

FIRING AT MEANING

Verse to question, to provoke,
to tease life with;
including my own.

THE COMPANIONSHIP COLLECTION

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Foreword

I wrote the following philosophical verse in late 1998. This project followed after I had had complex surgery. Because I was not able to drive or work for a time, I decided to begin to write about the meaning of life, what this meaning may be, and where we may “fit” within this process of reality. I especially sought to bring forward ideas relating to what I considered to be the nature of our relationship with reality, and perhaps more importantly, why this may be the case.

At the time when I was writing this verse I felt highly intuitive, and at the same time I felt compelled to continue writing ad infinitum. Back then, when writing, I felt obsessed about putting my ideas to print. I now feel that the origins of my present day website probably stem back to this creative period of my life.

My work was never intended to be widely published, and so it is exactly how I wrote it in early 2000. The work is cryptic (deep) by nature.

Dedicated to my
Sons
Ivan and Christopher

The Individual

- 1.1 We all react to and, to whatever extent, become what our eyes see.
- 1.2 Salvation for individuals can only be found in the senses: the experience of nature, and above all, sex!
- 1.3 The period of youth is so pleasing because so many things still lack names.
- 1.4 Our stories are fundamentally not unique; everything that happens to another human or creature is part of our own autobiography because we walk amongst mirrors.
- 1.5 The less you reveal about yourself, the more highly thought of you are.
- 1.6 Many of us feel unfaithful to voices from the past. Guilt ensues.
- 1.7 Our emotions are as difficult to define as the physical characteristics of nature.
- 1.8 Our memory alone best defines past emotions through the recollection of their settings. Somehow settings give us a shape or a name to an experienced emotion; as if we require the world around us as a mirror for that which, being inside us, we cannot see.
- 1.9 We all circumvent conventions and codes for a variety of reasons, but essentially through greed or fear of loneliness.
- 1.10 There is a vital eroticism running beneath the surface of all living.
- 1.11 Remembered moments of joy enlarge the self. In that miraculous moment we grow in the world and long to touch those around us with the same magic. If we succeed, our growth is no longer illusionary.
- 1.12 All of us embody a mixture of inclinations.
- 1.13 We don't expect parents to have histories. A parent's past can become an intimidating threat or an expectation we can never live up to. Yet it is that past we inherit; with all its guilty deeds and unanswered questions: we are subconsciously being driven to continue the stories our parents left unfinished.
- 1.14 An individual is what behaves and tries to act out it is.
- 1.15 Impressions you seek to convey. But they are worthless until you open firstly your mind to me, then after you feel safe, your soul.

- 1.16 Youth is such a short experience that it is so often neglected by its owners for what it is. It is a time of almost uninhibited fantasy, hope, lust, energy and desire at every level God intended within the natural order of things. As such a fact, its momentum should never be seriously tampered with in the interests of itself and what its owners' will eventually bring forward for the benefit of those whom have long lost it.
- 1.17 Just as every society, every city and every community has a dark under belly, make no mistake; so do you and I.
- 1.18 Are you another engaged in evolution to nowhere?
- 1.19 If another signals 'the game is war'; so let it be. Only however, on your terms.
- 1.20 Undisciplined compromise equates to forfeiture of self.
- 1.21 Our inner identity and mere existence depends on our ability and willingness to continue to fight.
- 1.22 In evolutionary terms it could be said that our species was not appropriately created because it is neither animal or angel.
- 1.23 Most of us are neither as happy nor as miserable as we think.
- 1.24 Below navel motives are behind most human activity.
- 1.25 All of us are individually responsible for enhancing the richness of our own lives, and would you believe, have singular authority to do so as well.
- 1.26 Memory is like a mysterious corner of the garden from where unexpected plants grow.
- 1.27 Memory can be a curse. Retributive ghosts look with disdain from therein.
- 1.28 The struggle for autonomy is driven by a fear of losing uniqueness.
- 1.29 Idealism and pragmatism only come together with middle age.
- 1.30 Reincarnation is an attractive concept for those holding grudges.
- 1.31 Home is where the subconscious feels most safe.
- 1.32 There is a side of us, for whatever reason, we keep strictly to ourselves – even our own.

- 1.33 Self-awareness of age is unspoken lament for opportunities seen as forever lost.
- 1.34 Strength, like courage is both visible and invisible. That's why we respect both.
- 1.35 We all seem keen to demand respect, but at the same time are so reticent in handing it out. Do we really have to make our own self-importance so obvious?
- 1.36 Intensity of self is but one mirror of the numerous faces we all conceal deep within. Not only are there multiple mirrors, but some are convex, some concave and, impossibly you make think; a combination thereof. These weird assemblies are what the world of art attempts to portray.
- 1.37 Materialist obsession reflects our drive to satisfy our innate, individual and collective insecurity.
- 1.38 Hold On!
Do you really know what it feels like to be a woman?
Do you really know what it feels like to be a man?
The very best you can claim is that you know what it feels like to be you!
- 1.39 Business profits thrive on the fact we are, in the main, lazy.
- 1.40 Watch out for those who seem determinedly keen to take charge of a conversation. They are probably hiding something, you should know about; or should know about something they don't.
- 1.41 It is better to be merely lonely than lonely and abused.
- 1.42 So you search for freedom. It is granted! What are you going to do now? Feel any difference? Sure you're not afraid? If freedom came from within you won't be. Surely only that is being really alive?
- 1.43 Guilt is the over or under stepping of expectations of ones self.
- 1.44 Hypocrisy can be seen as the unpretentious portrayed of our fickle real selves. An individual is the ever changing presentation of a person to others of both whom and what they themselves rationalise they are, and or; uninhibitedly aspire to be: combined with whom and what they actually are.

2. Differences between Individuals

- 2.1 The moment someone recognises they are different, in their own interests, they must account for it.
- 2.2 Some in society cannot, or are not prepared to reproduce themselves; with their own continuity only loosely intertwined with culture; which they because they are so different, are more often than not instrumental in building. Of course meaning, utilising principally their values.
- 2.3 Reality to people who are different is not 'other' but 'another' part of an historical cultural whole, with no reigning central entity determining what is normal according to its own image.
- 2.4 How often do we define people through single characteristics?
- 2.5 For someone who feels different to answer to themselves 'who am I': they must turn away from a wider society which has only mirrors or caricature's stereotyping and reflecting who they know they are not; towards one that does.
- 2.6 Differences define us only in what we don't share. Those that attempt to catalogue differences pretend to classify our universe.
- 2.7 Males should simply be allowed to be males. Females should simply be allowed to be females. Within mutually agreed responsibility/performance constraints, both should get on with their lives to the fullest; as individuals and a paired unit: as male and female! Living life to the fullest, being the operative words, if implemented; helps to ensure individual outgrowing compared to the other is constrained, as is boredom – both of which can so easily and destructively infiltrate 'we'.
- 2.8 Don't knock those that care to be different. Progress with improvement depends on them.
- 2.9 Cynics know the value of everything because they know they have missed the yacht of life.
- 2.10 It's worse to be spoilt than neglected.
- 2.11 Together as one or ones together? The simple question wars are fuelled from!
- 2.12 It is the bottomless mediocrity of life that people seeking to be complete can't stand.

