

River of Dreams

*Life is a mirage
shimmering in sunlight on
a dragonfly's wing.*

What is the shape of a dream?

Really. . . dreams, thoughts, and universes have no shape, only flow.
Creation is a river of dreams.

The river of dreams flows endlessly within Infinite Mind. Many call Infinite Mind, God. I like to name it mind, because this makes it harder to draw an imaginary line around it.

(It would be fine to substitute “God” for “mind” if you prefer.)

For some, mind sounds too detached. Far from being impersonal, mind IS our personhood. Infinite yet intimate, mind lives within our own skin, sits behind our eyes, loves with our heart, and shares wisdom wherever it finds an opening.

*Waking or sleeping,
night or day, the inner sun
is always shining.*

Mind dreams numberless universes filled with inhabitants. All beings, from atoms to elephants to human beings, are equally precious to mind, for its nature is indiscriminate, unbounded love.

All beings are living out their own stories. More precisely, all beings ARE their stories; beings and their stories are one and the same.

For mind, all stories have intrinsic value—human stories; animal stories; bird, fish, plant, tree, and rock stories—all are fascinating!

Every story eventually leads to enlightenment--the discovery that the real identity is not a character in a story but none other than mind.

Rediscovering itself within the point of view and storyline of every being everywhere is the never-ending play of mind. Within an infinite number of points of view, mind experiences the unfolding wondrousness of creation.

*Across the night sky
a flow of stars--seen, unseen—
each with a story.*

Deep within the rushing current of mind's creativity is the silence of perfect peace.

The flow of life, the movement of thought, and the meanderings of dreams weave in and out of awareness. At certain fortuitous times, life, thoughts, and dreams are known to be one flow.

*The rushing river
carries a chorus of sound
leaving no echo.*

Few on Earth remember that their real identity is mind. Most believe that the main character in a personal epic drama is who they are. The storyline is replete with adventure and intrigue, loves lost and found, and conflicts and calamities of all kinds interspersed with all-too-brief respites of contentment and sporadic joys.

Eventually, suffering may become so acute and desires, so insatiable that questioning begins. “Is this all there is? Will I ever find lasting happiness?” For the majority of us, the journey begins with one word, “Help!”

Really, the seeker has always been on this journey, even before choosing it consciously. After taking a more deliberate course to enlightenment, our stories continue, but with a greater sense of purpose and deeper openings to love and wisdom.

*Through hills and valleys
stones sparkling in sunlight
once the eyes adjust.*

Each protagonist experiences a series of stories, spanning multiple planes of existence. Our reincarnational stories are set in both physical and non-physical realms, yet we can call all of them dreams. Referring to worldly life as a dream is not to suggest that it is unreal. It is real while we are living it, just as a dream is real for as long as we are dreaming it.

When we wake up from a sleeping dream, we find ourselves in the physical world. Upon awakening from the dream of physical life at death, we experience a non-physical reality. Both types of awakening bring the same realization, “Oh! It was only a dream!”

We don’t have to die to experience the dreamlike nature of material life; realization dawns when we remember our true identity as mind. Living

with this awareness is being in a state of wakeful dreaming. We then no longer take the vicissitudes of life so seriously, knowing that appearances are only relatively real, and transitoriness is the way of dreams.

Strong emotions may still come and go, but we don't take our emotions as seriously either. Emotions, like life, have ups and downs. Both inner and outer experiences are in continual flux.

Meditation and being mindful in day-to-day life help cultivate equanimity. They train us to be aware of the presence of mind as inner stability amidst the changing flow of thoughts, dreams, and outer activities.

*Dreams go streaming by
carrying sun, moon, and stars
above sitting stones.*

Eventually, life after life, dream upon dream, the river of dreams washes away all impediments to awakening.

The awakening of all beings is an absolute certainty--it is already written into their storylines. Since it is mind that illuminates all stories from within, every point of view of every being is a doorway to the infinite. Even now, enlightenment is shining through the whole of creation.

*We dwellers in dreams
on a mystery voyage
ever more wondrous!*

This Earth World is a dream shared by numerous inhabitants, each with a unique point of view. Within all points of view, each dreamer experiences herself as the center of the universe. In a deeper sense, we

are all sitting at the center--of every dream, storyline, and universe--in our real identity as mind.

