

June-July 1959  
 Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois, U.S.A.

My dear Friends,

I have been touring in beautiful Florida. Key West, the last little island of a chain of islands all joined together by vast bridges, was a charming spot, with the sea on both sides and many palm trees. Being a little, far away place, everybody was very "matey". I like little "home towns" because everybody hails everybody else and nobody seems to be in an awful hurry to get rich! I thought it was an ideal spot to retire to when one is very old. Evidently others thought so too, for I saw a great many elderly people walking about in bathing costumes and sitting on the beach till they were burnt as brown as mahogany. I had such a pleasant time there and was sorry to leave. The Lodge there has a group of young Cuban girls all married to American husbands.

Everybody asks me what will happen to our Masters now that the Communists have taken over Tibet? I am quite sure They know how to handle that situation. A long time ago Bishop Leadbeater told us that the Tibetan Teshu or Panchen Lama of that day was a pupil of the Master K. H. I expect this one is not now the one he referred to but at any rate he is generally deemed the more spiritual power of the two Lama rulers of Tibet, and the Chinese have now exalted him.

Another question often put to me is whether I think space ships really exist? Of course they do. I have no doubts whatever. For one thing I have seen a photo of a man from Mars just stepping into his ship, and for another I know of a woman in Johannesburg who says that she has been for a ride in one. I do not think these people are telling untruths, though I quite realise that the universal interest may tempt some people to "cash in" on it.

All these subjects are of enormous interest to me for I try to do what Dr. Besant told us to do, to try to intuit the guiding hand of the Great Brotherhood in world affairs. I can see two ultimately good things that both space ships and the Communist revolution will do for the world. They will break completely dogmatic and superstitious religion. When we are fully acquainted with our brothers upon other planets, some of them greatly in advance of us in evolution, we shall no longer be able to think that the great eternal Life and Intelligence of the universe is concentrating Its attention pre-eminently upon ourselves, and perhaps no force except the crude force of Communism can deal with what I have found to be the most cruel of all powers, the force of religious fanaticism. It may be, such is the way of "human nature", that political fanaticism is taking the place of religious fanaticism. But look back in history and note the awful cruelties and wickedness of religious fanaticism. The great reputed atheist, Voltaire, wrote vehemently against it. And under its influence religious people will not only be cruel but also lie. That was how the missionaries in Madras tried to ruin H.P.B. Therefore I am the implacable enemy of all fanaticism, especially religious fanaticism. Sometimes I come across the relatively harmless fanaticism of the modern health enthusiasts! They are awful bores, aren't they? The ancient Greeks had a very wise saying, "Nothing too much." H.P.B. says that by being too anxious and by trying too hard to alter things in ourselves and others we kind of disturb Karma and produce distortions and unequal growth. Let us sit at ease in the universe which is our home and let life the great educator superintend our growth and education. Otherwise, H.P.B. said, we grow by fits and starts and violently in one direction, instead of gradually all over like a child grows and Nature intends us to. I think I will write more about this next time.

Someone has asked me to write about the World Mother. That is a fitting continuation to my two talks about the Angelic kingdoms. For we are told that the Mother of the Master Jesus, who now has the whole of Christendom in His charge, when she reached adeptship chose to join the Deva evolution, and thus became what the Catholic Church calls the "Queen of the Angels." This really means that she heads a line of the Deva evolution which deals with growth and becoming, especially in the human ranks.

The ancient Indian scriptures say that "the universe was spun between the poles of the pairs of opposites." We are still growing and developing by coming under the play of the alternating pairs of opposites -- the "knowledge of good and evil." That is to develop self-consciousness and self-motivation in us. The final pairs of opposites in men's minds are spirit and matter, life and form. They are in reality one, but for the purposes of evolution are drawn apart, as two nuclei

appear in a cell when it is going to reproduce itself. Matter or form has always been symbolically associated with the negative or feminine side of life, spirit or life with the positive and masculine. At the dawn of a new universe, or even a new solar system, Spirit vibrates or "moves upon the face of the waters." Mary or mare is the great sea of virgin matter called in the Eastern scriptures mula-prakriti, mother matter. From that junction a universe and every form, man included, is built. Here lies the real meaning of the symbol of the "virgin birth", attached to every Divine Teacher who ever came to earth. This is Father-Mother-God. Everywhere in Nature these two forces can be seen working. In humanity they are embodied in the two sexes. So the World-Mother is part of the World-Father.

Going back to "Our Lady" as the Church calls her, the power guiding birth and growth in matter is headed by the Spirit who once inhabited the body of the Mother of the Master Jesus. I do not think we should "pray" to her, but realise the compassionate and gentle play of "Mother Nature" everywhere. The earth is truly our mother. We should learn to reverence and rejoice in her beauty.

One day the "Son of God" will be born in us. He will be born of a human and visible mother - our human nature - and a forever unseen, invisible father, the Spirit. "You will enter the light, but you will never touch the flame," says Light on the Path. And so the Christ turned to Nicodemus when he visited Him and said: "Art thou a Master in Israel and knowest not these things?" For such esoteric symbology is in the esoteric books of the Jews also, such as the Zohar, which the poet Milton studied, and the Kabbalah.

All this is why I am so very devoted to Life in all its phases. And why I am continually telling people to learn to "trust themselves to life." The Vice-President of India, Professor Radhakrishnan, one of the greatest speakers I ever heard, says, "Life is God. The recognition of this fact is spiritual consciousness." Thus we are at home in the universe and all distinctions are swept aside. In this world there is no secular and sacred, no good and evil, for most of the evils which afflict us are man made through human ignorance, fear and greed, not nature made nor God made. There is no "sin", only lack of growth. All virtues, all loveliness, says H.P.B., are the outcome of this spiritual realisation. I have long seen that if one is conscious of any excellence one does not really possess it. We are not conscious of possessing that which is real in us. It possesses us. Well, we will grow up in time. "Hope lives eternal in the human breast." Why? Because his soul's unlearned knowledge, which the Master called "faith", has always told him that he is eternal and will one day come into his divine kingdom. Sometimes we would like that kingdom to come more quickly, but let us remember the vast, steady, wonderful patience of Nature, and that a Master once wrote: "We never force the pace, either with the individual or the race, because to force the pace is to create monsters." We cannot unfold a flower. It will die. By its own desire, by its own ability to open to the light and the air will it bloom. So must we ourselves press forward to open our souls to the Eternal. Do you remember how The Voice of the Silence tells us to work on with nature and help her and then she would unveil to us her secrets? That is why I am sure that the "spiritual life" is a supremely natural, unself-conscious life. There is nothing artificial or sophisticated about it. The spiritual man has no fears for he is at home in the universe; no airs for he knows that only Eternity is great. More next time.

Your affectionate friend,

Clara Codd

From your secretary:

Miss Codd sent this #82, thinking she had not already sent the other for April-May -- then asked me to save it for June-July mailing. Since I shall be moving in June, I hope you will not mind my taking this short-cut -- which also gives you the note from Florida while it is still fresh!

My Redwood City address will be no more, after June 20th. I'll give you the new address with the next letter, in August.

--- Ruth Doak