



The Cross and The Lotus Journal

Fall Edition

September 2002, Vol. 3 No. 3

Dear Friends,

Each day we receive the news through print, radio and television. We get news from friends and family about difficulties gone through by others. The news of the day is filled with the tensions from around the world. The stakes are high, with war and destruction an ever-present possibility. There are those who search the world over for news, the worse news the better! What can be made of such news coming daily to our door and begging for entry? As spiritual aspirants, how are we to react?

Saints and sages have emphasized the importance of having a "right relationship" with the world. This relationship recognizes the importance of knowing that Spiritual Nature stands preminent over the physical world. Not only that, but we learn from the scriptures that God is orchestrating all events. Not only is God the greater power, He is the *only* power that animates all creation. How could it be otherwise? The very definition of the word God is that He is first, without a second.

How do we then square what we believe to be a benevolent Creator with the evidence of cruelty, dishonesty and destructiveness of not only mankind, but in all creation? The answer lies within each of us if we dive deep into our own nature, for we will find that God is the source of what we call the "self." Through penetration of the various layers of the mind we will uncover a source of Divine inspiration that sustains us throughout all existence. Yet we know that in the past we have acted in direct opposition to our Divine Nature, which includes universal compassion and love.

The notion of separation from our Divine Nature is the causal factor for acting in other than Divine ways. Only by believing we are separate from others could we act in such a way that would cause them pain or suffering. This mind set of separation makes us believe that we can benefit when others lose.

To establish ourselves in the oneness of Divine Consciousness is our first priority. If we fail to establish ourselves in this union our actions will inevitably stem from ignorance. This action will lead to further darkness. Sri Yukteswar said, "Human conduct is ever unreliable until man is anchored in the Divine." Good intentions alone cannot pro-

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Mother Hamilton

The Magnificent Obsession

A Talk Given by Mother Hamilton
in Portland, Oregon
on October 27, 1960

Reading: "The Light of Lights" by Swami Ramdas

I'd like to read to you tonight something written by Swami Ramdas entitled "The Light of Lights."

When the heart becomes pure and is awakened to the consciousness of the Divine, the entire human vehicle reflects His light in all its constituents. The body, mind, and senses then are permeated with this light. The person so blessed becomes truly a luminous expression of God. The spiritual radiance that goes out from him or her is cool, like the rays of the moon, and it elevates and heals the mentally diseased souls who come in contact with it. God reveals Himself in all His splendor in the heart of such a great one.

How does a person attain to this transcendent light and joy? The one and the only way is self surrender born of complete absence of egoism. By this alone, the Divine power and glory are made manifest in a human being. The heart is really a temple of God when one recog-

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nizes this and is aware of it. A person reveals his or her inner power and glory when the intellect is illumined with the light of God. The heart responds to the eternal symphony of love, and the physical body pours out spontaneously energy, translating itself into Divine action. The person is now no longer egoistic in his or her outlook and activity but is a vibrant instrument of the Divine, living and moving for the uplift and welfare of the world. The influence such a person casts over humanity and all creation is wonderful.

God is light and joy. God is love and wisdom. God is the supreme power that controls all the world. Such a God dwells in the hearts of us all. To realize Him is the supreme purpose and the goal of life. All else is of no importance or avail. God is a reality. He is our intimate friend. It is by constant association with Him that we experience our Oneness with Him. We start to reach Him as separate from Him, but ultimately the fusion between us and Him becomes so complete that duality disappears and we stand revealed as He himself. Confusing diversity then gives place to absolute unity.

So long as we feel apart from Him, our life is beset with many an obstruction, and we are subject to all kinds of cramping and unhappy vicissitudes. But when life is released from the bondage of its own making, manifesting its inherent spiritual power, light and grace, then it comes to its own and enjoys everlasting peace and bliss. The life becomes a light to itself and to all others. It is self revealed, and the magnificence of it is past thought and expression. May such a light spread all over the world, and may humanity be blessed with the vision of it, and love and harmony prevail upon the earth.

