

The Cosmic Dream

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"The Cosmic Dream" is the subject this morning.

The very title suggests that this creation is in the nature of a dream, or, as the Master used to say, "a motion picture." In our own dream within, we can create all things, can we not? As you lay down at night, and you take your attention away from this outward living, turn it inward, and if you will practice a little, you can consciously dream.

Now, what happens when you consciously dream? You are aware of the Astral Light within you passing through the little films in the subconsciousness, producing your dream. Now, in that dream, you can taste, and smell, and touch, and feel, and know, and do all manner of things. And while you're in that dream it's real, is it not? Those who have been chased by snakes will attest to the fact that it is real. At least, it seems so while you're in it. And so it is, while you're in it, it is real. But when you break the dream, what do you have? What is left? Your own consciousness, that's all.

And so, that dream, which was so real, was none other than the play of your own consciousness as the Light, the Astral Light within you, the Spiritual Light, through the films of your own subconscious mind producing the light and shadow of your dream. It is real while you're in it. But when you break it, realize you have just one thing left: your own consciousness, nothing else.

And so, the Cosmic Dream is like that. As the Master said, "Remember two illustrations: The dream consciousness, plus the motion picture." And so, the Cosmic Dream is none other than the play of the Cosmic Light through the films, which God has gathered together, films of ages, to portray ages of creation. And [that] One Great Light is flowing through the lens, projecting this motion picture – this Cosmic Dream. And while we're in it, I'm sure it is real. But, when you break this dream, and know yourself not as this Cosmic Dream Consciousness, but as the Oneness with the Unity of God within, when you wake up in God, then you will realize that it is simply His One Eternal Substance, vibrating, producing Light, and from that Light, passing through the Great Lens of the Infinite, producing this light and shadow of this Cosmic Dream.

Now, you will not be able to realize that, until you wake up from this Dream into the One Consciousness of God. Just as you wake up from your own dream and find it was none other than the play of your own consciousness. That's why the Master says, "Every day, make the contact with God. And through God contact, you will realize you are one with His Light and Love, which is the Sole Cause of all things." There cannot be two things. God Alone is. "Thou shalt have no other Gods but (*sic*) me.¹" God Alone is. We must know that Consciousness. We must realize that it is our own consciousness, attached to this Cosmic Dream.

If we can break that attachment, and attain an expansion of consciousness to the Presence of God throughout all creation, in all things, then waking up in that Consciousness, we will know this Cosmic Dream to be a motion picture of the Eternal Substance of God – One Consciousness. God Alone is. And through the techniques, which the Master has left us, if we follow regularly, and really want God, attain contact with Him, we will know these things as real and true.

Underlying this Cosmic Dream is its Cause. It is called, it is known as the noumena – the underlying truth. It is none other, as I have said, than God's Great Consciousness, plus the Power of His Consciousness – the Eternal Light. And from that Eternal Light is projected all things. In Revelation, 4th Chapter, there you will find the answer. Of course, we have not time this morning to go into it. But, there you will find, if you meditate and you have the Power of the Intuition of the Soul, you will see, it speaks about the Great Light of God passing through the Lens, projecting this Cosmic Dream.

And so, we must know the underlying noumena of this phenomenal Cosmic Dream. And the underlying noumena, realize, is God's Consciousness and His Great Light. The Unity of Consciousness behind this duality of this Cosmic Dream, which seems so real when we're in it, is what we must know. Knowing that, we will understand the Cosmic Dream. Without that, we can know in a theoretical way, but until, through God contact, we realize that our own consciousness is none other than His Consciousness, as the Master has said, "There is no difference..." it is without a question of a doubt in your own consciousness of Bliss, which you feel in meditation. And when you're calm, beyond this Cosmic Dream is none other than God's Consciousness. And so, we have it right within us. And that's why the Master, coming at this time, has done so much. He has left the ways and the means for each one of us, if we will, to

¹ Exodus 20:3, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

know the Eternal part of us. Knowing that, we will understand the Cosmic Dream.