All future and past dream events are present right now in mind, including the beginning and ending of self-forgetting. Somewhere beneath the fascination of dream stories is the usually-subliminal knowledge of our true identity. The more awake we are, the less suffering we endure and the more we live in a state of equanimity, love, and wisdom.

The alpha and omega of all worlds and beings is joyous remembrance of their origin. Within all suffering is the seed of its own redemption through love. Even living in a less evolved world like this one, we can awaken to our true nature. By doing so, we make this life a little brighter and more loving for everyone else.

*Squirrels playing chase
blue jays chatter from treetops
on a newborn day.*

2.

No particular spiritual philosophy or practice is right for everyone. We are all dreaming unique stories of having a unique self, so everyone's way to enlightenment must also be unique.

*Snowy mountain peak
the way to the top unmarked
footsteps in fresh snow.*

Some claim that a human form is necessary to experience enlightenment. Not at all! All beings—animals, birds, fish, plants, trees, stones—are on a journey of awakening. As with humans, some are more conscious of this, and certain victorious ones have already arrived.

*Through a turtle's eyes
sunlit world, soft and diffuse,
fragrant ground, no rush.*

Humans are not superior to other life forms on Earth, and other types of beings do not have to “evolve” into human form and consciousness to awaken. A horse can be a fully enlightened horse; a chicken, an awakened chicken; and a stone can be wakefully luminous in its “stone-ness.” Not only humans but nature itself is on an enlightenment path.

*In a robin's eye
ringed wisdom mandala
gleaming knowingness*

All of nature is in continuous communion and communication. Nature's language uses sounds and frequencies that most humans lack the key to

interpret. The secret to understanding is to bring awareness inside to listen rather than focusing outside.

*In the evening
when neighbors have gone indoors
sound of plants humming.*

There is a spiritual saying, “All in one, one in all.” This universe and all universes exist within each of us. There is no boundary between our personal dream of personhood and infinite mind, for it is mind who is dreaming us all.

Living beings on Earth are biologically programmed to survive through predation, whether the sacrifice involves animals, birds, fish, plants, or smaller life forms. Unfortunately, a lingering effect of this, the tendency to put ourselves first while disregarding the well-being of others, is still present in many of us.

Earth is a work in progress. The evolutionary goal of life on Earth is to learn love and wisdom. The most basic step we can each take is to dedicate ourselves to a life of harmlessness. Yes, we have to eat to survive, and inevitably and usually unintentionally, we harm other beings, especially little beings—we step on them, we breathe them in, we injure them while digging in the garden or in numerous other ways. Clearly, perfect harmlessness is impossible to achieve at this phase of Earth’s evolution, but we can strive to approach it as nearly as we can.

The path of awakening is the path of the wisdom-heart. The wisdom-heart path eschews violence toward humans and non-humans alike on both an individual and collective level.

Cultivating compassion is not only a gift to others, it is a form of self-care. We hurt our own hearts when we numb them to the suffering of other beings.

We can begin by adopting a vegan lifestyle and holding the philosophy of nonviolence. All beings and even “inanimate” objects deserve our respect, for they share the same sacred essence. Embracing the ethic of harmlessness, living simply, and disrupting the natural world as little as possible is the way of the wisdom-heart.

*The same inner light
illuminates my mind and
the mind of this cow.*

Dedicating ourselves to harmlessness includes refraining from causing injury through words, as well as deeds. Even angry thoughts can cause pain, since we are all psychically connected. When we feel angry, we can prevent harm by intending that our anger is not directed as energy to the other person and is free from the desire to hurt.

As with any painful emotion, it is best not to dwell on anger. In the process of working through it, we can ask our inner wisdom to show us whatever underlying issues need clarification, whether any (nonviolent) action is called for, and what if anything needs to be communicated.

Sometimes a gentle delivery is appropriate, sometimes a forceful one. When using forcefulness, it is best to maintain a gentle heart.

We need not worry about being hurt by the negative thoughts of others. We protect ourselves by making a practice of examining our charged issues, releasing emotions associated with them, asking to be shown what we need to learn, and then centering ourselves in lightness and neutrality.

When we feel hurt or angry, we have a choice whether to simply react or respond with mindfulness. Healing comes from love; hurtfulness comes from hate and fear. Healing and love are far more powerful—they are the very essence of awakened mind.