Reading: Matthew 6:1-22

I'd also like to read to you this evening a part of Chapter 6 of St. Matthew.

Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.

Therefore, when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of [a] sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face;

That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Now, there's tremendous meat in this chapter.

Magnificent Obsession

Quite a few years ago, someone wrote a book called *The Magnificent Obsession*. And in this book it was brought forth that the man who was the hero of the story was quite wealthy, and he did a great many things for different people. He saw to their needs. He gave them money. But in each single case he made one stipulation, and that is that they never reveal that he had helped them and never return the money.

Now, there is a reason for this. Because if you want your alms to be known before men, then truly you have your reward. But if you do all of these things, serving the children of God as He directs you through your mind, through your heart, through your soul, then you build up power within yourself. Now, this man knew that if the people whom he helped were to tell what he had done for them, he would lose this power of good which he had stored up within his own soul. And so these things he wanted to do in secret so that his Father would reward him in secret.

And this is the way all of us should do. Whatever we do for anyone, we should do these things because it is a privilege to do them. Because it—truly, it is not we who have given, but God who has given by directing us through our hearts and through our minds to give those who are in need. And so we should not take away the glory and the power that they have built up in so doing, but we should keep it, bless them, and also ourselves follow that example. This must always be.

And when we pray, we should not pray to be seen of men, but rather in the secret closet of our own hearts. And again, in the Christian Bible we see that here is Christian yoga because it says to pray in the secret closet. And so we go within the temple of our own souls. We are given the method for meditating upon God. We are given the techniques for concentration and for breath control so that we might commune with our Father which art in heaven.

Lord's Prayer Was Originally a Personal Prayer

When I was in India, as you know, I went through many tremendous spiritual experiences. And one thing stands out in my mind almost above all others. And that is that when God was revealing many wonderful things to me, He told me that the Lord's Prayer was not originally as it was given in the Bible today, but rather it was given as a personal prayer:

My Father which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth,
as it is in heaven.

Give *me* this day *my* daily bread.

And forgive me my transgressions, as I forgive
those who have transgressed against me.

And lead me not into temptation,
but deliver me from all evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.

And immediately I saw the wisdom of this. Because when we pray, "Our Father which art in heaven, give us this day our daily bread," immediately our mind is outside of ourselves because we are aware of all of the others who are praying to the Father. But if we say, "My Father which art in heaven," if we have our eyes closed and our attention focused at the point of Christ Consciousness, immediately we are taken in-

ward into the heaven of our own being, where it is said that God resides. He is in our hearts, and He is on the throne of our consciousness, and there is where we must go to find Him. So if this be so, then this must be a personal prayer to God.

Explanation of Inner Meaning of Lord's Prayer

And we must praise His Name, glorify His Name. It is said by the Hindu people today, the Indian people, that in this which they still claim is the age of Kali Yuga, that the chanting of the Name of God is the simplest and most effective way to attain God Realization, that over and over and over again we should chant His Holy Name. "**Hallowed be thy Name.**"

And then we say to God, "**Thy kingdom come.**" We want the kingdom of God to come to us. We want to be aware of the realization of this kingdom within ourselves because we know, if we can once find this kingdom within ourselves, we will have all of the peace and the wonder and the beauty and the glory that is described by all the saints since the beginning of time.

"**Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.**" Now, heaven is here [indicates center of forehead]. This is the mountain of our own being. And this is the place that it speaks of so frequently in the Bible when it said Christ went up into the mountain to pray. Because there is heaven. There he knew he could commune with God, with his Father. And it should be *in* the earth of our own being because until such time as there is God Realization, until such time as we have become One with this wonderful peace and light and glory within ourselves, then truly we are of the earth. And we have all of the tendencies of the earth. The five senses and the ten qualities of the mind are in constant possession of our being, and we are like puppets on a string. We are not masters in control of ourselves.

And then it says, "**Give us this day our daily bread.**" Now, we think of this purely in the sense of the food that we put into our mouths to nourish our bodies. But it is said also in the Bible that "man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word which issueth forth from the mouth of God."