- 2.13 Neighbours can occasionally be friends, even great friends; but more generally not because familiarity rides and breeds contempt, especially so in a materialist driven society. This is the negative side of individuality busily at work: doing what it notoriously does best.
- 2.14 You are you. I am I. We can never hope to even fractionally understand each other, but if you're so willing, lets have fun trying.
- 2.15 Mutual distrust is a permanent legacy of our competitive culture.
- 2.16 Full personal comforting within marriage is rare because of over familiarity.
- 2.17 Remember, before your ego becomes all consuming, there is a mere snip of a difference between us and apes.
- 2.18 Togetherness of any description is a cauldron full of mixed herbs and spices embellished to varying degrees, with deadly nightshade.
- 2.19 You really don't have to look all that hard! What you see is what I am.

3. Society & Politics

- 3.1 Society is full of the horrors and follies of social convention.
- 3.2 We are not truly independent creatures as we imagine ourselves because we are so vulnerable to the hooks of an often hostile world.
- 3.3 Family is a group of kindred people. Kindred must have different meanings.
- 3.4 Family is a complex relationship created by that creature we call family.
- 3.5 Societies greatest evil is denial of instinct, the imposition of common standards, and the repression of individual longings.
- 3.6 The adult world defines itself through labels.
- 3.7 Good societal taste ensures the maintenance of disguises, conventions and baring of the appropriate faces.
- 3.8 A sense of 'normality' in alternative cultures compared to one's own is difficult; if not impossible to fully conceive.
- 3.9 H.G. Wells demonstrated the reality of society when depicting life amongst space travellers journeying to the moon. Through science fiction Wells demonstrated all the bothersome details of human life amongst its future inventions; the discomforts of being invisible, petty angers, envies, prejudices and the like. Sounds familiar for today too doesn't it?
- 3.10 In any society what does the notion of 'normal development' signify – and under whose social code?
- 3.11 Typologies, regardless of type or class, suggest patterns of behaviour along which certain characters must tread; and with rules of normality. Anyone or anything that doesn't fit one of a number of set categories is therefore sick or abnormal.
- 3.12 The remarkable characteristic of typologies is that even the exceptions must be classified.
- 3.13 Those that demonstrably attempt to live outside accepted typologies become quietly heroic in the eyes of more non-adventurous observers.

- 3.14 The family as we commonly understand it to be, in all its presented purity; is all but dead. A new family concept emerging from its ashes, albeit being still in its embryonic days, is much more real. Of greater importance, unlike the old, the new vehicle is showing signs of being ever increasingly God accountable / God conscious: as it recognises old ways were destroying all that was really precious amongst a creators other earth bound living entities.
- 3.15 Stop and consider. The system has become a monster.
- 3.16 Work can best be described as a mere adjunct to living. Never the two should be irrevocably or uncontrollably meshed.
- 3.17 Politics is the science of understanding and controlling general existence and cohabitation, amongst vastly diverse opinions as to what is important and real.
- 3.18 Competition brings out the best in those whom love similar, but not necessarily equal, opportunity to reach the core heart of what is being competed for. For those that are decidedly alienated, the majority; they drop away to become second, third or fourth rate – as significant as their cousins allow them to become within the giant dustbin of history. The completeness and richness of their combined community suffers accordingly.
- 3.19 These days little emphasis is placed by educationalists on creating and perpetuating desirable, basic human qualities: the more dominant criteria being that people become economically productive creatures.
- 3.20 Politics is the inadmittable art of deception.
- 3.21 Any social wisdom we may ever have had, has all but been consumed by economic rationalism. The high price is well on the way to being paid, well secured by first mortgage.
- 3.22 Marriage is for the manipulated, insecure, deceitful or different combinations thereof. Unions of prolonged, satisfying, self-sustainability; are woven far beyond the realms of the State; or inconsistencies of ever changing human values and logic.
- 3.23 Work is purely a means to an end. That is, of course, if you want to belong.
- 3.24 Our distant origins ensure it is only natural today, all manner of jungle chatter continues to free flow around the greenery of the suburbs as well.

- 3.25 It once used to be joked that people in asylums were there because they themselves knew something was radically wrong on the outside, and they wanted an escape from what they saw as unreality. Considering more recent evolutionary history, were such jokes mere irrelevant jovial jest after all?
- 3.26 In real terms, very little changes from one generation to the next. Only faces and facades do.
- 3.27 Marriage can be likened to an untamed puppy. Down girl down! Down boy down!
- 3.28 The fragility of our existence cannot be easily seen around the suburbs, towns or farms. But if you look in the right places, and hard enough, you see high fences. Some are brick, Some are stone, Some are steel. Some combine the solidness and strength of all three. Ram and bust raids are after all, a real threat these days. Is this the way we really want things to be?

4. Reality

- 4.1 Science fiction is knowledge fiction and is therefore much more of a reflection of reality itself than disciplined science. This is especially so when it incorporates acknowledged physical and chemical laws, but also the quasi and soft sciences; as well as matters of the human heart and mind: thus legitimising not only itself as a science but also sex in all its historically evolved diversity.
- 4.2 Birth and death are soberingly lonely experiences. What is experienced in between is equally so, except we have the option of pretending otherwise.
- 4.3 Tell me what is normal! You're either God, mad or both.
- 4.4 Fact and fantasy are inseparable components of reality, that is; until fact is indisputably separated as real – meaning of course, never.
- 4.5 Life is a jungle of the real and unreal.
- 4.6 Marriage as a concept provides nothing for any future except the pretence it does.
- 4.7 There is some part deep inside all of us which constructs its own version of reality.
- 4.8 Knowledge of Ultimate Reality can only be achieved through a scientific investigation of non-material planes of existence.
- 4.9 Reality? The dressing up of fantasy to make it more respectable.
- 4.10 When one is tightly compliant to the social expectations of the day, they can then, and only then, be deemed 'sane'.
- 4.11 Reality is if you can get away with it.
- 4.12 Because you do not understand, does that make it wrong?

5. Fantasy

- 5.1 The ubiquitous graffiti found in and around washrooms attests to ongoing fantasies; more or less below consciousness, during people's daily ritual of activities – especially toilette.
- 5.2 Sexual fantasies as visually reflected in the anonymity of washrooms are an act of homage to the dream of every person's freedom.
- 5.3 Men visiting prostitutes are valiantly striving to keep sex from emotion and procreation: with the unknown stranger becoming for them, like a wandering pagan God.
- 5.4 We all at some time, inexorably fall victim to the tragedy of misdirected desire.
- 5.5 The body that lusts is never satisfied, or only for an instant.
- 5.6 To change the past frees the imagination from the constricts of fact.
- 5.7 Joy creates an environment, which yearns to leave the body behind.
- 5.8 Fantasy is a mode for the creative. It is both natural and unnatural. Those that recognise the former, and play with and adventure with its core nature; will indeed be richly rewarded.
- 5.9 Take a walk on the wild side. Note the difference!
- 5.10 Magic eludes those lost in loss.
- 5.11 Without fantasy, there is no purpose in living.
- 5.12 Primitive dreams are often both the most real and memorable.
- 5.13 Eroticness is the motor relentlessly driving all of us way from being simple unitary beings.
- 5.14 You miss something in life by being unadventurous.
- 5.15 Human minds are naturally capable of being highly frivolous, misleading and worse, in their never-ending mode of trying to ensure self-preservation; with all that attached.
- 5.16 Is it promiscuous to desire, and if mutually felt, act out what could soon become undisciplined?
- 5.17 Magic is within reach of us all, if only we would render it a little encouragement.