Now, just for a moment, a word or two about the Hindu philosophy concerning the Cosmos. We have to know a little about that to understand, even in a theoretical way, about the Cosmic Dream. There is One Spirit; as I have said, there cannot be two. There's one God, and He is produced, is producing, has produced, is sustaining, all things. There is One Spirit. Then we read in Genesis, "...Spirit moved..."² It is that movement of Spirit, movement of the One Eternal Substance, which has produced all things. "...the Spirit of God moved..." And when the Spirit moved, three were produced, as you know: God the Father, the Vibration of His Consciousness as the Holy Vibration; Holy Ghost, if you'd like to call it that; and God the Father's Consciousness in the vibration as the Only Begotten Son, the Christ Consciousness.

Now, from that Holy Vibration was produced light. God made light, doesn't it say in Genesis?³ And from that light, from that beam, all things are produced. Just like in the motion picture – light and shadow. God created light, and from that light all things have been produced. Just like the beam of the motion picture comes and hits the screen, and you see the light and shadow, and we add the necessary senses of taste, touch, and smell, and hearing. As Master used to say, "If they could project, have some machine to give out an odor as the scene went on, it would be more realistic than it is."

And so, that is just what goes on from the Beam, the Booth of Eternity, of which Master speaks. From that Beam is thrown a Beam of Light through the films, which God has assembled together: the pageant of ages.⁴ Imagine the immensity of God's Power, passing through those films, which He has assembled, producing creation – world upon world upon world. Why? What agency? By the agency of Light. But in that Light is God's Intelligence.

Science attests to this. Science attests that all things come from light. Science attests that all matter passes first into energy and finally into light. We read the scientists; they all say the same thing. Matter resolves into electromagnetic force,

² Genesis 1:2, "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."

³ Genesis 1:3, "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."

⁴ Autobiography of a Yogi, by Paramhansa Yogananda, Original Release 1946, Chapter 30 "The lifelike images of the motion picture illustrate many truths concerning creation. The Cosmic Director has written His own plays, and assembled the tremendous casts for the pageant of the centuries."

and that force changes into light. And even the heavy metals, through the electron microscope have been shown to be vibrating light. This Light, spoken of in Genesis: God created light.⁵ And these heavy metals are seen to be vibrating specks of light. Isn't that wonderful? Think of it. Think of the miracle. That's the greatest miracle – the miracle of Light. How it can produce this world, which we see, and this solidity, and everything. That's the miracle of God. But science is showing that all things resolve into light.

If you take the hydrogen atom, with its one proton and one electron, and you annihilate it. What do you have? One photon of light. Now, the yogis knew that ages ago. They meditated and found those things out. Now, science is coming along and saying, "everything is becoming light." Every, all matter, changes into energy – finally into light. And now, one gentleman from Harvard, Professor Oldenburg, Professor Otto Oldenburg from Harvard; he has built up from electromagnetic force: matter. He has changed the gamma rays into positrons. And so, you see, even science is now saying that matter resolves into energy and light. And from light all things come; through first, electromagnetic force, and then matter itself.

And so, these things are now being shown in a scientific way. Science can tell you all about how this Cosmic Dream functions. But realize, that the Cosmic Dream has been created and the function established. Science can tell you all about those laws of this Cosmic Dream – laws of matter, and all those things – but science cannot tell you about He who frames the Dream. He, they cannot, science cannot tell you about the Sole Doer. That's the key. The laws of science are wonderful, but realize the Cosmic Dream has been created and is functioning. By whom? Who created it? Who sustains it? The Framers of the Dream – the Sole Doer.

Science cannot tell you about God. How is that known? That is known through your own Power of Intuition, the Soul's Power within. Not through, as I said in our prayer, "not through sensation, mind, and intellect," but through the Power of God in each and every one of us – in our Soul – Intuition of the Soul. By that, you can know the Sole Doer of this Cosmic Dream. Knowing Him, as He knows He's dreaming, so will each and every devotee, His child, know that they are part of that Great Cosmic Dream of God.