*Phases of the moon:
shadows come and go, and still . . .
it is always full.*

On a collective level the wisdom-heart path would involve founding governments and societies on principles of nonviolence, cooperation, and harmlessness. This would not only give rise to a more humane world, it would advance the spiritual progress of all beings by reinforcing the qualities of love and wisdom. Governing principles based on spiritual truth would also prevent war and exploitation, since each country would be viewed as a member of a larger, interdependent world community.

A moral government insures a decent standard of living for all in society, including food, housing, health care, education, child care, and well-paid work. Decisions are made democratically both in government and in the workplace. With cooperation rather than competition as the overarching ethos, democracy leaves no bitter factions. Instead, through encouraging open discussion, it can lead to wider consensus.

An ethical government respects and protects all living beings and the environment. Society is organized for the good of the whole, as well as the individual. In short, a government based on spiritual principles reflects values of the heart. It views all life as sacred, honors the talents and contributions of each of its members while also acknowledging their interdependence, and recognizes the essential equality of all beings.

*Field of wildflowers:
bees and butterflies alike
share the bounty.*

We are presently facing an existential crisis here on Planet Earth. If the majority of humans were living simple lives, had embraced the ethics of nonviolence and harmlessness toward human and non-human beings, respected our Earth, and recognized the essential equality and interdependence of all beings, we would not be facing the possibility of extinction.

What can we do about the environmental crisis that confronts us? In meditation we can look within to the inner goldenness of our true nature and emanate love and wisdom to the world. We can dedicate ourselves to a life of simplicity, respect, and harmlessness. And we can listen to our inner guidance for specific suggestions on how else to help.

We are all interconnected in the realms of both consciousness and physicality. There are no distances to span in the mind, for dreams have neither scale nor size. Everyone's story is unique yet our stories also overlap as shared experiences. As we deepen in love and wisdom, all beings benefit.

*Autumn night chorus
Canadian geese in flight:
Follow the same call.*

3.

Countless worlds and universes exist along with this one. Some are more evolved; some, less. Some worlds are more like heavens; some, more like hells. Earth is in the mid-range of countless heaven and hell realms that span the spectrum of consciousness.

If we look honestly at life on Earth, it is obvious that we are not living on a spiritually evolved planet. The enormous amount of suffering here causes many to question the morality of mind, especially those who visualize mind as a Personified, All-Powerful God. Similarly, people who believe that this is the only world there is and we only live once may have a hard time seeing that love is behind this world appearance.

Mind's boundless love far surpasses morality; it pervades all worlds and cherishes all beings. In truth, mind *is* all beings. It dreams every story and lives each lifetime.

There is no "right and wrong" in the vast theater of creation. Yet to truly grasp this, it is necessary to practice harmlessness and deepen in compassion and wisdom; otherwise, we risk adopting a cold detachment that further obscures our true nature.

Many people confuse compassion with emotion, but unlike compassion, emotions are changeable. The compassionate heart holds the wisdom of recognizing the dreamlike nature of material existence and the ultimate enlightenment of all beings. This brings greater equanimity and patience and also heightens awareness of our own role in the unfolding story of the ultimate enlightenment of all.

A commonly-held belief is that the manifold planets, planes, and dimensions are spread out through space. Actually, they are not arranged

spatially—they are interpenetrating realities. Other worlds are invisible to us, because they are vibrating at different frequencies. The numberless universes are not separate from one another—the same one mind animates them all.

*Within an ant's foot
numberless universes
so it treads lightly.*

Every planet is constructed around certain core ideas that serve as organizing principles. The primary core ideas on Earth are time, space, and the apparent solidity of matter. Belief in these ideas serves as a stable context for ceaseless change.

It may be easier to understand this if we compare material life to dreams of the night. In night dreams, though movement and change occur, the context or, organizing principles of time, space, and solid matter do not apply. Dreams are capricious—scenes can switch suddenly, the law of gravity is sometimes suspended, and events often proceed incongruously.

Another core idea of Earth life can be symbolized by the ouroboros--the snake eating its tail. One interpretation of this symbol is predation. Living beings feed on other living beings and are in turn, preyed upon. Certain karma is associated with predation—namely, the karma of birth, death, physical pain, and personal suffering.

In other dimensions, usually the more evolved ones where predation does not exist, it is possible to change form without dying. Old forms morph into new ones at will. Beings in higher realms are free from birth, illness, injury, old age, and death. They do not possess a dense physical body but a light body. This eliminates multiple causes of suffering.