- 5.18 Eroticism, with its responsible manifestations, should surely be seen as natural a part of life as eating?
- 5.19 In a relationship from which there is for whatever reason, no apparent escape route: determined by various combinations of ignorance, fear, bloody mindedness or vindictiveness, in indeterminable voluminous proportions: you owe it to yourself at least occasionally, a frivolous step onto the wild side.

6. Friendship

- 6.1 "...friendship between teacher and disciple is a mirror of ones learning friendship with God, for God is friendship". (Saint Ael Red of Rievaul 12th Century)
- 6.2 Friendships/relationships enjoy ever shifting middle ground of reciprocal attentions and changing roles – these changes ensuring the longevity of both.
- 6.3 The only mortal sin is to betray another human being for the sake of one's false, but socially expected appearances – appearances upon which society sets such value; requiring daily deceptions, duplicities and disguises. We are all required to wear masks, but not with those we choose through love, or depth of friendship, to care and share.
- 6.4 That which attracts us to another remains as mysterious to the participants as it does to us.
- 6.5 True love is the soul that longs for the soul.
- 6.6 Ill considered pokes are not love. Never ending exploration with one to both please and be pleased is.
- 6.7 Nature is me, Nature is you. Why is it the twain cannot ever meet?
- 6.8 Togetherness and feeling mutually sought, for whatever reason, underpins all companionship. From companionship springs friendship. Because of its very nature, passionate and immeasurable; the whole concept of friendship need not have, nor should it have, any bounds. Left to its own devices, it couldn't care a damn how it is ongoingly nurtured and supported; or at what cost. That's the way it should be let be.
- 6.9 To expect discretion, one must also learn to measure one's own words.
- 6.10 How arrogant it is if we think we are, and can carry on alone.
- 6.11 With humbleness I intrude, seeking nothing else more dear to me; unqualified friendship.
- 6.12 It is easy to feel intimate with someone who doesn't know you.

7. Male Dominance

- 7.1 It is the male imagination that dominates most societies because of its supposed air of 'honour': thereby it is safe to do so.
- 7.2 Those not agreeing with the widely accepted, dominant imagination of males in all major decision making; seemingly threaten the perceived and portrayed identity of individuals who uphold these codes in society.
- 7.3 It has been said that they that rock the cradle rule the world. Surely true. Women are very skilled indeed at both manufacturing and pulling triggers, when even half seriously, they put their mind to it.
- 7.4 Males are stronger principally for one reason – and it isn't as you may think, for what is between their ears.
- 7.5 Lust; with often an associated desire to be contaminated by yet even more powerful and dominating lust, has at least partly contributed to myths about adult males – in or out of the bedroom.
- 7.6 Fairer ones, utilising long held proven skills, cause even the most mature of the male species to cringe with powerfully felt withheld mixed blessings; in anticipation of exactly how they are to be inflated; or more fearfully, deflated. Simultaneous infliction or not rests solely in the hands of the fairer ones. A box full of perfect ones indeed!
- 7.7 Males egotistically love power and influence. Women do too would you believe, but they are generally less conspicuous about how they go about obtaining the lot.
- 7.8 Any usage of overpowering and uncompromising power by men could well be seen as their subconscious feelings of being alone and without cause or purpose being manifested; in a wider society that has itself lost its way.

8. Prejudice

- 8.1 Prejudice against an individual or group comes into existence not by the choice of the individual forming it, but by the reaction of those outside it.
- 8.2 Prejudice engenders a world shattered by a brutal eruption of words without meaning; as terrifying as madness.
- 8.3 Those that are prejudiced find it all too easy to be offensive and hurtful.
- 8.4 Love may so truly be beautiful in all its manifestations, but it also engenders its own form of obsessive prejudices – and often dangerous ones at that. Such an illogical dichotomy.
- 8.5 Prejudice is sinister. It lurks around so sneakily, often you don't know or remember it is there at all.
- 8.6 Did Satan set out to prejudice Adam when he enticed Eve to eat the proverbial no no apple? Perhaps it was way back then we had our first serious lesson in inflicting debilitating alienation so well.
- 8.7 In some countries girl children are being prejudiced against through slaughter, in favour of male infants. Does public acceptance of such a policy mean that these same people support a societal imbalance bound to have some sort of negative ramifications for either society, individuals, or both. Or is there a wider undeclared agenda? Perhaps a future class of eunuchs are being prejudicially developed to become servants for a rapidly emerging middle class as existed in imperialist times, or maybe even greater moral decay is, wink wink, being subversively fostered. Just as we thought morality was already too far prejudiced against as well. More of a sign of things yet to come? Oh don't we serve to treat ourselves so well when we put our so easily prejudiced minds to it! Irrelevant you say. Ever heard of the word aborigine?
- 8.8 Widely circulated feminist joke. Question: Definition of a male? Answer: Life support system for a penis. Author: What part are they prejudicing? Any compelled response from a well motivated masculinist movement would give them more than they could chew. Whatever; just maybe prejudice is not all bad news after all? For men at least.

9. Judgment

- 9.1 Judgment for us begins with the first opening eyes of our own parents, then becomes crucial and definitive; the all but ever lasting judgment; moving into the vast claustrophobic gallery of others on, or up/down the line, to the eyes of one's enemy, one's friend or one's lover/s.
- 9.2 It's a sad fact that we believe we can judge suffering by degrees, so that a single act seems less worthy of our indignation than mass persecution or anonymous prejudice.
- 9.3 We mortals may assess but should leave judgment only to the divine.
- 9.4 Make an assessment of my situation you may. Make an assessment of me personally you may. Judgment on either account you may not. Any such privilege rests solely with me, and perhaps; something far bigger than both of us.
- 9.5 Any variance between indifference and incompetence in the final analysis, can only be left to the eyes of the beholder.
- 9.6 If, there is a judgment day, we should all fear it. You, like I, by any standard; have sinned!
- 9.7 Animals and birds of the forest don't need to take time out to judge. Rules of existence and ongoing survival for them is inbuilt for usage from hour one. The same applies to us but we have chosen to make it not so.
- 9.8 Judgmental behaviour against each other is an inbuilt, unconscious, often used weapon of counter attack; justifying one's own stance or mode of existence.
- 9.9 Forget momentarily at least that below. Contemplate the real. The other is merely on manifestation thereof.