Now, the yogis tell us that the medulla, which is back here [indicates base of occiput], is the mouth of God because that is the place where the Life Force enters the body. And it goes first to the brain, down through the spine; from all the spinal centers it nourishes the various parts of the body over which those spinal centers have control.

True Manna Descends from the Clastrum

And when finally we have again attained this Oneness with God, when we can (like we discussed a few weeks ago) have the union between matter and Spirit, or nature and Spirit, within ourselves, through putting the tongue up in back of the nasal passage and intercepting this sacred fluid which

comes down from the claustrum, or the sacred cloister, right under the brain (this is the true manna from heaven)—"Give me this day my daily bread."

"And forgive me my transgressions, as I forgive those who have transgressed against me." You know, after the Christ had arisen from the dead, he was on earth for forty days it is said in the Acts of the Apostles, and he appeared to many of the Disciples. And finally he came to the place where they sat, where they had had the Last Supper. At first they didn't see him. And all of a sudden he was revealed to them in all of his glory. And they couldn't believe this, that he sat at the table, and he ate with them, and he supped with them, and he spoke with them. And he permitted Thomas Didymus to stick his hand in his side to make sure that he was there in flesh and blood.

And all of a sudden he said a very wonderful thing. He had been teaching these Disciples all of the time that he had been on earth going from town to town and village to village with the multitudes following him. He'd been teaching them all of the things of the Spirit, and still somehow they had not realized that here was one who was One with God himself, who had come upon the earth to uplift mankind so that there might be peace on earth, goodwill toward all men.

And now he was going to give them the supreme gift. He had sacrificed his life upon his own cross. He had crucified his human ego in order that all men might be saved from sin, that man himself, and all of the nations within himself which are his kingdom, might be lifted up from the earth and become One with the Father which art in heaven. So, now, having done all of this and arisen from the dead, he said to them, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Whose sins ye shall forgive, they shall be forgiven. Whose sins ye shall retain, they shall be retained." And this gift was given to all of the Disciples so that they might perform in his name all of the miracles which he himself had performed.

Because don't forget that he said, "All of these things that I do ye may do also. And even greater things than these that I do, ye may do." This was the promise of the Lord. And if we are to believe anything that he said, then we must believe every single thing.

Holy Ghost Is Aum, the Word, the Comforter.

So this power of the Holy Ghost is given to the one who goes all the way, the way of the cross, which is his own body, and crucifies his own egos (both the gross and the subtle ego), and after that the Holy Ghost comes to such a one. And this comes as a spirit, as the wind, and it brings revelations to you. And it gives you power within yourself to do for others, to pray for others, to heal, and to give benefit to all of those who are in need of help.

This is a tremendous gift which the Christ gave. And in tuning in with this, we are tuning in with God himself because this is the Word of God. The Word is Aum, or Amen

as the Christians say. And as this universal Aum goes all through the universe, and those who are truly in the Spirit, meditating in their temples, tune in on this, they are truly in tune with the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

This is the most marvelous feeling when you contact this Holy Ghost because it gives you peace, and it makes you feel at One with God, and it takes away all of your trouble.

It says also that the Christ said, "Come to me all ye who are heavy laden, and I shall give ye rest." If we will only lay our burdens upon the Lord, truly He will take them up and be grateful for them.

Instead of saying, "Lord, give me this, give me that," say, "Lord, I give Thee both my purity and my impurity. Lord, I give you both my wisdom and my ignorance. Lord, I give you both my sin and my perfection. Give me only devotion to Thee." This is what we should say to God in the sanctity of our own souls. We should commune with Him, have faith with Him, and we will truly find this heaven within our own being.

And then it says, "Deliver me from all evil. Deliver me from temptation." Well, this is really a very interesting thing. Why should God tempt us? I did not quote that just exactly right—"**...and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**" Now, here it says that there is a possibility that it is God himself who is leading us into temptation, which means that God is the sole doer in the universe, that without Him nothing happens, nothing at all. It is He who does all things.

