

Introduction: Magic eye, Excel & mule deer

I want to draw your attention to something that happens to us everyday.
In one way, it's a really big thing.

In another way, it's also a really small thing.

Ready?

It's a *transformation*.

If it's not pointed out to us, we are certain to miss it. At any moment, there is a subtle transition that takes place when a person moves from "not-knowing" something into "knowing" something.

As a teen I used to struggle with my algebra homework. Each night I'd labor for hours as I tediously followed the steps that I had been taught. Yet somehow in my pubescent brain the nuances of solving the problem continued to elude me.

Until this one precise moment.

Then in a blink of an eye, a tiny transformation took place.

The thing to be learned came into view.

Behold, the larger thing that was always there, was finally there *for me*.

It was a very big thing that became real via a very small thing.

It was like staring at one of those *magic eye* images that were so popular in the 90's, where the page looks like a collage of random colors and shapes as you

stare intently at it. Then all of a sudden...*it appears*, like magic. The image is three dimensional, leaping off the page, and everything makes sense.

Awareness joins consciousness.

Information becomes revelation.

I scream, "I got it!" Then from that moment on, I can't *unsee* the image.

While I relish in my new advanced math skills, I am at the same moment completely oblivious of aspects of mathematics that still remain completely out of view. But I don't care because I'm so focused on the new part that I now understand.

At a recent meeting in the boardroom I notice my colleague sitting at her computer scrolling through some pages on a spreadsheet. As I watch over her shoulder I notice her painstakingly clicking on the down button as she scrolls to the bottom of the list.

Then she goes back up again.

Then back down.

I lean over and show her how to use the "page down" feature and a few other shortcuts to accomplish the same work. She laughs as this small tip liberates her in a disproportionate way.

Simplification replaced process.

A small amount of liberation bloomed.

While this tip provided a lasting benefit to the user, there remains a world within the Excel program that is yet to be appreciated.

This brings me back to the beginning. Everyday we are experiencing a *transformation*. Incremental bits of new knowledge are coming into our field of view, and milliseconds before this “moment” we were completely oblivious to them. Each piece meets our consciousness and our lives are altered. This happens with all new information. It also happens with information that we once possessed but have no present awareness.

We call this learning.

It’s also called revelation because something once hidden is now revealed.

In the middle of this mundane and common process is something so, so, much more. It’s right in the midst of us.

Among us.

My dad loved to hunt. He has a trained eye to scan the hills for deer. He could drive down the road a sixty miles per hour and glance at the hills covered in scrub oak and immediately call out, “Look Kev, there’s a herd of deer.” It would take minutes of my eye following his pointing finger to the hillside before I’d see these camouflaged beasts.

There was always more to the hill than scrub oak.

There is more to learning than information.

This tiny moment is the event horizon of Truth itself.

It is more than a moment. It is where reality and clarity emerge in our minds. It is a form of “seeing” things in a new way, through a new lens. It is an incremental conformity to the truth. It is the undoing of things untrue.

It is more than a brain processing neurotransmitters. Our physical world is in contact with the esoteric world.

Idea and matter converge.

Another world breaks through to us.

It is a blip in time where we are bridging between two worlds and we get to touch it everyday!

This happens to all people. No one is exempt.

This moment, call it learning, awareness or illumination, benefits every nation and all social and economic stratum. It crosses all institutional divides and traverses throughout all history. Every religion and spiritual pursuit, every philosophy and law of logic, all touch some aspect of the truth. Regardless of how each grasp of truth is nuanced, unique or varied, if there is only a bit of proximity to truth, it is like touching something that has generously been disbursed to all people. At the exact same time this amazing thing is occurring, a comprehensive knowledge of all that is true remains unobtainable by any individual or system.

So close, yet so far. Close AND far. Big and little.

When it comes to truth, every one of us is at the same time both benefactors and possessors of truth, and also oblivious to it. Remember, oblivious doesn't just mean that we don't know something--It means we don't know *that we don't know* something.

The moment I see the deer on the side of the road, my dad and I share something. What he possessed a few minutes earlier, I now possess. My seeing

does not diminish what he can see, it adds to it. The image of how many deer, how they are arranged within the scrub oak, and their color are all shared aspects of the truth. Until I could see them, we held disunity in this particular area, but the moment they were revealed into my line of sight, we began to grow together. The point of this awareness is not to know all that could be known about the deer. It did not help us to know the ages, weight, or what they ate for breakfast. It was enough for unity that we both saw them.

This book is a lens through which we can understand each other and the diverse beliefs that we hold. It is also a path forward for those who are willing to honestly examine the truth that we presently grasp and follow it to where it leads. Sometimes we need to look at things, other times through them, other times along them or by them. My discovery that I wish to share with you is this: Even though we cannot possess all that is true, we can possess a context to understand the diverse perspectives and this allows us each to experience an inclusive, multi-dimensional love that is powerfully transformative and contagious. We can do way better than the dualistic exclusive conclusions that believe if one perspective is right then all others must be wrong. There is good news here for all us. I hope you will join me because it seems like we could all use a bit of that these days.