10. Injustice

- 10.1 Injustice creates a potency and clarity of its own: driving forward resourcefulness and originality.
- 10.2 A victim can often become a secret and unexpected hero.
- 10.3 Some think injustice permissible and suffering tolerable.
- 10.4 Why is it so often necessary to scream before being heard?
- 10.5 Complete justice is nowhere to be seen, nor has it even been; except perhaps occasionally in the streets: followed by a handshake and then a beer.
- 10.6 Injustice to one is justice to another – especially for those with long and accurate memories.
- 10.7 Legal justice rests finally with his or her honour/s. Surely that in itself is an injustice for the mere fact of their own fallibility, together with all those who went before them setting ever evolving precedents for lawful behaviour. We have learnt to live with and accept this situation because there seems to be no better way. Or is there another reason? Perhaps we are afraid of becoming self-sacrificial to the alternative – ruthless uncontrollable anarchy, without any pretence of honour whatsoever.
- 10.8 Within the wider scheme of things, some believe a strange karma force is always at work ensuring our dues are credited or debited in proportion and kind; always commensurate to what we ourselves give/don't give. If such continual monitoring over all our shoulders is in fact happening, might it also be true therefore, we indeed are all collectively that monitoring process, through both a sensually shared presence, together with one singular individual belief system called conscience: monitored and controlled by memory. If this is so, karma is nothing more or nothing less than ourselves at work, with ourselves only allowing ourselves to be point scored in all our day to day activities. This argument especially makes sense if GOD is as widely believed, an equal mix of harmony and chaos.

11. Truth

- 11.1 There is little room in most societies for individual truths.
- 11.2 One person trying to live his/her perceived or learn 'Truth' becomes grotesque; with the truth so fondly embraced; becoming for reasons of only self-survival, a falsehood.
- 11.3 Unspoken truth is that paradox between an intransigence to convey all by the deliverer, and that which can only be guessed at by the receivers.
- 11.4 Memory without fiction is incoherent.
- 11.5 The truth about truth today is that it has become a tradable commodity like everything else.
- 11.6 The truth of all truth, if we are really prepared to search for it, lies within the objective world of total shared reality; incorporating all its forms and expressions. Anything short thereof is prejudiced and hence unworthy of being called truth by true truth seekers.
- 11.7 Truth? There is no such thing because no one understands its appropriate boundaries.
- 11.8 Lies have been, are, and will continue to stay. Destructive anarchy would prevail all round if we attempted to link general socialisation to any form of universal fundamentalism.
- 11.9 Gypsies dare to be honest. So do thieves. So do illusionists – and there are others similar too. But such honesty remains almost entirely 'in house'; to each group. That becomes a large part of their respective strengths. Dedicated loyalty and within culture respect better describes it. Only we, foolishly aloof members of the so-called sophisticated umbrella culture have the audaciousness to call such people hypocrites. We should look at what measure of loyalty rests around ourselves first with associated inter party affiliation, before disdain is expressed.
- 11.10 To lie or otherwise distort speech can often save the peace. Because in practical terms, life itself is a series of almost endless compromises; why should use of language be any different for purposes of all our hour to hour survival? Perhaps its because we give such behaviour a dirty name – politics!
- 11.11 Pure truth is so precious it deserves to be protected by sentries of lies.
- 11.12 Honesty is predictable thought and performance, directed or otherwise coerced, by the expectations of others.

12. Alienation

- 12.1 Exile is, amongst other things, a state of mind. Hell's exile is the progress from physical loss to far darker forms of absence such as the countryside, family, people's love, business and worst of all, objects of their sexual desire.
- 12.2 Suffering we must all endure to understand what it is. Pity help those that haven't, or its ill-defined logic. Such persons will never know how to fully appreciate their lot, or how they may more graciously approach life's one and only mysterious inevitable, with all that may precede it.
- 12.3 The moment you say 'I love you', you have become alienated, from complete self, forever. Expectation and obligation jointly ensures this.
- 12.4 Alienation makes the world go round. It continually propels, prods, provokes and more; in its never ending journey: carrying us with it as either willing or unwilling partners.
- 12.5 A cat lets you know in no uncertain terms if it senses it is being threateningly cornered. A big cat will eat you if so provoked, without any prior contemplation; or post kill remorse. Cats and ourselves therefore have a lot in common, the difference being we mostly deal with our actual or perceived predators a little more sadistically – or if you like, utilising rationality, in a manner quite estranged from the fearless attack to kill predictability and efficiency of the feline. Alienation and rationality it seems, make handsome bed partners.
- 12.6 We are alienating ourselves from what is real with foolhardy zest – nature and all therein entwined.

13. Hatred

- 13.1 Hatred and prejudice together, replace the details of what we see and bear witness.
- 13.2 To hate well we need only have generalities because it is impossible to hate with access to full details.
- 13.3 We can scarcely hate anyone we know unless to be otherwise sick in mind or consciously vindictive.
- 13.4 Victimiziers seem often to lack the imagination to foresee retribution.
- 13.5 One of the pre-requisites of revenge is patience.
- 13.6 Hatred is that emotion that reaches to defy eternity.
- 13.7 Hatred is 'White King' for the veins.
- 13.8 Self-repression equates to self-hating.
- 13.9 Propaganda easily provokes hatred. Wars emanate from the mass distortion of otherwise believable propaganda.
- 13.10 Non or poor communication between parties drifts firstly into angst if otherwise not resolved issues persist, then swiftly into the border lines of hatred; followed by a march into full hatred itself.
- 13.11 "Peace prevails" say the victors in any war. Does it really?
- 13.12 Remember as kids we used to repeat to friends jovially, "I love you, I love you not". Could we have been more honest in saying, "I hate you, I hate you not", if in reality at the time jealousy or envy prevailed.

Wisdom

- 14.1 The truly wise have moved several steps beyond the ambiguity and self-obsession of 'I'.
- 14.2 Wisdom and completeness are incompatible.
- 14.3 The root of all activity is hunger – for happiness and understanding. Wisdom is the recognition of such.
- 14.4 Pain is the embryo of wisdom.
- 14.5 Pleasure can never be fully appreciated without knowing its opposite; pain.
- 14.6 Pain because of its indelible nature, is a great educator.
- 14.7 Wisdom is the knowledge that things are not right, and can be greatly improved; with or without your own involvement.
- 14.8 Because you have searched to discover what is important to me, will you now acknowledge your own quest to find meaning is really no less profound than my own.
- 14.9 Most applause is due to those few who dare to undertake what the majority merely ever thinks about.
- 14.10 There is more than one meaning to meaning because meaning is what we all are individually craving to satisfy.
- 14.11 One burst of extreme pleasure more than compensates for a multitude of life's little horrors.
- 14.12 Our need for an army is directly related to how far, consciously and unconsciously; we all perceive ourselves linked to some obscure and ever changing, model perfect.
- 14.13 Human evolution is the continual teasing out all that, from the best to the worst, into one big pot.
- 14.14 Forty is the old age of youth. Sixty is the youth of old age.

15. Metaphysical

- 15.1 Can serious thinkers deny there is, in a primordial sense, a link between ourselves, some sort of higher spirit; and morality and ethics?
- 15.2 Awareness of all that was ever meant can only come to those whom have transcended both their materialistic and selfish tendencies.
- 15.3 Material and all phenomena seen or unseen entwined within science of all man segmented disciplines; can, if you think about it, only be a mere reflection of a creator's countenance: not him, her or it directly or totally.
- 15.4 If honest, we know deep in our hearts that beyond perceptive reality, there is something more – despite us not knowing what it is.
- 15.5 At the end of our run, there is as the skeptics claim, either meaningless zilch; or one power of a lot to keep running for. Which camp do the odds favour?
- 15.6 The soul is that conscious self awareness that your not only alive, but by design, part of a much bigger picture as well.
- 15.7 Our spiritual dimension is that bit screaming for something better.
- 15.8 Mysticism dances around all our lives. It's like magic, but is more acceptably tangible than magic because it has had a long cortege like sombre existence; represented now by the butchered body of orthodoxy itself; in all its diverse forms – supported also by infallibility, in written and vocal form. Mysticism therefore surely is no more than magic: without all the glamour and frills?
- 15.9 Our aged are much nearer to the stars and their origins than we may quite credit. So when they chatter idly amongst themselves, or us, about some future long journey; you know they are but a hop, skip and a jump from having already completed it.
- 15.10 Chaos is our designer's single most powerful wild card. Respect it. Live around it. Cherish it. By doing so you will always win.
- 15.11 That which we don't directly hear or see, but unceasingly see definitive reflective images of; is, if you really think about it, easy to call God.
- 15.12 God is beyond me and I'm glad 'it' is. Otherwise I would indeed be fearful.