The Hindus say that this is His Lila, His play. And this is the way that He does. He creates, He sustains, He changes and destroys. And in all of the forms that He himself takes, he plays all of these various parts on the stage of life. And this is a very fascinating thing, isn't it? Because truly, you see, it is a temptation not to forgive our fellow men.

"Judge not, lest ye be judged." What a terrific saying this is. And believe me, when you go through this experience of Armageddon at the heart center within your own body, within your own being, you will know what it means when it says, "Judge not, lest ye be judged," because for everything that you have ever said, thought or done about anybody or against anyone, you pay that price. You see, I know that because I have gone through that experience. And the price can be terrific.

And yet day by day we go through life thinking about all of the pleasures of the senses, of indulging in them, not counting the cost, not thinking of the day that is spoken of in the Bible when judgment will come to each individual soul as his consciousness is ready to receive it. We go on committing these sins.

Identify with God, Not Sin

And yet—you, know, Ramakrishna made a very profound statement. He said, "Someone gave me the Christian Bible

to read, and I could find nothing in it but reference to sin, sin." He said, "If a man says constantly, 'I am bound, I am bound,' certainly he shall be bound. If he says constantly, 'I am a sinner, I am a sinner,' certainly he will sin. But if he says, 'I and my Father are One,' then truly this shall be so."

Forgive Ourselves As Well As Others

So we should forgive ourselves for the sins which we have committed, as we have asked God to forgive us. We should forgive all those who have transgressed against us, and hope that they will forgive us for all that we have done.

Because the only thing that matters is that our hearts are pure, that we have kept our covenant with God. If a man doesn't have one other thing in this world, but he has the glory, the bliss, and the peace of God, if his conscience is clear, if he knows that he has done everything possible to be right with men, to serve God in men, and to be as he should be in this world, then nothing that anyone can say or do can affect him, or should, because God is with him. And "if God be with me, who can be against me?"

And if we do all of these things, it says, "**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.**" This is the promise, and it means what it says. If we will make the effort, then, like the Christ we can reject the shame of the cross, and the way of the cross, for the joy that we will truly receive within ourselves. This is true.

[To Be Continued in Next Issue]



David Branscomb, Peter, Larry & David

COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE

On August 15, Peter, Larry and I arrived at Cloud Mountain for the installation of the Babaji plaque. During my year of silence at Cloud Mountain I felt drawn to a heavily forested area on the hillside, just under Mist Haven Hall. The area had a strong vibration that attracted me, and while there I felt this would be a wonderful place for a meditation area. It was there an inner, ongoing dialogue with Babaji began. As a result, I felt inspired to locate a meditation site with a covered bench and a statue of Babaji. [Cont'd on next page.]



The Babaji Grotto [photo by Peter Schultz]



Commemorative Plaque



Statue of Babaji

I asked Peter if he would like to design and help build this site. He enthusiastically took up the task and involved Larry in the design and construction. Peter donated the materials, including the use of Port Orford Cedar, the rarest lumber in the world (using only fallen logs). It is some of the most beautiful and durable lumber available. With mathematical precision the plans were drawn up; the hand cut joints and original design were a delightful challenge for the two builders. Larry purchased the statue of Babaji from a store in Encinitas, California, named Mukunda where I had seen it on an earlier trip. Meanwhile I prepared the ground area, digging out the side of the hill and making a pathway. David Branscomb built the stone steps leading to the path. Finally the construction took place. It was a labor of love by all.

The site was completed by the time I left Cloud Mountain. The only thing left was a dedication plaque. It was not until this time, nearly a year later, that we could all assemble for the installation of the plaque. The installation brought back many wonderful memories and a flood of good feelings.

David told how retreatants "stumble" upon the meditation "grotto" and how it has grown to be a well-used site. One man came to know of Cloud Mountain through its web site. He drove there, feeling he just had to come. When he arrived he felt drawn to the Babaji Grotto. David found him there meditating. Upon inquiring how he came to be there, David strongly recommended he read the *Autobiography of A Yogi* to further understand why he was moved to be there!

