

***Oh, but this Little Gnat, this Little Gnat of Mine.  
Oh! I'm Going to Make it Shine!***

If your commitment is, indeed, to look within and discover each and every obstacle you have ever created to the presence of Love, why do you resist *feeling* those things? For well has it been said to you, that on just the other side is the very Love you seek. (WM 78)

Deny not the role of *feeling* in this dimension, for feeling is everything! You cannot even know the presence of God unless you feel it. You cannot *think about* the presence of God. You cannot insist on a belief about the presence of God. That does not do it; that does not fill your cup. Feeling fills your cup. Feeling – unbridled, unblocked, unobstructed feeling is the doorway to that Love that sets you free!

Therefore, when you say, "I don't want to feel this," rest assured you are truly saying, "Yes, the doorway to the Kingdom of Heaven is right in front of me, but if you think I'm going to open it, you are crazy! It's not worth it anyway. What is worth it is protecting the substitute I have made."

I have called this the ego, the false self, what I once described to you as a gnat shouting at space, "That's what I'm committed to. And I'm going to protect this thing. Give up Heaven to protect this useless little thing? Oh, yes! You'd better believe I'd be willing to make that sacrifice! What's Heaven anyway? A bunch of love stuff, a bunch of people running around in bliss, some of them without bodies, hanging out in unlimitedness, fearlessness, and utter fulfillment. Who needs it? Oh, but this little gnat, this little gnat of mine. Oh! I'm going to make it shine!"

How many times have you tried to make that little gnat shine? For instance, "Everybody notice, it's shining. Please, notice how great I am. I'm making my gnat shine. Listen to my whining and my complaining, and the lamenting, the great sadness. Oh! How grand my gnat is!"

Meanwhile, the Love of God flows through a multitude of universes and creates forever – even new universes. And the Love of God does not even notice the gnat at all. No one is paying any attention. Your friends around you do not want to pay attention, although sometimes you corner them and they have no choice. But those of us without bodies, do you really actually think we waste our precious eternity taking your attempt to make the gnat shine seriously? Indeed, because we Love you, we give you the space, and we honor your free will to be as little and as miserable as you wish.

. . . a question for you to answer for yourself. Not to discuss, not to analyze, not to ruminate over, but merely to sit in what appears to be your private realm and ponder and answer. For unless it is answered, there can be no movement. *How* it is answered will determine your tomorrows. And you are going to have an infinite number of them, by the way. The question is simply this:

Do you recognize that you have already been every where and every when in the illusion of separation? Would you be willing, right now, in the quiet privacy of your own heart and mind, to use the power of awareness given unto you to decide to be Love? (WM 227)

Some of you will have just felt a feeling of fear come up. Some of you will feel a sudden thought rushing through your awareness, "Oh, this is a bunch of nonsense." If you give the fear the power of reality, you will have effectively delayed the answering of the question. If you listen to the thought that calls it "nonsense," you will have done the same thing.

But the only thing you will have done is this, and please listen carefully: You will only have delayed a moment that will *not* be forsaken. You will have only delayed the inevitable, for your journey home has already long since begun. And once *that* journey begins, rest assured the end is certain. Push against it as you will, like a gnat shouting at the universe, "*My* will be done, not God's!" Love merely waits on your welcome.

Choose, then, beloved friends, to embrace the only answers those questions can have. For those answers are truth, based on what is real. With your embracing of what is real, the moment of your liberation is at hand. And Christ descends gently to begin to make its home where once the illusion of a separate self once seemed to reign. The end is always a thought away. Liberation – a simple choice. The way *is* easy and without effort. It rests in the power to decide. (WM 228)

*You* are the one who remains free to assume responsibility for the domain of your mind. You are the one who is free to simply say:

Father, nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done. (WM 233)

And what will does the Father have, save that you be happy by returning to the peace that forever passes all understanding? What could your Father will for you, but that you awaken from the dream that there is something *in* the world that can add value to you; that there is someone, some career, some location, some what-have-you that can actually add substance to your being? And better than this, to become freed of the perception that the *lack* of someone, something, some career, some location, some form of any kind could *detract* from your being, from your perfect power of union with God.

Peace, then, comes from a decision that is put into practice over time, in which the world is released. Released from what? From your belief that *it* should somehow be for you the conduit whereby you gain good feelings, love, peace, wisdom, ideas, comradeship, and even brother or sisterhood.

Detachment does not mean avoidance, but it does mean dis-identification with a mistaken idea. All suffering stems from this: identification of the deep mind, or the soul, with the forms that pass as outpicturings in this illusion. The belief that *loss* is possible and also that *gain* is possible. There can only be the recognition of what is true through the practice of extending the good, the holy, and the beautiful.

The end of illusion is very near when the mind reaches this following point. When any mind looks out upon its creations that it has attempted to make of itself and finds all of it lacking – that something is missing – and when that mind simply decides to withdraw the value it has placed on the world, and rests into the simple desire to be with God, then Heaven is but a step away. And that final step is taken *by* your Creator *for* you.

The dream of separation has been your responsibility. When you reach that point of collapsing or surrendering, you enter into the stage of restoration or salvation. And *that* is in the hands of your Creator.

When restoration has been completed, and the mind no longer seeks to journey out into the fields of illusion, but simply rests empty *at one* with God, *then* creation can begin anew. And co-creation is in the hands of both you and your Creator. The only difference is that you are no longer a separate being, like a gnat shouting at the universe, demanding that things be done your way. But rather, you are empty.

You are the paradox of all paradoxes, for you are filled, and only Christ abides. Yet, not you lives, but only that One. Even the arising and the passing away of the body are of no concern for you. You merely rise in the morning and simply say:

Father, how would you have me be present this day? (WM 234)

And something else *informs* your steps and your decisions. You are no longer *identified* with the *fruit* of your action. You are no longer concerned with how it may look, or how it may compare to somebody else's action. You merely abide where you are, doing what you are doing, and offering it freely because you are no longer attached to it.

I once described the highest state of consciousness, highest state of purification, as one in which the child has awakened, and looks around him or her and sees to infinity. They see not where they begin and the Father ends. For such is their union, such is their marriage, such is their dance – the unformed and the formed, the Source and the created, the Creator and the creating – such is this alchemical marriage that one cannot look and see where the soul ends and the Creator begins. Yet, the awakened mind knows that it is still the created and it surrenders in perfect joy each moment:

Father, what would you have me do? What is your will for me? (WM 312)

The awakened mind surrenders not in subservience, but because sanity has returned. It recognizes that it has never been the tiny gnat, whining and complaining and trying to make life work the way it thinks it ought to work. It surrenders each moment. It dissolves in each moment. It abides in each moment. It knows that only the Love of God is real and says, "Father, what would you have me do?"

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