- 15.13 God is that link which connects all, including that which many refer to as simply nature.
- 15.14 The creator seems to have drawn a line for us to reach out to, to create ever new challenging frontiers. All within parameters of course – the maximum scope of intelligence we are allowed to have, in our own interests.
- 15.15 God is rhythm within chaos.
- 15.16 If we were originally meant to be perfect, surely we would have retained at least embryonic wings?
- 15.17 Want to know what spirituality is? Being alive!
- 15.18 Some believe in an after life. Some believe in a before life. The majority objectively forfeit real life by denying both, plus more, in lieu of some other more nebulous earthly manifestations; statedly completely devoid of any belief in any abstract at any level whatsoever. That which is 'alive', often conspicuously abandons or heavily discounts such manifestations as if in total frustration; to once again re align its natural enthusiasm with its wider infinite self: in doing so, in memory, perpetuating for all time all it most recently experienced. To believe in the broad concept is the only earthly measurable standard. Great theory? Sure that's all it is, but some do think along and around these lines. They refer to karmic energy at work, or if you like big picture 'eye for an eye' accountability in full effective operation. Can this be more seriously challenged than any other 'beyond' concepts? As individuals we alone within our own denied or otherwise 'abstract', must singularly decide that you guessed! More commonly known as honest articulate self "soul searching".
- 15.19 Our shell is but one temporary custodian of a mere single snippet of the whole.

16. Emotions

- 16.1 It is because of those we love that so often makes us fearful of pleasure.
- 16.2 Love and play. When permanently joined some insight may then be gleaned as to perhaps how things ought to be.
- 16.3 Love is many a splendid thing. Never forfeit your full rights to it through existing in purely survival mode.
- 16.4 Our cultural heritage has, and continues to alienate from its so-called normality; all notions of full or discounted impromptu togetherness.
- 16.5 Lust is the instinctively driven, semi frequent and momentous fine tuning, of the complete nervous system with all its controls.
- 16.6 Hugging says it all. Unashamed, and in public, it is doubly so.
- 16.7 Desire is a preliminary aspiration for closeness. What may or may not happen thereafter has many branches.
- 16.8 Our spontaneous selves are our true uninhibited selves, not unduly weighted down with caution or logic.
- 16.9 Love, whatever it is, is craved for by all; whether we're too proud to admit it or not. Such yearnings we should be humbled by because it is clear evidence we are both alive, and at least logically, uncynical. Isn't this the mad circle within which we were always meant to be?
- 16.10 Jealousy is an extension of envy: created through immature egos.
- 16.11 We often deny ourselves a full measure of pleasure simply because of respect: derivative from the intensity of our love.
- 16.12 Shame is much more of a powerful motivator than positive affirmations. To the negative.
- 16.13 Infatuation is a clever little noun. It dominates two pro's, you and me.
- 16.14 Sadness: a reflection upon when expectations must be, or should be, discounted.
- 16.15 Grief is an expression of what could have been.
- 16.16 Joy is ecstasy with a caveat of slight mistrust attached.

17. Life and Normality

- 17.1 Life without memories is dead.
- 17.2 Enjoy life in giant chunks.
- 17.3 Normal living is being a full participant in life, not merely an observer.
- 17.4 Familiarity and insecurity keep couples together rather than love.
- 17.5 Intimacy is a combination of trust and risk.
- 17.6 Death is a great escape. It is after all, the immediate forerunner of the forever. Lets not therefore rejoice in its inevitability, its means, its day, its hour, or what lies beyond; but what it really is. A great mystery, a great unknown; something not to be fearful of, but at the appropriate time, the greatest adventure for us all since birth – a similar escape from confinement.
- 17.7 Old age is simply a phase, like all other of life's phases. The metaphorical pantry of energy may be all but waned into obscurity, but its depletion can never despoil ever waxing memories, with gossip; of all and sundry. These immeasurable intangibles replace once considered essential staples.
- 17.8 Two simple letters of our literary alphabet best indicate the likely destiny of both the planet and its entire species is to be. WE!
- 17.9 All those parts of our mental and physical selves we share with each other, are from originality; a substantial part of our individual and collective reasons for wishing to hang around for yet more of the highly varying adventures they create.
- 17.10 What is 'normal' is as long as the proverbial piece of string.
- 17.11 Depression? A culmination of long standing unfulfilled hope.
- 17.12 Some life forms, by predetermination, are given only hours to hatch and match; before being duly honorably dispatched. In relationship to infinity, and don't let us pretend otherwise, we have measurably much lesser time to stamp our organic mark than we have accorded such forms: using that is, our own measuring standards.
- 17.13 In the greater scheme of things man determined time is really only a species relevant determinant of how swiftly all things either die, decay; or become simultaneously as one.
- 17.14 Normality in these times is derivative from somewhat vague historical notions about what was seen to be appropriate and sustainable behaviour.

- 17.15 It seems fair to say a majority of marriages begin in bliss, mature to indifference and end in contempt. Acknowledged or otherwise.
- 17.16 Parents are mere triggers for the placement of yet further rounds into the barrel of a metaphorical sacrificial, cosmic war game; perhaps best known as “trial and error”.
- 17.17 Sons and daughters, in one way or another, seem to nearly always disappoint. They always have. They continue to. They surely always will do. Whose or which model in adulthood should they aspire to anyway? With respect, you don't think you or I are satisfactorily qualified to answer such a question do you? Apologies if you were and remain, of such uniqueness.
- 17.18 The observable is never as good as the feel good.
- 17.19 Your new borns cry is the purest of all sounds. Record it for posterity. One day you too may care to be reminded of the only time in your own life when your being was totally free from external conditioning.

18. Personal Integrity

- 18.1 Youth of today are, unlike their predecessors, mostly socially open and honest. An associated lack of hypocrisy amongst themselves, together with their future offspring, will conceivably ensure something even much better.
- 18.2 Integrity implies honesty of self and purpose. What is that? None is to be seen – not by commonly accepted meaning of the word anyway.
- 18.3 Ego and integrity – completely incompatible.
- 18.4 Sorry! My originality lacks perfection.
- 18.5 Expect and respond to no more than you can see, hear and feel – then you cannot be disappointed.
- 18.6 My dog talks to me without inhibition, through its tail, eyes and ears; and sometimes its tongue. Such openness I trust and understand because of its sheer simplicity and accuracy. Bet you can't be so convincing!
- 18.7 We so called 'mature' ones think we are wise; the holders of great wisdom through meeting life's multiple experiences. Does wisdom have therefore any connection to personal integrity? Would it be wrong to say 'I think not'.