We pray that this meditation grotto will continue to be an inspiration to all who are drawn to it. May Babaji's presence ever be in residence!

David

David's Letter - Continued from page 1

duce predictably good results. The human mind, with its limited intellect, insufficient information and wisdom is not reliable. Of course, until realization is reached we must act. But we must realize those actions, even stemming from the highest light we know, will be filled with error until we are fully realized.

Only when the mind is sufficiently purified will it be able to manifest the perfect Light of the Supreme Intelligence. Like a beautiful musical instrument played by an accomplished musician, the human instrument must surrender itself to the Master Musician: if the musical instrument resists the movement of a musician, then no music worth listening to will be forthcoming. How much more true then for the human instrument in the hands of the Divine? The human instrument requires total surrender to the Divine in order to know the full beauty of the expression of God. Without that surrender, nothing is possible.

In the ancient Vedic story, Hanuman, the perfectly surrendered devotee, focuses his mind on Rama, his personal form of God; when he does so all things become possible for him. Hanuman's perfect love and devotion for God makes him the most wonderful object of veneration. All over India Hanuman statues are seen. Four years ago, when I was traveling on the bus coming down from the Himalayas, I looked across a ravine and saw a Hanuman that must have been sixty feet tall, completely red colored, looking as if a large, upright simian was actually standing there. It was a breathtaking view, more magnificent perhaps at that time because I needed strength to endure the worldly vibrations as I descended from those sacred heights into the lower land with its cross-currents of humanity.

Were those city dwellers I was approaching at that time any less manifestations of God than the Himalayan heights I had been visiting? Even though that descent caused me almost unendurable agony, I cannot say it was so. The greater pain resulted from experiencing those vibrations as something other than God; my mind could not hold the fact that those vibrations were of God as well. On a human level this is very understandable. It would be akin to coming out of meditation to some loud raucous music that jars the soul. There are those environments that uplift the mind and the soul and make one feel in close communion with the Infinite. Other vibrations lower the mind and increase the feeling of separation. For the devotee this is a very real experience. But for the accomplished yogi, all will be seen as the manifestation of the Infinite Vibration.

To pierce the veil of duality and experience the underlying monotheistic Reality is not an easy thing to do. This rare knowledge has been handed down to us as the ideal attainment. At first we adhere to the goodness of life, its sattwic qualities. This helps to elevate and purify the mind. With continued, constant practice the mind becomes a perfect receptor to the Divine Vision. Then we may see that this world is an expression of God, His Lila or play.

From a sattwic point of view we may use the news of the world as a prompting to pray for all those affected. The news can also spur us on to act according our highest Light to effect some good in the world. When we attain that highest consciousness we will hold the world in the Light of our illu-

mined Consciousness, acting as a blessing to all. We will also know that this world is a play of God, a play of light and dark. It will be forever a movement from light to shadow and back again. The real question to be answered by each one is, "Am I attuned to the Light within?" If we can say yes, then we are where we should be. If we cannot answer in the affirmative, then we have our work clearly before us: to heal the schism that divides self from Self.

You live in an uncertain world where change is the rule. Only by standing on the rock of Divine Realization will you find the solid ground upon which to act. When you encounter the vagaries of the world, let them always turn your mind within. Ask yourself, "Am I right with God?" Then every hit from the world makes you more focused on the Divine within. As a result your mind is purified, your actions stem from the purity of wisdom and you become a real blessing to this world.

David

Kriya In Prince Rupert



The June Solstice of this year was witness to a Kriya Initiation in Prince Rupert, B.C. The week was full of the teaching of the ancient yogic science culminating in the Kriya Yoga Initiation. What joy and power of God was felt by all! Truly, to find one's path and commit oneself to it is the greatest gift we can receive in this life.



