

• Towards a unified understanding of philosophy, science, religion, and the arts •

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*All things arise and cease due to
interdependent causes and conditions*

~ Δ ~

The Plenum and The Void

by

Bing Escudero

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*Summa Sophia is a desktop publication in a folded single-sheet
format, focusing on significant spirituality subjects for study,
meditation, and investigative application, as well as for
enlightening discussions in small group meetings.*

The Plenum and The Void

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Full and Empty

- Q. How can reality be the plenum and the void at the same time?
A. The plenum is the fullness of the selfless self.
Q. But how about the void?
A. The void is the emptiness of the selfish self.
Q. At the same time?
A. Time is the illusion. Reality is the timeless.
Q. Now tell me. Where is the wisdom in all these.
A. The wisdom is in the purity of your perception.

Belief in God

- Q. Tell me. does God exist?
A. If you believe, then, God exists.
Q. What if I do not believe?
A. Then, for you, there is no God.
Q. But does God exist, whether I believe or not?
A. If this is your belief, then God does exist.
Q. And if I don't?
A. Then God does not.
Q. Then prove it to me.
A. You are your own proof.
Q. But how can I be sure.
A. When you have no "I," you will be absolutely sure.
Q. How does one do that?
A. Serve others selflessly.

• **Knowledge** and power create and destroy; survival is about common sense.

Finding Truth

- Q. Where can I find truth?
A. You are the truth.
Q. I am?
A. Say *that* again.
Q. I am *that* I am?
A. Now isn't *that* the truth.
Q. Can you please clarify this for me.
A. As *I am*, then, any thing you point to, *that*, *I am*.
Q. How can that be?
A. In the oneness of truth, All is in the One, and the One is in All.
Q. It sure feels good to be included in the One.
A. As long as you do not exclude anyone.
Q. I promise.
A. Good, for the truth is in your fulfillment.

• **Learn** from the tall and graceful bamboo of Asia. Even as it feeds people with its tenders shoots, chopsticks are also provided, including the ladle to scoop steamed rice.

Fear and Courage

- Q. If I have no fear, does that mean I am brave.
A. It depends on how much danger confronts you.
Q. Does danger cause fear?
A. Not if you act with courage.

The Way of Truth

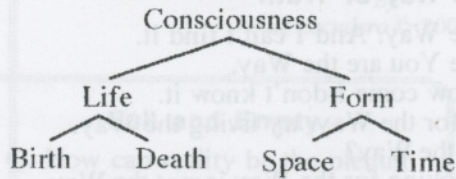
- Q. I'm looking for the Way. And I can't find it.
A. You won't, because You are the Way.
Q. If I am the Way, how come I don't know it.
A. Instead of looking for the Way, try living the Way.
Q. Now, now! What is the Way?
A. One more time. Looking for the Way is *not* the Way.
Living is.
Q. But what is this "Living" about?
A. Breathing virtue.
Q. What's this? Breathing? Virtue?
A. You are halfway. Do the rest.
Q. Hmmm ... [*breathing in, breathing out*] ... Omigod!
Virtue is! Alive!
A. There you go (in Truth).

• **Reality** cannot be drug-induced; nor belief-imposed; nor faith-invoked; nor mind-devised; nor guru-driven; nor prayer-bargained; nor self-reformed; for when every other thing is void, then and only then is the Real at its fullness.

Solving the Right Question

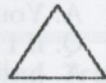
- Q. Which came first, the egg or the chicken?
A. The formless boundary came first.
Q. How can that be?
A. The boundary is the "Ring pass not."
Q. What is this "Ring pass not?"
A. The formless archetypal order beyond which manifestation is not possible.
Q. This is no longer poultry stuff.
A. Poultry or not, first, the formless spiritual archetypes, then, the form of material types, whether mineral, plant, animal, human to divinities.
Q. What's this about?
A. From the Unmanifest, comes the Manifest; from the One, the Many; from the Unity, the Diversity.
Q. Aha! From the formless comes form; from the unborn, birth; from the deathless, death; from the unmoved, the cycles; from the eggless, the egg; from the chickenless, the chicken; and so on. ...
A. Now you know. Your first question did not apply.

Inter-triads of Reality



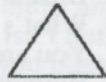
Insights into Triads

Resolution



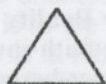
Evolution Involution

Mind



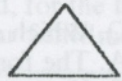
Matter Energy

Initiation



Perception Conception

Unity



Potency Polarity

Mandala of Nature

Earth grows into mountains.
Mines produce gems.
Water seeks the shape it is in.
Rain drains into valleys.
Rivers flow to the sea.
Air expands into space.
Fire leaps to its height.
Trees grow toward the sun.
Flowers shed their fragrance.
Fishes swim upstream.
Birds fly from their nests.
Animals roam the forest.
Caves capture the darkness.
Tunnels make way to the light.

Reality Check

The illusion of the senses • the limits of sensations
the fleetingness of feelings • the instability of emotions
the fragility of the imagination • the deception of dreams
the uncertainty of beliefs • the despair of false hope
the vanity of ideas • the pride of the ego
the first cry of birth • the last sigh of death
and
what does it all mean, except to perpetuate the same stressful
sorrows of the fleeting illusory self—until vanquished
by
wisdom awakened from within.