19. Pride and Self Esteem

- 19.1 Self-esteem can be likened to self-worship. That is, recognising the bigger person within.
- 19.2 Pride by its very nature engenders prejudice. How else can the holders of self importance be sustained?
- 19.3 Pride in the final analysis, especially that of a mature nature, asserts forcible coercion on everyone's belief systems.
- 19.4 Pride is the resulting manifestation of astute performance.
- 19.5 Self-esteem ensures one can hold one's head high within a crowd.
- 19.6 Self-esteem is noticeable by those that have it.
- 19.7 Quiet achievers are always co-workers with self-esteem.
- 19.8 The hybrids derivative from self-esteem are pride and ego.

20. Ethics

- 20.1 Ethics, once a concept retained with personal pride; is now for all practical purposes, mute.
- 20.2 Without integrity of life and associated action, the whole purpose of life in the first place has been betrayed.
- 20.3 Ethics transcends human behaviour of today, and that foreshadowed for the future. It is deeply entrenched in the past, and always will be.
- 20.4 Who knows if the bigger picture is really ethical? Sometimes I think it is. Sometimes I think its not. Maybe such inconsistency follows mirror imaging of myself? Is this problem common to all?
- 20.5 Morality and ethics are not the same – the former being irrevocably contaminated, the latter reparably so.
- 20.6 Sin is an indeterminable farce! Unethical statement?
- 20.7 Accountability! No one wants to really know about it these days. Isn't it nice to be so graced to be such free spirited little beings? Don't get too carried away just yet. Big brother and sister and their agents have tabs on you.

21 Destiny

- 21.1 Don't knock youth, They are the enthusiasm and hope for a better tomorrow.
- 21.2 Destiny these days is largely replaced by genetical inheritance.
- 21.3 Destiny we think about, try to plan for, but can never achieve. It remains always at least, just beyond. In this life at least.
- 21.4 Hope and trust perhaps best define ultimate destiny.
- 21.5 Why do we all work so furiously today, forgetting the real joys of today, trying to construct some sort of more favourable; yet nevertheless oblique, destiny? Is it because we are inherently afraid to face up to whom and what we are; and perhaps more importantly, the fragility of where we are?
- 21.6 At a bar. Eyes meet. Suddenly beyond all else you know. Everything else becomes irrelevant. Destiny is always on the move, and what's more, is consistently fickle – even for the hardest of knuckle heads.
- 21.7 Let go. Don't be possessive of destiny. Enjoy today, tomorrow and the days immediately thereafter. Your destiny will have then been best fulfilled. Beware! Friends not so enlightened will become jealous.
- 21.8 Your destiny and my destiny may not be exactly the same except for one thing we have in common. We are both going to organically return to dust. Lets at least be damned good friends in the mean time.
- 21.9 Material possessiveness and obsession, on their own are, and will always remain to be, insignificant components of individual destiny attainment.

22 Lessons

- 22.1 It is a pity we are all so insecure about ourselves and with each other. War in lieu of love under such circumstances, is quite understandable.
- 22.2 History has many lessons for us all, provided we are prepared to be willing students.
- 22.3 Today is yesterday's future tomorrow ; today will be yesterday tomorrow. If we all understand this as being so obvious, why do the majority treat today, with tomorrow's opportunities; as though they were already yesterday's blandness?
- 22.4 War has never been, nor will it ever be, instigated by accident. It is engendered and implemented through an inherent trait in all of us to take pleasure in outsmarting, dominating and then controlling; for the sake of only the acts themselves. Doubt it? Simply attend a top order football match grand final!
- 22.5 A warranted apology is an equaliser, not a sign of weakness.
- 22.6 "My enemy's friend is also my enemy". An old Chinese proverb we should all perhaps adopt and live to once turning around fifty. Who seriously after all, wants to live in hypocrisy land for potentially; the most rewarding fifty years of their lives?
- 22.7 Those that deny history deny themselves.
- 22.8 Animals are a useful reminder of our own inherent vulnerability and weaknesses. Measurable and immeasurable struggles as well. Respect and a special kind of love are surely due to them for sharing such similar characteristics?
- 22.9 Shame follows only those with a conscience. Materially successful people are rarely hindered with either.
- 22.10 Ignorance as it is often said, is indeed bliss. To know all would be far too difficult for words. Awfully so!
- 22.11 Squeeze the balloon too hard: expect the essence of life to be self leveling. Regardless.
- 22.12 Cast unwarranted shadows: expect warranted thunderstorms in return.

23 Logic and Objectivity

- 23.1 The inherent weakness of any argument that claims one is superior to another, is; what publicly accepted criteria was used to arrive at that position?
- 23.2 Before becoming determinedly adamant, remember the mutable nature of your own memory.
- 23.3 Let's be honest for once. Fact is really only relevant for one day at a time – if that!
- 23.4 'Correctness' at first glance seems to render meaning to everything because of its perceivably, safe and logical origins. Logic, however, can never be contained within correctness because it excludes the randomness of all the unforeseen; like that originating from one's own fantasy and the fantasy of others.
- 23.5 The more materialist one becomes, the more blinkered is their wider understanding; even of materialism itself.
- 23.6 Our minds are perhaps clever after all, but do they understand their own nature; and the purpose of the skills that house them?
- 23.7 As individuals and communities, we seem to fail to achieve the very best for both because of our obsessive compulsion in achieving predictable consistency ahead of differential completeness. The latter reflecting social and genetical originality. The former simply the need to provide confines for purposes of practicability and safety.
- 23.8 Most of us trust and pay homage to a God we know not from where. Yet for convenience or whatever, we maintain logic reigns supreme. Something surely seems wrong here?

24 Virtue

- 24.2 We all need to regularly practise intercourse – with nothing more contentious than virtue.
- 24.3 Hold tight to your own values, with your own dreams. No one else will.
- 24.4 Unpaid partners for a better future now being sought.
- 24.5 One can only say they have made it when time is no longer of the essence.
- 24.6 Owners of virtue do not see it in themselves.
- 24.7 Self sacrifice is not virtuous. Why? Because there is at least one loser, with any benefits immeasurable; at least in the eyes of the sacrificee. Win plus win are the fundamental components of true virtuosity, not martyrdom.
- 24.8 Virtue is being able to both give and receive a positive stroke without talking about it.
- 24.9 If churches are the halls of widely recognisable virtue, why aren't the packed to overflowing not only on Sunday; but every morning and evening of the week as well.
- 24.10 Owners of greatest virtue are most usually found nearest to all that is close to mother earth – including simple flesh despoiling grit.

25 Morality

- 25.1 Genuine caring in thoughts and action equate to the only form of one hundred percent morality.
- 25.2 In these times trying to work and live to some sort of moral code is like facing a double edged sword. You're damned as being weak if you try to practice forgiveness and charity and conversely, a ruthless bastard if you play exactly to the expectations of the fundamentalists and rationalists.
- 25.3 Today virtuous penitence is inaudible.
- 25.4 Hardship and excellence go hand in hand. They set a moral standard.
- 25.5 Morality is excellence – whatever excellence is.
- 25.6 Acting with no prior intention to hurt anyone is the only measurable component of real morality.
- 25.7 As espoused by the manipulative antics of some so called 'wise' within our society; morality as both a notion and living expression are irrelevant and dead. Their own and their predecessors' hypocrisy, has ensured this.
- 25.8 Kill a snake before it kills you! Modern day morality at work.