Center Leader Connie Meisner and David

Why one hears the call and another does not is a great mystery in life. Jesus said, "And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice." Those that hear and know are indeed blessed. It was my greatest fortune to hear the "voice" of my Guru and follow her. All those who participated are following in the footsteps of some of the greatest spiritual masters this world has known. This path is of a most demanding nature, but what joy of discovery awaits those who persevere to the end! Initiation is a challenge of our nature to see what we are made of. God and the Masters will certainly bless all those making the effort to "live the life."

Prayer from Master

*Beloved In-Dwelling Presence
My part of God*

*You see to it for me that this problem
[and name it, whatever it is]*

*Is taken care of in complete harmony,
wisdom and justice*

For the highest good of all concerned.

[From a talk given by Mother in Seattle 9/29/76. Mother introduced it by saying: "A mantra or a little prayer that Master gave me many, many years ago when I was in trouble once, and he said, 'Say this constantly:'"]

Victoria's New Center Leaders

Pat Downey has been Center Leader for Mother's Victoria group since the 1970s. Pat and Jan have graciously opened their home and served Mother for many years. Recently, Pat asked John and Dianne Durkin to assume the role of Center Leaders in his place. John and Dianne have been initiates of Mother since the early 1970s. They are now holding services at their home in Victoria every Sunday evening. May their home be a Light to all who enter, and a source of Peace and Inspiration for their entire community.

[Contact us to get information for time and location.]

Calendar of Events

Sept.	7	Rosh Hashanah
	14	Family Day - Seattle
	20-22	Gathering - Whidbey Island
	16	Yom Kippur
	26	Mahasamadhi of Lahiri Mahasaya
	30	Lahiri Mahasaya's Birthday
Oct.	6	Mataji's Jayanthi (Birthday)
	12	Family Day - Sunnyside
	13	Thanksgiving (Canada)
Nov.	9	Family Day (Location TBA)
	12	Swami Satchidananda's Birthday
	22-23	Silent Retreat - Whidbey Island
	28	Thanksgiving
	30	Hanukkah
Dec	14	Family Day (Location TBA)
	22	Christmas Service - Seattle
	25	Christmas Day
		Mother Hamilton's Birthday
	27	Swami Ramdas Sannyas Day
	31	New Year's Eve Service

Front Cover Photo: Mother at Anandashram, 1977

Journal Editor: Rev. Larry Koler

Only that which is opposite of the "I" of ego consciousness will lead to the revelation of the Self. Action performed without any sense of doership is Karma Yoga. Eradication of the idea of separation from God is Jnani Yoga. Dissolution of the lover into the sea of Love is Bhakti Yoga. Complete surrender of the self into the pranic-breath is Raja Yoga.

Yogacharya David Hickenbottom, August, 2002

Through the transparency of my deepest meditation, I will receive the Light of the Omnipresent Father fully passing through me; and I shall be a son of God even as Jesus was, by receiving God fully, through His sacred, meditation-expanded Consciousness.

*Paramhansa
Yogananda*



Your life has to be lived not for yourself, but for the sake of all those with whom God has ordained you should come in contact from time to time. The purpose of life is to take delight in giving peace and joy to others. This you can do in every circumstance and condition of life. Life means service. The true joy of service is felt only when you make it a spontaneous flow from the fountain of your immortal existence. Hence, self-surrender has been held forth as the means for the realization of your immortal nature and the consequent blissful activity.

Swami Ramdas

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Ruby & Roxy Schultz

Aaron Bournstein

We found this note in Aaron's apartment, handwritten by him in his last days. We think it was one of the last things he ever wrote:

*We can't know why some things happen,
But we can know that love and beautiful
memories outlast the pain of grief
And we can know that there is a place
inside the heart*

*Where love lives always and nothing beautiful
can ever be forgotten.*

*If we ever learn anything in this life it is that
nothing beautiful in this world
is ever really lost.*

Those we cherish will always live on in memory.

[This was sent to us by Peter and Laura Schultz. Aaron was Laura Schultz's father, who left his body on June 22, 2002, 8:00 p.m. (the exact time of the Kriya Initiation in Prince Rupert) after bravely fighting cancer. He will be missed by all who knew him. This writing reflects the Light of his soul.]