⁵ Genesis 1:3

Our bodies are part of God's Cosmic Dream. When you go to sleep at night, in your own dream, you can make and resolve, can you not? But, when you wake up in the morning, there it is, just the same. And if it's giving you trouble, you soon know about it. Why? Because it's God's, part of God's Dream. That used to confuse me, until one time I told the Master, I said, "I can understand about my own psychology, and how this and that happens; and I can rise above the body. Those who meditate can do it easily. I understand that, Sir. But, when I come out again, there it is. The body is still there. How 'bout it?" "Oh," he says, "that's God's Dream." "Oh, how do you get rid of that?" "Know God," he said.

That's the only way. As He is the Dreamer, He has given us this body, as a part of His Dream, to occupy for a little bit, and our own consciousness is His Own Consciousness. What, what a miracle! And as long as we are attached to this body and this outward Cosmic Dream, as long as we're attached to that – what happens? We feel separated from God. That's the whole key. But, when, through meditation, we rise above the attachment to this body, and expand our consciousness from this limited bodily consciousness to the Great Consciousness of God Himself; when we do that, there's no separation. And when we feel ourselves not separated from God; then, we know we are one with Him, because His own Consciousness is our consciousness – your consciousness and my consciousness.

But that little delusion is there. That delusion that says, "Oh, you're this body with all, all this trouble, and so forth." But, by meditation, and following a saint like our beloved Guru, we can break that attachment, and we can also break the delusion that we are separated from God. And with an expanded consciousness, we can know we are one with Him. Knowing that, we can say, "Thou and I, O Father, never apart; Thou and I, never apart." When you can say that, there's no separation between you and the One Father. As He has all things, and has created all things, so He will give to you everything you need, and all of His Power, if it is His Will.

So, therein lies the key to understanding the Cosmic Dream, is to know the Sole Doer, which science cannot tell you anything about; because science deals with outward manifestation, and uses outward power to know those manifestations. Science can tell you about the law and how it acts. But science cannot tell you about He who has created all things; your own Presence of God within you; your own Soul has that Power through the Intuition, to tell you about He who has created His Great Cosmic Dream.

Now going on just a little bit – I have a few words of the Master, which I'd just like to read at this time, because He points it out so wonderfully well, about this Cosmic Dream. First he says this: "...the cosmos is a varied expression of one powerlight, but guided by the intelligence of God."⁶ (*Sic*) Realize that. This Cosmic Dream is a play of that Light which God has created, but in it is His Intelligence.

And from the Autobiography on page 281, just one paragraph: "From the dark booth of eternity God pours His creative beam through the films of successive ages. The pictures are thrown on the screen of space. Just as the motion picture appears, image appears to be real but are only combinations of light and shade so is the universal variety a delusive seeming."⁷ (*Sic*) How strange it seems that you and I, here in this world, is light and shadow. But, if you meditate deeply, and go within, you will see, as the Master has said, that this universe is simply a play of light. Now going on; "The planetary spheres, with their countless forms of life, are naught but figures in a cosmic motion picture, temporarily true to the five sense perceptions as the scenes are cast on the screen of man's consciousness by the infinite creative beam."⁸ Imagine the miracle of Light.

And so, the wonders of television, of radio, thought transference, all "tele-" matters, are due to this phenomena of Light. "...God said, Let there be light: and there was light." And you who will meditate and follow the techniques which the Master has left, will see that Light, will know that Light, and will feel in that Light the Intelligence of God, greatest of all, His Love. These things are not of the imagination. They are real. But you must give the time and the effort, if you are going to know God. If you are going to know the Master of the Universe – you must give some time to it!

You are trying to know the Science of all Sciences, and all He who created everything. And yet, we give a few minutes in the morning, and once in a while, a few minutes at night, and expect to have friendship with God. We must give

⁶ Yogananda, *Op.cit.*, Chapter 30, "Many modern discoveries help men to apprehend the cosmos as a varied expression of one powerlight, guided by divine intelligence."

⁷ *Ibid.* "The lifelike images of the motion picture illustrate many truths concerning creation. The Cosmic Director has written His own plays, and assembled the tremendous casts for the pageant of the centuries. From the dark booth of eternity, He pours His creative beam through the films of successive ages, and the pictures are thrown on the screen of space. Just as the motion-picture images appear to be real, but are only combinations of light and shade, so is the universal variety a delusive seeming."