26 Fear

- 26.1 Because our most dangerous foes, apprehension and fear, dwell within; it makes little difference if our houses are made of straw, sticks or bricks if we can't manage their unrelenting attempts to erode.
- 26.2 When you think about it, we can all with will, safely ride objects of fear; rather than allow ourselves to be hunted and devoured by them.
- 26.3 Fear of vagaries is both normal and healthy so it is said. This explains why such widespread and ever growing consternation exists amongst the majority of inhabitants of freelance market driven economies like our own. It is bound to get worse, bringing with it whatever that means.
- 26.4 Promiscuity can be seen as a physical reflection of one's basic insecurity with themselves, together with a vague associated hope on their part, such activity will create new cornerstones for future all round betterment. The fallacious nature of this belief is reflected in the multitude of parties' only too willing to introduce rubber and sticky to the situation, in expression and in full consideration of, their own short term insecure ends.
- 26.5 Peace has its origins in fear. Retribution, or any claimed threat thereof that promises to hinder order; is a very powerful club indeed.

27 Violence

- 27.1 Suffering is cruel elongation of pain. The torturer if unchecked, becomes the ultimate destroyer through persistency.
- 27.2 Stress within and about the hunt is exhilarating, exciting and most usually productive; unless you're amongst those ill prepared, and the target of hot pursuit.
- 27.3 Ego in full flight is a sheer delight for its owner – the stuff countries go to war over on behalf of their multitudinous owners.
- 27.4 Regrettably, for some excusable ignorance is only exceeded by unpardonable vindictiveness.
- 27.5 Lawlessness is politically referred to as anarchy. What best describes ourselves and our evolved species considering its checkered history therefore, is 'anarchical'.
- 27.6 Genes reflect but one sector of our adulthood. Childhood bashings also contribute to adulthood – often in a re-mirrored, unchangeable; criminal way.
- 27.7 Words are beautiful. How they are said and put together make them interesting. Some persuasively, some not so; some in between. Would we be unadulterated cannibalistic barbarians, without both words, and the skills; to string them together?
- 27.8 Rape is an inexcusable use of power, and or influence; driven by a strongly inherent primeval force buried deeply inside all of us. Male and female! Society applauds, mutually agreed, copulative lust. There is a mere fine line between the two, despite perhaps identical originating motors. Is there any wonder some get confused?
- 27.9 Violence in various forms has been, and remains, a natural part of life. The only reason we don't perceive it as being widespread as it really is rests in the fact we have now well learnt to so neatly dress it up differently.
- 27.10 It is better to release anger through controlled mashed humour, than destructible rage.

28 Science

- 28.1 Of all the phenomena of this world, including that which we are aware but don't understand, the human mind is only one small part.
- 28.2 Can science be trusted, when on its own admission, it approaches both phenomena and technology with ever changing concepts and theories?
- 28.3 Science, as confusingly as religion once did, has become yet another nebulous cornerstone of more contemporary existence.
- 28.4 Science is based on assumptions of an open ended type. Valid one moment, but always on a journey towards truth – as we all know, a never ending one at that.
- 28.5 If there is an Ultimate Reality, it is not likely we will ever come close to knowing fully about it whilst we are in mortal form because our five senses can only measure and observe material science – ultimately implying everything: including why the universe, with us within it, are here at all.
- 28.6 Reality can never be even momentarily grasped because what is seeking to grasp it cannot in itself be held.
- 28.7 Academic disciplines are fragmented slices of some largely unknown and ever changing whole we claim wholeheartedly to largely or fully understand, then proceed to build our day to day existence around: only to discover sometimes sooner than later, the extreme thinness of each slice – to our collective and individual detriment.
- 28.8 Mere living is the practical implementation of the most complex science of all.
- 28.9 Hard science, with those that work within it, deserve our total praise. Respect? Not universally. We all know some demonstrable rogue reasons for that and furthermore, they can at a mere flick, wipe us all off the face of the earth if they and their very few masters so choose; with just cause or not.

29. Philosophy

- 29.1 No creature was created single in God's world, otherwise Adam would have no consciousness of his own existence.
- 29.2 To some the world is inducible – despite the astounding variety of interpretations the human animal contradicts one another with as being actual fact.
- 29.3 If we so choose, we can all live in a mysterious but gratifying world in which desires remain nameless; because by making demands upon them they become separated from the essential act of living.
- 29.4 We live in a symbolic universe of dissembling nature; with its earthly occupants readily embodying its contradictions.
- 29.5 Open secrets are a stage for all aware – with a continence of watching and listening to enrich and embellish along the way.
- 29.6 Whilst the future may hold unimaginable nightmares, our present is still capable of significant and pleasurable, every day miracles.
- 29.7 Nothing takes place on earth which is not reflected in the special kinship mother earth has with us.
- 29.8 The church, over time, has created beyond the wildest dream of metaphysics, beings existing without deeds and speech; mute and invisible sinners (*none religiosity of 'taboo' subjects*).
- 29.9 As onlookers to outsiders' relationships, we can no matter how well briefed, merely suspect their entire story. Such is the depth and intensity of real life.
- 29.10 The present only should be lived for; with an eye only for tomorrow. The arrival of each new yesterday provides necessary elements of hope and faith, for the joyful enrichment of both.
- 29.11 Because each thought creates its own electrical energy, as does associated performance originating from that thought; death can be seen to be no more than a state of suspension of their originator's thoughts (i.e.) as a decadent earthly body is replaced by a total regrouping, for accountability; of all that which has preceded it, for a new mindful tomorrow.
- 29.12 Education perpetrates supposed facts, concepts, ideas and values into either virgin minds, or the minds of those agents whom have already contributed their own fair share of fallibility to the never ending, often conflicting; merry go round: and continue to do so in a multitude of different forums.

- 29.13 It seems fair to say, that in all probability, the very most we know about ourselves within the spectrum of total knowledge availability as mature adults; we know no more than fifty percent. Twenty five percent perhaps, that we are able and willing to share with others; and a further twenty five percent may be, for what ever reason, we elect to keep strictly to ourselves for non sharing. The remaining fifty percent can be sub-divided into say two twenty five percent components. One component is that knowledge others have about us we are not aware of ourselves; and the other is that which we don't know, combined with that we were never capable of knowing. Surely, if agreed, a sobering message for all those with ever blooming egos?
- 29.14 Some argue, perhaps rightfully, it is possible to be both visually alive and at the same time, apparently dead. Perhaps they mean with such people that they have missed everything that life itself so aptly demonstrates is important, in lieu of more baseless pursuits.
- 29.15 Every moment is precious. If in doubt simply read the volume of death notices in each daily metropolitan newspaper.
- 29.16 'Meaning' is as abstract and beyond us as any notion of a sensually identifiable God. Because it is so unquantifiable, it should be left in the same basket – a great pleasure to tinker with, but best left within the immediate realms of its more perfect partner.
- 29.17 Our senses render us the capacity to make assessments/judgments for our own well being, complete undoing; or something in between. That in between is more commonly known as mediocrity for the purposes of safety: a position with which prolonged exposure to, causes the same senses to die; or at best, wilt to a shadow of their former selves.
- 29.18 Middle age creates its own self-generated infliction. The conscious mind, together with the frame and all its compacted contents, are almost without warning; far more noticeable. They recognise their own more fragile existence. They talk to each other about their mutual demise, but can do little about the sub conscious of their own whose now, almost exclusively, dictate final terms of trade. It was once not quite like that way when brawn, fairness and fantasy seemed once to exclusively prevail. This ever increasing compelling evidence of mortality engenders its own even more radical agenda; such as what is next, what is beyond that next and so on. Guilt from times pass start to re emerge. The need for new love is not uncommon. Perhaps new loves. Resentment of long past lost opportunities flourish, as does the possibility of future loneliness because of friendships that have never been taken too seriously. Perhaps this is all too unfair a stereotype to apply. Maybe the majority have without notice, found abounding replacement wisdom to ignite great fires of new hope and expectation for an even better and greater future? Only they know the answer as to whether this period is the start of a beautiful new beginning – or not.