By and large, the less evolved the world, the greater the suffering. On the positive side, suffering can also serve the evolutionary purpose of motivating change and growth.

On more spiritually advanced planes and for more conscious beings, suffering is not necessary to motivate growth, because spiritual awakening is enjoyed as a wondrous adventure and needs no further impetus. In reality, enlightenment is not a final goal but an unfolding journey without end.

*Seabirds on the shore
as moods of sea and sky change
the view. . . ever new!*

In general, evolved planes and individuals have a mental and emotional range more rooted in wisdom and love. Less evolved planes and beings exhibit baser, more painful emotions, scrambled thinking, and self-defeating behaviors, stemming from ignorance and selfishness.

It should be interjected here that all non-material realms are not necessarily more evolved than material ones. Suffering can still exist in non-physical dimensions, but it tends to take the form of emotional, mental, or spiritual unhappiness; dissatisfaction; confusion; or a general sense of ennui.

Even though Earth as a whole is not a spiritually advanced planet, it is populated by inhabitants of different states of development. Most humans on our planet are in the “young soul” range, which might explain why there is so much suffering here. Also present on Earth are a small number of enlightened beings of all species.

The spiritual awareness of both humans and non-humans reflects how awake to love and wisdom they are. The intellect, which so many

humans revere, is not a measure of wisdom; instead, wisdom comes through an intuitive understanding that also includes love. This is precisely why all non-human beings are capable of experiencing enlightenment without ever acquiring a human form—a highly developed intellect is not requisite.

Gradually, as the human intellect reaches a certain level of proficiency--particularly when it is focused on seeking truth instead of merely the acquisition of knowledge or attaining ego-based satisfactions—the intellect becomes integrated into and a function of the intuition. The intellect then works in cooperation with the intuition in such ways as handling practical tasks, applying logic, and posing questions for the intuition to answer.

On its own, the intellect tends to oversimplify; it defines reality as black and white and perceives duality. It is prone to think in terms of this *or* that. Reality is actually full of “*and*’s.” The intellect also tends to freeze events, phenomena, and beings into still frames, defining them in isolation, overlaying static images onto the unbroken reality of change. The intuition sees beyond duality. It beholds a panoramic view of flowing, sunlit, colorful change—a river of dreams!

*The coursing river
carries dreams in its current
sound blends with silence.*

For as long as the intellect and ego-based desires are in charge, spiritual progress almost always requires a personal commitment to ethical behavior as a first step on the path. As the intuition develops, wisdom and love are naturally expressed as harmlessness, gentleness, and concern for the welfare of all beings. Increasingly, right action becomes second nature. When questions do arise, inner wisdom is the arbiter.

In a world founded on the need to survive through predation, the intellect has served a useful purpose, particularly since humans lack well-developed instincts and have a long period of early dependency. The intellect's cleverness has helped humans survive by figuring out how to find food; make tools; start a fire for cooking and warmth; and seek shelter from predators, the elements, and other threatening humans.

The intellect has no doubt motivated fascinating, as well as practical discoveries and innovations here on Earth. For most beings on higher planes, new ideas come intuitively and instantaneously. In these realms, basic survival is assured, dangers are essentially non-existent, selfish drives have been transcended through love, and the more staccato functioning of the intellect has given way to an intuitive flow of ever-deepening understanding.

Whereas the intellect attempts to file its knowledge in its own private library, the intuition lets go of everything it thinks it knows for the sake of fresh discoveries. Zen Master Shunryu Suzuki calls this, "Beginner's Mind."

*Sun on the river
seen through a child's open eyes
stones sparkle like jewels.*

On more enlightened planes, work and play are one and the same. Pleasure and fun, rather than being a form of escapism as they often are in worlds of suffering, enhance the inner happiness already present. This is true of sexual pleasure, as well. In the absence of egoistic selfishness, insecurity, and neediness, sex is a joyful expression of love, a celebration of the sacred, and a reenactment of the bliss of divine union.

Even though Earth is not a spiritually evolved planet, as our realization deepens, we live more and more in a state of love, happiness, and

wonderment. Even amidst the ups and downs of life, hopes and fears dissolve in the fullness of divine presence. Our love nature expands to encompass all beings, and space no longer feels separative but all-inclusive. The wisdom-heart path brings the realization that we are all together in an ocean of love.

