

132 December-January 1967-8

"Way's End," Beech Avenue
Camberley, Surrey, England

My dear Friends,

I have had still more letters from members and friends telling me how they had experienced what Dr. Buck called the "cosmic consciousness." It is really surprising the number who seemed to have gained it. And it always seems to come unexpectedly. I think I told you once that a very great friend of mine, Don Ruspoli, told me that it came to him suddenly when he was in a shop. Evidently the Spirit moveth where it willeth and is no respecter of persons.

I was a little amused by one contributor who described the cosmic consciousness as "IT." I will quote one letter which is symptomatic of them all. My correspondent writes: "Yes, I once experienced the cosmic consciousness. My husband and I were driving through a wood going home from a Theosophical meeting, and all at once in the car I was one with everything round me -- the woods, the trees, the little animals in the woods, the people who were living near by, the two other people who were in the car with me, and all the world. It came quite suddenly and gradually wore off in about half an hour, although I tried to hold on to it as long as possible. It was a wonderful experience and I keep thinking about it and hoping I will have it again, but have not had it yet since."

Other letters are similar to this one, and I am surprised at the number. It is all very prophetic. I have for some time thought that a new religion was fast coming into the world, and I call it the Religion of Life Itself. It is a kind of universal mysticism. Once, long ago, the Master M. observed that "a wave of mysticism was sweeping over Europe." It is now sweeping over the whole world. In fact I feel that it is the new revelation. We are not far off the coming of the Sixth Root Race who will develop the spiritual nature fully. I think this is the beginning. Then we shall have a form of religion which will not need ceremonies or priests or Bibles, for each illuminated man will be all those things to himself. The age of illumination is near.

And with the coming of universal illumination will come universal peace. When more men are aware of their eternal relationship with all life, antagonism and differences will cease. And not only is religious unity coming, but political unity, too. I remember C. W. L. telling us that in that new age wars and economic rivalry would cease for evermore in the life of this planet. I see it coming, don't you? Not in my lifetime, but when I come back again.

I must tell you about another symptom. Someone sent me the programme of a joint conference of spiritual and esoteric groups, which took place for two days in October in London. The organiser, Mr. Peter Rendel, tells me that it is the fourth of a series held every year. I was happy to see that our own John Coats, chairman of the Theosophical Society in Europe, was the first speaker. Among the esoteric societies attending were the Druids, the Sufis, the followers of Rudolph Steiner, the Grail Foundation, and even the homeopaths. And also the believers in the U. F. O. 's. Now that I mention them perhaps it will interest you to know that I myself saw my first "flying saucer" a few days ago. It was in the shape of the fiery cross such as was pictured in The Daily Express, and had a very long tail of light. I have always believed in the U. F. O. 's. For again I remember hearing C. W. L. say that before the end of this century we would be in full communication with the people on the planet Mars, as they had been trying to attract our attention for some time. Of course the other planets are inhabited. Indeed the people on Venus are ahead of us in evolution, and when first the Occult Hierarchy was established on our earth, adepts from Venus came to help. We cannot be so silly as to imagine that we are the only men in the universe.

Another one who joined in the Conference was the Beauty without Cruelty movement. I once talked to one of its trustees, Mrs. Jean le Fèvre. And of course Mr. Rex Dutta, the flying saucer leader, lives in Tekels Park.

To continue the subject, we shall all recall the story of the famous Beatles coming into contact with an Indian Yogi of great reputation. India has many such famous yogis. One of the most beautiful characters was the famous Maharishi who lived not far from Adyar but who has now passed over. Of all the yogis today I liked him best, and I have some of his books. The Beatles' yogi is called Maharishi Mahesh and his transcendental meditation is taught by the Spiritual Regeneration Movement Foundation of Great Britain, and the International Meditation Society. There are several meditation Groups working in Great Britain. Is it not wonderful -- all that is going on in the world? Mr. Paul Brunton is one of the prominent workers and also Sir Paul Dukes who died in South Africa recently. I knew him well.

I also knew the famous Mrs. Alice Bailey, the founder of the Arcane School. She told me that she always hoped that in the future we would all work together in friendship and harmony. Since our common object is the personal illumination of the human soul, we cannot possibly be in antagonism to each other. No one has the sole and absolute truth. We are all verging towards it and should lend each other a helping hand. But the Truth can never be put into words or strictly defined. I always think that Robert Browning was a great Theosophist. You will remember his words:

"Truth is within ourselves, it takes no rise
From outward things, whatever we may believe.
There is an inmost centre in ourselves
Where truth abides in fullness; and to know
Rather consists in finding out a way
Whence the imprisoned splendour may escape,
Than by effecting entrance for a light
Supposed to be without."

Perhaps the poets are nearer to Reality than the philosophers.

Every man has somewhere deep within him a spark of the Divine Beauty and Truth. That only can "save" him, as H. P. B. rightly observes. But what is he to be saved from? Nothing more than his own ignorance and consequent egotism. But why, we may ask, has the poor fellow to go through such a long period of blindness and sorrow? It is a law of evolution. Everything begins in an infinitesimal beginning. Is a child born fully grown up? But in that tiny beginning is held all the potency and promise of that which is afterwards revealed.

So in the end all will be well. I am very fond of a little medieval English Saint, the Lady Julian of Norwich. She had what is called "interior locutions" in which a saint is said to talk to God. She questioned Him about things which troubled her and "One day," she writes, "I asked God for sin, and God showed me that there was no sin, but that for every pain suffered here we would in the future have added glories." The believer in the ultimate triumph of loveliness and joy is nearer the truth than he who is weighed down with the sorrows of life.

I must also tell you how a Persian Theosophist visited us here in Tekels Park. He told me that there were twenty Theosophists in Persia.

Your affectionate friend,

Clara M. Codd

From your secretary: Please note, if you missed it before, that I have moved from Krotona to Olcott. My address now is Box 270, Wheaton, Ill. 60187. And again, my apologies for the extreme lateness this time. - - Ruth Doak