⁸ *Ibid.* "The planetary spheres, with their countless forms of life, are naught but figures in a cosmic motion picture, temporarily true to five sense perceptions as the scenes are cast on the screen of man's consciousness by the infinite creative beam."

more time. We must make God our first necessity – our first real need. The Cosmic Dream is simply a play of His Eternal Substance.

And so, perhaps, by now, you realize in a theoretical way, that this Cosmic Dream is not as it seems. But, realize, you have the way of knowing He who created it; He who has made this tremendous motion picture, creation, ages upon ages. Knowing it in a theoretical way will not satisfy you. You must make that God contact; and knowing that, you will be satisfied – only then. God Alone, God Alone is the Sole Doer. God Alone is. We must know Him. Knowing Him, we will be satisfied.

And so, in conclusion, Master has said that is how to, how to know the One Cause behind this Cosmic Dream. That's what we're interested in. That's the lesson. It is not so much to know about the Cosmic Dream. We will never be satisfied. But, if we know the Framer of the Dream, the Sole Doer, then we will be satisfied.

Now, Master has said this, unless we can all do, if we will, "Long-continued (*sic*) concentration on the liberating spiritual eye, removes all illusion of matter from the yogi's consciousness with its gravitational weight..." it removes all that, and the yogi "...sees this cosmos as a mass of undifferentiated light."⁹ (*Sic*) That shows what the reality behind this Cosmic Dream is. "Long concentration on the liberating spiritual eye..." You know the technique, those of you who take the lessons of Self-Realization. You have the highest technique of meditation, which will show you, which will show you the Spiritual Eye. Which will give you contact with the Holy Vibration, the Holy Ghost, the Light, Master's "light beyond the atoms." You have the ways and means. But you must do it. You must make that dynamic to your consciousness. Then you will know the underlying noumena of this Cosmic Dream.

Long-continued concentration; not once in a while, then flying off to some other teaching. You must know the Spiritual Eye at this point [the point between the eyebrows]. Concentrate upon it. Then you will see beyond this Cosmic Dream everything as a mass, as the Master says, "...of undifferentiated light."

So there you have behind the Cosmic Dream – the Cause. Everything comes from that One Light. But greatest of all, that Light can be perceived, and God's

⁹ Yogananda *Op.cit.*, Chapter 30, Original Release 1946 only, "Long concentration on the liberating spiritual eye has enabled the yogi to destroy all delusions concerning matter and its gravitational weight; thenceforth he sees the universe as an essentially undifferentiated mass of light."

Intelligence in that Light can be known. If you will do that, then you will know the Light of which Master spoke, “the light beyond the atoms;” the Light, which has produced the atoms; and the atoms have been gathered together in this, as we, this, what we call matter. You will know that “light beyond the atoms” of the Master; that, those free electrons of science – that’s the Light – that Light which has produced all things; that Light which has made us; that Light, which sustains us.

Science knows we’re not sustained by food. They’ve given that up. Food doesn’t do it. It’s the Light in the food. It is called by a different name. It is the energy in the food which sustains us and stimulates our body. The food doesn’t do it. Master used to say “You put, fill a dead man with food, and it won’t do any good.” No, it’s the Light within us, the Life Force, which is a form of that Great Light of God which sustains us. And so, that One Light, we have come from it, it sustains us, and into that One Light and Love of God, our One Cosmic Home, into that, we will melt in a conscious way. As the Master says, “If we do and live right, we will all meet in that One Light of the Infinite, never again to part, because that is the underlying Cause of all things.” That is our Cosmic Home.

And in that One Cosmic Home, there’ll be no break in the continuity of our consciousness, as there is in this Cosmic Dream. We wake up, we go about our duties – as Master used to say, “Breakfast, lunch, and dinner, go back, go to sleep, wake up again.” But in that One Light of God, there’ll be no break in the continuity. Having that, we have all things. And that can be known, if you concentrate at the Spiritual Eye – regularly, deeply. You will see the “Ring of gold within of nameless hue. Oh door of heaven, by which we all pass through; Into that realm, God’s kingdom bright, Eternal Bliss, Immortal Light.”