

Here is looking at you...

A RETREAT TEXT

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Towards the end of the text it becomes clear why the text is as it is
People are animals of routine, they have programmes
These programmes are not so clear they are hidden within

It is like a *dream*

The content of the dream

Which means the actual pictures are not so relevant

The common denominator behind the pictures is relevant

In the same way in the waking state it is the 'how'

Which is more relevant in demonstrating your state than the 'what'

When you are used to read a lot

Reading automatically puts you to the gear of reading

That is an automatic programme

This is a particular gear useful for absorbing what you have to absorb

In a way that is best for your purpose

This is perfectly all right for your purpose

Now you have come for a retreat

that is a different purpose

When you sit in your programme you cannot see your programme

You have to go through this text not in the same way

As reading a book, an article or a newspaper

That is why it is a *non-book*

The white of each page is more relevant than the black of the words

Read the white space as if there were lines of phrases

Allow your thoughts to shape themselves freely during that time

Look up or close your eyes at times

I want to communicate with you

About something that is not a something

Words are not the best means for this communication

For this purpose

When you spread yourself out
Over the space between the phrases
In that space of spreading
Something will happen
That will make everything perfectly clear

It is irrelevant what you think about certain statements

Because for the quest that you are undertaking

This 'you' that thinks is irrelevant

A spiritual Quest is a quest to discover what you
are in the guise of searching for God

*O*r anything that could be considered as ‘ultimate’ or ‘beyond’

Whenever I mention God, I use that word in the widest sense.

I do not use the word in any theological sense like the god or gods of religions. When I use the word I do not attribute to it predetermined attributes or characteristics. It is empty from all ideas that culturally has been attributed to it. God, as I use it, is neither singular nor plural, neither noun nor verb. It is a word expressing ‘ultimate’.

A quest should have a direction

In order to discover a direction

Here is a question

From the perspective of the quest

The answer to this question is unimportant

What is important is

What happens to you

When you seriously try

To answer this question

The question is:

Does God exist?

*R*eflect on this question

Reflect on how you feel about that question

Reflect on what this question evokes in you

Reflect what associations you have when you hear this question

Remember:

I say 'reflect' I do not say 'think about'

Reflecting is like a mirror

The question is there

You are where you are

The question beams at you

And you reflect that beaming in the way you are

*D*o I like the question?

Would I like to answer that question?

Do I like to answer that question?

Do I think I know the answer?

If affirmative, why?

If negative, why?

Does the answer give me satisfaction?

Does the lack of an answer give me satisfaction?

*T*he quest for god is as old as humanity
People have always known by experience
That the visible world is only a partial
They have always recognized powers or a power
And they defined it in a thousand ways
Calling it by a thousand names

Is this relevant for the question?

Or is it totally irrelevant?

You should reflect on this, turn it inside out.

You do not have to give an answer to me

What matters is whether you give answers to yourself

You are on a quest

Otherwise you would not be reading this

Therefore the Question is relevant to you

There is nothing definitive about the idea god

Squeeze and ply it until it attains a shape you can handle

Or better still:

Before you make any further attempt to answer it
Or even any attempt to speculate or reason about it
I ask you another question

*W*ho is asking?

and

Who wants to answer?

Or better still:

What is asking?

There is something here
That wants to know something
About something
That is absolutely other than what itself is

Isn't that slightly odd?

It is a main issue:

Is it possible that I know something

About something that is totally other than me?

What is 'I'?

What is knowing?

What is something?

What is 'me'?

What is 'other than me'?

I am not looking for needles in a hay stack

I do not want to invite you for an entertaining argument

I want you to have the courage
To 'live' a question or to 'live' an idea
Not just admitting to it or rejecting it

'Live' the idea

*T*hat nothing is as it appears to be

And certainly

I am not what I think I am

Let's recapitulate

There was a question beaming at you

You were doing something with that question

Liking it, rejecting it, considering it, finding it foolish etcetera

What you are doing with that question

Is relevant for what you are

You are on a quest

Therefore it is relevant to find out what you are

The question is the mirror

Of course everything else is the mirror as well

But that is for later ...

What do I want to have as an answer to the question?

Is it something I like?

Is it something that I expect?

Is it something that I agree with?

Is it something that feels good?

Another problem

What is my liking, expecting, agreeing and feeling good?

Do I want to know an answer?

or

Do I want to be satisfied by an answer?

Warning!

If you are very seriously delving into yourself

You must be in a muddle by now

When you are not in a muddle

You must ask yourself if you are seriously delving

TWO LEADS

I give you two leads

These leads are two questions

Please do not think about these questions

If you think you know the answer

You can stop the retreat

*O*r better still:

Start all over again and meditate

Let go and allow something to happen

Follow the pages till you are back here