

## *A thought of the day in passing . . .*

One year from today, I opened the Tao Of Tara in site format on Easter morning with a preview of the book ENLIGHTENMENT. This Easter we closed that book on the Tao Of Tara, as it is now published and available in bookstores everywhere. So we have the ending, and today, a new beginning, as we open the book; AFTER ENLIGHTENMENT, WHAT?, the following book in the 5-book Enlightenment treatise. This book is in its pre-publishing process; hence, it may not be its final version that you see presented here. Be that as it may, it is the truest version, as an account just as it occurred. May you read it in health as it appears in serialization weekly from today to completion, and find it of some help in your spiritual journey.

*An Annotated Introduction to . . .*

*AFTER ENLIGHTENMENT, WHAT? - a very personal account of the journey of Enlightenment in its aftermath. The experiences described may or may not resonate with others for Enlightenment is different for everyone; while, conversely, in many respects still be similar. I know this because at a certain point; I began to look around to check on others' progressions for I felt all too alone. "There are certainly others in this generation going through this," I thought. "The sages and gurus, who came before us, that we all have used as role models, come from different times and cultures, and do not fit the Western context of what would be our experience of Enlightenment and a return to life in the world."*

*So I began to seek these out and eventually found some, readily recognizing those who had really 'been there' from those who had not, from their published accounts of their Enlightenment experience. Most of known spokespersons were dispensing second hand information. But a few clearly were not, And, I began to compare notes. . .*

*Further, I knew that Enlightenment was a growing condition that would be coming to all humanity and felt there would be a need to air the pitfalls and possibilities in the aftermath of awakening. In each generation there were Enlightenments, even full awakenings; but this was in the early 80's that it had come to me and no one; not the trusted sages and gurus of old, or the few newly Enlightened Westerners I had come across, were writing about it. It was as though, one became Enlightened and 'dropped out of the world in a gale of laughter amid an adoring student body to reside thus forevermore'. Those who did refer to this, only alluded to the dangers and difficulties and 'a life after Enlightenment' with a cryptic comment or two. No one, I presumed, wanted to discourage others. I didn't either! But the spirit of truth, or whatever, prompted me to put it all down and give it out for whatever help it might be for those who followed.*

*It is now the late 80's; and I begin looking for a publisher for the book. It was rejected*

*everywhere. Undaunted, I determine to break it up into five volumes and put them aside to await, each volume its time to come . . .*

*Recently, I find the times have indeed changed. Its two published volumes later, and I find others venturing to write about their experiences more openly. They did so I believe for having gained a following and student body who needed the information that they too obviously felt the impulse to share; as more and more individuals were clearly going through the transition of Enlightenment. I was grateful for this; for I had no such intention to teach or to gather a following; but rather, only wanted to write of my experience and thus share the information for whatever good it might be for those who sought it in years to come. Hence, the time seemed ripe to pull the next volume from the shelf and present it again.*

*So here you have it; the third section of the original manuscript, titled; After Enlightenment What? in a basically unedited version. It is the account of one person's experience of the aftermath of Enlightenment and the return to life that ensued, just as experienced in the attempt to understand and come to terms with it.*

*April 11, 2011, Year 2, Day 1  
By Tara, all rights reserved by Bhagavan Fdn.*

## AFTER ENLIGHTENMENT WHAT?

---

will be previewed one page at a time on this site free and in full in serial form. The completed book version will be published and made available in the BookStore and elsewhere at a later date.

### **AFTER ENLIGHTENMENT WHAT?**

*by Tara*

And then she lived happily ever after? No. And then she got Enlightened and omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent while in a body and all at the same time forever and ever and ever and ever. No, no, no, it goes like this . . .

That there are obstacles and pitfalls in Enlightenment even after ‘God Realization’ is rarely admitted and perhaps never before been given such a frank open airing. It is not traditionally discussed or admitted that there are any problems after Enlightenment. This is not to be the case here. I learn, to my surprise that Enlightenment is not a static condition. It is, in fact, a living spectrum of experience, and all that applies to life and living applies to Enlightenment as well. As we will see . . .

*At a certain point, it became clear it was time to leave the garden and the monk-like seclusion that had engendered Enlightenment, to return to the world of people and activity; moreover in the dawning of Enlightenment, I had committed to taking another life. Slowly and reluctantly, I did so, for I found there to be certain difficulties in living in my new state. In the first place, I was no longer the same being; my old remembered life and self was gone; or did not fit me anymore. The truth is I didn't feel like a person for I had left defining characteristics behind. I felt empty, more light and spirit than person. As to the second, in spirit, I was far more vulnerable to the condition and characteristics of every place and everyone I encountered than previously. I found that it is light's nature to permeate and fill its boundaries. When I entered a room or a city, my center and consciousness shifted to include the new whole and it was up to me to process that energy-feeling or deal with it as best able, re-centering as the whole. What was occurring was that in the spectrum of my I consciousness I was fluid, unbounded and not very much under conscious control. In short, I had lost my boundaries and a new manner of living and being would need be found. Life became a completely new challenge.*

*Metaphorically, a hesitant bather at the ocean on an early spring morning, I first dipped in a toe, then ran back from the water from the shock of it. This world experience was not bad. In fact, while still in an exalted state of consciousness, bad did not exist in my vocabulary or my experience. It was all good! It was all love and*

*light! In truth it was perfect, to honor in delight; but clearly, this would take time and adjustment. Time moved on . . . in my forays into the world of society, I would observe; and in the redolent summer afternoons, I began to ponder . . . “what had I been like before all this? Everything gets done, but I don’t have the sense of ‘doing’ any of it. What did the sharp joy and poignant sadness of human be-ing feel like? Odd, that I seem almost to have forgotten.” Quite different, I knew, than this deep enduring bliss that permeated my being as a constant state. I was curious . . .*

There are many ways one can look at what occurred next; and in this series begins the unfolding of the truth I refer to as; ‘multiplicity of being’. This ‘Truth’ would continue to unfold in ever- greater detail as I move across the spectrum of being to discover that; each level of ‘the Self’ is a different reality, with its own view of every experience. I see that all experience is a multileveled gestalt that can be ‘explained’ from any of its levels; personality, soul and God, and each will be, to a greater or lesser degree, correct. Further, each level will have many aspects, each with its own interpretation and agenda. As the one becomes many . . .

Additionally, although there was a fundamental inner change, and ‘a knowing’, which Enlightenment by definition is, that would be immortal and unchanging; the outer manifestation of my state of being was a growing, fluid condition, still within ‘the law of change’, and subject to those laws. These being; creation, preservation and destruction, as you will see...

*Years flowed by; and the great enduring bliss became a dual consciousness of multi-dimensional human feeling at one level and the I that was me, an unending smile that floated above, around, containing it. There was, however, a cut off point, a safety net of a place, from which I could go no lower than- even if I tried! And try it I did. As the clarity and bliss slowly ebbed away, in direct relationship to my entrance into the world of ‘Multiplicity’ and worlds of ‘I’ and ‘Other’, I began looking back in concern to assess what was occurring.*

*In short, I was reentering Mind!*

*And this is how it is, as the story unfolds...*

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE BEGINNING

*~ Being All and Everything, everything and nothing, is an interesting place.*

. . . What do we do now?

~

April 11, 2010, Day 1

From the book; AFTER ENLIGHTENMENT WHAT? , all rights reserved by Bhagavan Fdn