Here on Earth, addressing the issue of predation, along with its selfish imprints, is paramount in reversing the self-destruct course being steered by humans. A shift in values to veganism and non-violence as expressions of love and wisdom goes a long way toward dissolving these imprints and engendering the habit of placing the well-being of the whole of life on Earth ahead of unwholesome, self-centered desires and aggressive impulses. In taking the wisdom-heart path, we transmit powerful vibrations of love, healing, and peace to all beings.

Currently, many different types of spirit guides are engaged in the healing of our Earth. Some have had Earth bodies before; some have not. All of them are willing to assist us if we join our healing intention with theirs. This healing orientation is also shared among many of our fellow Earth inhabitants of all species, and we can join with them, as well.

A force in this and every universe stirs us to awaken. It exists along with the tendency to lapse into forgetfulness. The two are not in dualistic opposition—their interplay is a facet of the eternal play of mind.

When we align ourselves with the awakening force for the purpose of healing our Earth, we join our energy and intention with beings on all planes and planets who are dedicated to the path of love and wisdom and the enlightenment of all.

As we come to realize our true nature as mind, we experience how outer and inner space are ultimately one and the same. We find both within ourselves.

*Full-moon stargazing:
night-sky galaxies flowing
across a still lake.*

The most powerful way to contribute to the healing of Earth and all its inhabitants is to awaken to enlightenment. In the words of Tibetan Lama Chagdud Tulku, “When you are enlightened, you help all beings all the time.” In reality, enlightenment’s love and wisdom also emanate beyond Earth to every being, everywhere.

Creation is a river of dreams that carries awake and dreaming beings alike. The river has ripples and waves, it surges and calms, yet the overall flow is eternal. On this journey of forgetting and remembering, enlightenment IS the consciousness that illumines our dreaming.

*Vastness of the view
Stars, seas, mountains, and beings
Heart reflections, all.*

4.

Enlightenment does not require leaving our bodies in meditation or at death: Outer space IS inner space, and the higher realms are also the deeper realms. All planes and planets can be accessed by voyaging into the universe of our own mind in this body, for the totality resides within each of us. And as we journey deeper, we find that the line between inner and outer blurs—there is simply mind, everywhere.

The nature of mind cannot be understood objectively, only subjectively, as our deepest identity. Once we discover it within, we see it in all beings and all phenomena. The Buddha exclaimed with the coming of enlightenment that the whole world was enlightened too!

By stepping back behind our eyes and turning our focus inward, the vastness within reveals itself as our essential nature. Then when we look out at the world, we see the true self everywhere, looking back at us. Infinity within, infinity without. Franklin Merrell-Wolff calls this, “knowing through identification.” A sense of separation between subject and object gives way to the unitary awareness that our selfhood is infinite and includes all.

Experiencing enlightenment is not a distant event. As many teachers, ancient and contemporary, have stressed, it is available right here and now. Whether these are momentary glimpses of truth or sustained periods of wakefulness depends on how many obscurations have been cleared.

What about the issue of karma? No separation actually exists between cause and effect, though the intellect posits a pause between the two. The idea of cause and effect suggests a certain chopiness and the agency of will. In reality, cause and effect are one energy, and this is true of

both inner and outer experiences. A more apt representation eliminates the concept of causality entirely so that effects are simply viewed as flowing into other effects. There is no “First Cause;” the flow of creation has existed since beginning-less time.

Some have theorized that mind is the cause and phenomena are its effects, but we run into the same problem here—projecting a gap or pause between mind as cause and its dreams as its effects. It is more accurate to say that mind and its dreams are one. It is the nature of mind to dream, and its dreams are not other than mind itself.

Karma, though sometimes called cause-and-effect karma, is actually a sequence of repeating patterns within a larger context of continual change. On both an individual and collective level, when the possibilities of these patterns have been explored and their associated learning accomplished, the patterns dissolve, giving way to new patterns.

When the necessary insights are gleaned and the patterns recognized, we likely experience an “aha moment,” which comes in the form of an eidetic image that connects past, present, and future. This opens up novel possibilities, opportunities for deeper spiritual understanding, and the recognition of newly-appearing patterns.

In other words, karma is not necessarily resolved by *willing* ourselves to behave more ethically in the future, though that can be a first step. By identifying a karmic pattern that spans past, present, and future, and seeing the teaching associated with it, different behaviors *naturally* ensue. This clears the way for new perceptions of deeper patterns that are part of larger themes in our personal storyline, which in turn can yield even more profound realizations. The insight that occurs in an “aha moment” transforms not only the present and the future, but our experience of the past, as well.

