being an Earthfolk is being online while living in an offline world.

Only during the 1990s did I become aware that it was my task to start writing about the Earthfolk vision. Up to that point all of my experiences with them were spiritual. As I will explain, I was feeling comfortably at-home on the Living Earth. This communal Earthfolk feeling was sufficient in itself to sustain me. Daily, through specific Sensual Preciousness practices and rituals we Earthfolk were present, each to the other. Through these practices and rituals—certain ones are part of this book—I began to see, hear and be present to other Earthfolk. As I will present, the Earthfolk themselves claim 1945 and 1968 as special years in their awakening. These were the years when two iconic images arose within human consciousness. These were images which no human had ever imagined or seen. They awoke the Earthfolk, while at the same time they heralded the triumph of the Warrior’s Quest vision and imagination. These are the iconic images of the Atomic Bomb’s Mushroom Cloud and the astronauts’ snapshot of Earth from outer space, what is called, the Blue Marble and also Starship Earth.

While these twin icons of Warrior’s Quest triumph awoke the Earthfolk, you will also come to understand that their awakening was just that, an awakening from a deep sleep. This is a deep sleep with a mythic dimension. As such, you will understand the Ancient Call which awoke

the Earthfolk. To so understand the Earthfolk's Ancient Call, I will invite you to look, once again, at the Ancient Call of the Warrior's Quest tradition. As will become evident, this requires that we spend a lot of time examining and interpreting the Warrior's Quest's Creation Story, namely, the Biblical account in *Genesis*.

Bear with me as I open the Earthfolk vision and imagination. Since being an Earthfolk is a spiritual experience, it will, at first, strike you at least as peculiar as my statements about draft raids as sacramental ritual acts. My most difficult first task is in enabling you to see the character of the Warrior's Quest spiritual tradition which grounds the modern world. This is a tradition which sees you as intimate enemy, and which has been engaged for over five millennia in a ritual of endless warring. You will be asked to consider that you are bound by this Warrior's Quest tradition whether you profess a religious, secular and/or scientific worldview.

While my personal journey in no way reflects the fullness of the Earthfolk vision and imagination, I will reference my experiences to demonstrate how one individual seeks to practice Sensual Preciousness. *Please do not confuse the messenger with the message!*

If you look to my life experiences to assess the worthiness of your engaging Sensual Preciousness practices and rituals, then you are doing yourself a disservice. If it is not clear by now, it will be readily evident, that I am a deeply flawed individual who, like most, has a handful of redeeming characteristics. As I stated above, this book is truly about you. About the relationship you form with Others. About your preciousness and how you can live in Sensual Preciousness.