

Profile

Unconditional Community Consciousness

29 August 2007



Once upon a time there was an island where all the feelings lived: happiness, sadness, knowledge, and all the others, including love.

One day it was announced to all of the feelings that the island was going to sink to the bottom of the ocean. So all the feelings prepared their boats to leave.

Love was the only one that stayed. She wanted to preserve the island paradise until the last possible moment.

When the island was almost totally under, love decided it was time to leave. She began looking for someone to ask for help.

Just then Richness was passing by in a grand boat. Love asked, "Richness, can I come with you on your boat?"

Richness answered, "I'm sorry, but there is a lot of silver and gold on my boat and there would be no room for you anywhere."

Then Love decided to ask Vanity for help who was passing in a beautiful vessel. Love cried out, "Vanity, help me please."



Hello, hello, everyone! Me again!

I had an exceptional summer, and I trust you all did too! I went home to Asia, saw as many people as I could, ate, did, bought and did everything I wanted to. And found there was plenty more left for next time!

What amazing places I returned to (and I *come* from there! Can you imagine!)! The colours! The smells! The sounds! The inter-relatedness of everything! All so different and so similar at the same time. Each one a part of a national identity, and part of the whole, too. Asia.

Hong Kong. Mmm. Seriously buzzing, much more than before. Exciting. Fantastic. So are Malaysia and Singapore. Wonderful peoples, motivated, self-disciplined, determined, optimistic, open-minded, focused and governed generally with great vision and understanding that people are a country's greatest asset. A true interweaving of social tapestry. High-tech and not afraid to use it. Straight-forward. Discrete. Service-orientated, from the heart. Efficient. Responsive. Pragmatic. Creative. Wow. Great food, with every cuisine represented in the way it's cooked in its native land, east or west. Compassionate. Humble. Tolerant. Clean.

Hong Kong and Singapore, especially, are true global cities. Being meritocracies, you go as far as you are able, and you make opportunities for yourself. So, responsibility at individual, corporate and civic level is relatively high. The Singapore government calls its challenges '*adventures*'. Can you imagine that! And Hong Kong's press has remained free, something it asserted rigourously in the lead up to handover to Chinese rule 10 years ago.

Cambodia is still only nine years out of a 25-year civil war, her people determined to rebuild shattered lives, learn from past mistakes and move on to embrace the future. No begging - each person is prepared to *do* something, however small, to earn a living. Great dignity. And still so gentle.

China. Aaaaah, China. She is awakening. Another amazing place. Three years ago when the Athens Olympics ended, she had already built 75% of the stadia for the

"I can't help you," Vanity said. "You are all wet and will damage my beautiful boat."

Next, love saw Sadness passing by. Love said, "Sadness, please let me go with you."

Sadness answered, "Love, I'm sorry, but I just need to be alone now."

Then, Love saw Happiness. Love cried out, "Happiness, please take me with you!"

But Happiness was so overjoyed that he didn't hear Love calling to him.

Love began to cry.

Then, she heard a voice say, "Come Love, I will take you with me." It was an elder.

Love felt so blessed and overjoyed that she forgot to ask the elder his name.

When they arrived on land, the elder went on his way.

Love realised how much she owed the elder.

Love then found Knowledge and asked, "Who was it that helped me?"

"It was Time," Knowledge answered.

"But why did Time help me when no-one else would?" Love asked.

Knowledge smiled and with deep wisdom and sincerity, answered, "Because only Time is capable of understanding how great Love is."

2008 Beijing Olympics. Today, in 2007, they are all ready. That's the small part. The big challenge is to prepare her people to receive the world. Call it what you wish - Cultural Revolution, Second World War, Sino-Japanese War. Republican Era. overthrow of the Manchus. Whatever. She's been at war, mostly with herself, since 1911. Just less than 30 years at a sort of peace, so much to catch up on. She's going to do it.

Of course this being the real world, each country also has great challenges: natural, political, commercial social and personal. Karmic too. Let's not be tra-la-la about it and live in la-la land. Life is cheap, very cheap. But the dynamism, the spirit of optimism, of taking of excellence as a beginning and pushing beyond that is what I love so much. That, the application of forgiveness, the ability to move beyond the past and an understanding that no-one owes anyone else a living is also something I can relate well with too. A sense of, well, let's just get on with it. Because if we don't, you know, it's not much of a life and we are not passing on anything much to our children.

Now back in Cyprus and an excellent situation too, even though I feel like I'm wearing a fatsuit. I feel so lucky to be able to travel so much - very many countries on my list needed to be left until 'next time'. Not just in Asia, all over the world. To share the Work as well as to just be with people. How wonderful to have so much to look forward to! I feel lucky to have such a sense of being at home in so many different countries. And then, to be able to return home too to Cyprus with lots of new ideas, refreshed and with a renewed sense of service.

What's coming up is going to be more than great. And lots and lots of fun too. I feel it, and so it will be.

Lots and lots of love from me to you.

And Light. Always.

Anna. Of Cyprus



YOU MUST BELIEVE.....

The many faces of Asia.

Above, in Cambodia children play at Siem Reap market after a tropical rainstorm.

Left: Children at Tonle Sap Lake, Cambodia.

YOU MUST BELIEVE.....



You must believe in the possibility of what you are praying for. If you want a home, and the mind says, "you simpleton, you can't afford a house," you must make your will stronger. When the "can't" disappears from your mind, divine power comes.

A home will not be dropped down to you from heaven; you have to pour forth will power continuously through constructive actions. When you persist, refusing to accept failure, the object of will must materialise.

When you continuously work that will through your thoughts and activities, what you are wishing for has to come about. Even through there is nothing in the world to conform to your wish, when your will persists, the desired result will somehow manifest. In that kind of will lies God's answer; because will comes from God, and continuous will is divine will."

- Paramahansa Yogananda, from 'Man's Eternal Quest'

Above pix - Singapore's Merlion, symbolic of her tourism industry. A state with few natural resources, her far-thinking government decided to invest heavily in her peoples, skillfully creating one nation out of diversity. For Hong Kong too, tourism is booming. Once seriously in the doldrums, last year's arrivals numbered around 27 million, a tribute to her vision, planning and determination. Perhaps great examples of the teaching that if you can think it, you can achieve it.

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