29.19 Opposites do attract. Wish and fear for example, are close neighbours.

29.20 Reality is wrong if determined only by the senses which can merely determine how things seem - not as they really are. Only commonly accepted human socialisation turns what was once naïve individual perceptions of little practical value into believable realism. Socialisation means in this instance, inter generational education and demonstration from those already conditioned into one form or another of distortedness of thought and/or action. No mortals' notion or act of performance has ever been, or is, pure.

It follows therefore, objects, ideas and values are not of the mind itself, but from and of the basis and manner they have been ongoingly presented to us as being either fact or believable supposition.

If this is the case, reality at all levels is not only ever changing; there are no limits to the depth and width of those changes. What then becomes of the notion of logic – something we all strive to maintain for social appearances sake, if nothing else?

Logical 'realness' hints as being somewhat of a farce, but as we know no other way to define sensual experiences and thereafter sensibly act upon them, we are all compelled to live in somewhat of a perpetual illusion – until the beginning of the fourth dimension at least.

Perhaps after all, that is reality?

29.21 Hold your breath just for a second. Take a single step backwards. Reflect upon where you have just been, and beyond that as well. Notice the tread marks are far less crisp than they once used to be, and what's worse, tyre changes have become increasingly less frequent too. Perhaps a complete change of self is required, not just tyres. Otherwise, soon retreading with baldness will become the only option as new treads are reserved only for the youthful spirited, or more energetic young at heart.

30. Literature Quotes (not my own)

- 30.1 Our reading, much like our sexuality, is multi faceted and fluid.
- 30.2 The strength of some literature lies within the subversive possibilities of its own language usage, style and character.
- 30.3 Literature addressed to, or about, segregated groups; seems to go through stages: apologetic, self-descriptive, instructive, political, testimonial, iconoclastic and outrageous.
- 30.4 Humanity is degraded when, whether by design or otherwise, exclusions of any subject from literature occurs. Without literary freedom of openness; prejudice, together with those a victim thereof, lasts forever.
- 30.5 We all wish a good story to be an infinite story because of the mystery it presents in leading to ever new adventurous parts of the forest of life.
- 30.6 The aim of literature is to create a strange object covered in fur which breaks your heart. (Donald Barthelme)
- 30.7 True tragedy is trivialised, or is grossly distracted by, the use of metaphors in literature.
- 30.8 Commonality of experience and characters allow reader identification with literature with deviations within this written commonality being only an adventurous excursion from the central thrust of the work.
- 30.9 Love, honour, pity, pride, compassion, sacrifice – one of the necessities of any successful story!
- 30.10 Beyond us is part of all; including ourselves, the earth, rocks and all else around which we walk, stalk and play. Like leaves on the trees in the forest and grass in the fields, his/her/its dimensional scope is singularly and multitudinously apparent even if we choose not to, or can't see it. Let's render gratitude for our involvement in at least that one miracle. (JF)
- 30.11 Elitist views held by lawyers, doctors, nuclear scientists, biologists and the like; could well lead them to respectively believe their particular discipline of learning and activity ranged supreme amongst all others. In real life terms if they think that way, they would be all well off the mark. Metaphysicians and politicians lead the pack in terms of both their historical and present day ability to permanently influence the human condition. In that order too! (JF)

JF continued this page...

- 30.12 Business, it is widely believed, is to foster and control joint or multi party interaction; ostensibly to prevent violence and disharmony amongst those desirous of profitable trade. Over centuries history has shown it has failed to provide long term orderliness and predictability for either its owners or those that depend on it for their own life style well-being. Unceasing channels of both real and metaphorical blood continues to flow, with occasional huge torrents flooding both city streets and country fields.
- 30.13 Our body is a mere shell, with its contents feeding principally the needs of the brain. That brain is also a mind with a still somewhat mysterious component known as the subconscious providing the fuel of will and hope for the total vehicle to continue to remain and operate as a singular living entity. Through somewhat elementary reductionism therefore, could it be said our bodies are, as often speculated, purely a physical extension of our minds for support system purposes only; propelling it towards to some obscure, higher realm destination? Is the subconscious component of that same mind the often speculated soul after all?
- 30.14 Birth is a transfer from short term dependency; to a duplicitous independent one, of quite untamed morality, for and against, itself and others. Nothing more or nothing less in real terms. Disbelief? Just think about it in the context of what you see and hear around you throughout the whole of your own lifetime; including with yourself, if you're honest.
- 30.15 Life can be likened to being on board a very large majestic cruise liner. Pleasures abound everywhere if they are so sought, as are angst's if rendered the scope to similarly intrude. Immaturity, passion, neglect, perpetual searching for excitement and adventure, and others; all ensure this. So complete freedom to access the ship and all its seemingly, dark or mysterious corridors are ours; as is our ability to assess the nobility, or otherwise, of all fellow travelers and other life creatures. Within this apparent limitless opportunity, however, there is but two seemingly non-negotiable exclusions. Both the engine room and the wheelhouse controlling rudder functions are, by architectural design, well out of bounds to all except a ruthlessly persistent, select few. Even they can't unduly influence the massive machines of propulsion and control. Powerful motors and unseen systems keep whirling away. The guiding hands of the chief engineer and originating architect, are no where to be found. The cruise carries on, even when we are beyond remains.

31. Writers quotes all this page...

- 31.1 Every writer creates their own precursors.
- 31.2 Some write to apologetically address what is perceived within and therefore subjectivity, Mr. & Mrs. Average citizen try to justify and atone for the fact, that they the writers, are indeed not average at all. How many Mr. & Mrs. Averages are foolish enough to choose the vagueness of such an undertaking for their livelihood? Maybe a greater immeasurable need is at work.
- 31.3 Those writers that consciously address enlightened reading through their works can afford to unabashedly celebrate their full vitality and sense of purpose; by more reckless speaking through the written word.
- 31.4 In a hypocritical society, it is not unusual for writers to present to their readers an outcast's vision of the world.
- 31.5 Good writers want to be known simply as writers of the human conditions.
- 31.6 Impressions of lasting quality are rendered more precisely from a narrator of skill.
- 31.7 In writing it is not the conscious story that counts, but the unconscious one: the one which is one's own story.
- 31.8 Writers have a duty to turn upside down the comfortable stories which society invents to explain its own ghosts.

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