If using force of will and discipline to change our behavior or dispel problematic thoughts and emotions proves futile, there is a more effective practice. A. H. Almaas teaches the technique of inquiry. Inquiry recruits the mind's natural curiosity to penetrate layers of the psyche by simply inquiring, "What is this?" The mind stays open throughout the process until a deeper insight or understanding arises. This may come as a flash of illumination, an "aha moment," or a subtler sense of release and completion. The shift allows attention to move on from where it has become fixated and resume its natural flow.

Before we are committed to a spiritual path, events and challenges often seem random, a product of chance or luck. Afterwards, a new sense of order emerges. A pattern appears in the ups and downs of life that can bring healing, insights, and faith that everything is working together for the enlightenment of all. As an added benefit, day-to-day life seems to flow more smoothly.

As our personal story proceeds, even though the main character may still experience difficult emotions and make mistakes, we can remind ourselves that we are sitting behind it all as mind. This makes it easier to maintain a degree of equanimity amidst the vagaries of material existence. It also enables us to freely love and feel compassion for this dream character with whom we have identified.

Every individual dream is an interpretation of the collective dream, so each person's attention operates with selective perception. Certain details are highlighted by the personal consciousness, those that fit in with and follow the themes of the personal storyline. This is true of all dreams—plant, tree, stone, animal, bird, fish, as well as human dreams.

*River boulders rising
above the current's surface
bathe in their own swirls.*

Each time someone awakens, new realms of creative possibility open up—not only for her personally but for all of creation. Enlightenment does not erase the uniqueness of each point of view and its stories; they live eternally within mind. For mind encompasses past, present, and future in the Eternal Now.

Another boon of awakening is the knowledge that impermanence is relative, though it seems to be a fixed reality on Earth within the individualized point of view. Realizing ourselves to be the mind behind the personal dreamer reveals that all beings and phenomena share in mind's eternality. This understanding can free us from much of the anguish of loss, since we can clearly see that we are eternally united with everyone and everything we have ever loved.

When we know our true nature as mind instead of merely identifying with the main character in our dream, we feel a sense of lightness and even playfulness. The problems of the world do not seem insurmountable when we understand that the enlightenment of all beings is assured. Along with this understanding, because our true nature is loving, we still feel deep compassion for all suffering beings.

The evolutionary direction of every being lies in deepening love and wisdom. Through sharing what they learn, all beings have a role to play in the awakening of the whole.

All beings and patterns in all universes flow in the river of dreams toward deeper realizations of enlightenment. New universes arise in time (though they have always existed in infinite mind), and these new universes begin whole new cycles of awakening.

As we evolve, we experience greater happiness and fulfillment, and at times, pure delight. We have less investment in particular outcomes,

since our desire nature, including both hopes and fears, has been increasingly subsumed in the contentment of essential beingness.

The dream personality with whom we have been identified has believed itself to be the sole master of its fate, which is both highly stressful and erroneous, since multitudinous external factors exert influence over the course of events. It isn't until enlightenment, or close to it, that we can fully relax into the Tao and appreciate our own uniquely unfolding story.

It all begins and ends right here within the mind, since no separation exists between the personal mind and infinite mind. The mind is at once a tranquil sea and an ever-flowing stream. Layers upon layers of thoughts and stories unfold in the individual minds of all beings. How vast is the one mind that dreams them all!

Enlightenment shines through an endless stream of thoughts and dreams. When the time is right, its brilliance floods into the personal mind like a magnificent sunrise, dispelling the darkness, fog, and phantoms of ignorance. Within the deepest self, the power of love shows itself to be as vast as mind's all-knowing infinitude.

Ultimately, every personal mind—including the minds of animals, plants, birds, reptiles, fish, trees, stones, and all others—is blessed with the ecstasy of remembering its true nature in its own time. Visions of truth become deeper and richer, and even the experience of enlightenment continues to unfold into new awakenings eternally.

Wisdom is the mind's recognition of truth and love is the heart's accompaniment. Actually, the two are inseparable. The wisdom-heart, the loving mind—ever-present, everlasting. For all beings, when truth at last dawns, it is blazingly clear that everything really is, has always been, and always will be okay!