

Claus Janew

How Consciousness Creates Reality

The Full Version

**Translated from German
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Except for the parts already published
in the abridged version of the same title**

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"All energy contains consciousness.
... A recognition of that simple
statement would indeed change your
world."

Seth

Preliminary remarks

This book was written out of the desire to examine the structure of our reality from a standpoint unbiased by established teachings, be they academic- scientific, popular-esoteric, or religious in nature. Of course, complete impartiality is not possible. We are woven into existing contexts, we have to start from our actual perceptions, and indeed I would say we are already born with a pre-sketched worldview. But whether we limit ourselves to it, we decide anew in every moment.

While the mystic does not reject today's science, only classifying it as a limited scheme of order, most present scientists regard mystical experience as objectively meaningless. The logician is suspicious of purely intuitively gained insights. Thereby he misses the fact that his construct of ideas is actually based on nothing else. Contrary to common opinion, however, one can open up the spiritual-emotional realm of experience starting from a causal-logical approach by going to the limits of this logic - and beyond. My aim is to approach certain realizations in such a compelling way that they can arise from within. What we find on this path also does not necessarily correspond to the teachings that have solidified over centuries in occultist circles.

We will begin with seemingly simple interactions in our daily lives, examine how they originate on a deeper level, come to understand the essentials of consciousness, and finally recognize that we create our reality in its entirety. In the course of this quest, we will uncover little-headed paths to accessing our subconscious, other individuals, and that which can be understood by the term "God". And the solution to the classical problem of free will constitutes the gist of the concepts thus revealed.

If I primarily draw on ideas of the philosopher Hegel, the quantum physicist David Bohm and the so-called "trance personality" Seth, then not to cling to them, but to play with them, to take them further and to cross them with each other. So I will make use of that creativity to which we all owe our existence and I hope you will do the same while reading. You do not need any previous philosophical knowledge, but simply an interest in fundamental interconnections, a certain openness and the willingness to think along. Perhaps, however, some things will seem familiar to you and yet different. For example, I almost do not quote at all, because I could hardly find any texts that express exactly what I want to say. Instead of aligning myself with authorities, I rely on consistent presentation and the reader's own judgment. (Needless to say, plagiarism would contradict this attitude as well).

Some topics I treat only as detailed as necessary for the overall concept. Important justifications, on the other hand, cannot be simplified without weakening them. We will not be satisfied with superficial perception, but will discover links that far exceed our previous understanding. Precisely in them lies the key to new, less conflict-laden approaches to the tasks of our everyday lives.

What is to say about my career? Or asked differently, what did one do in the German "Democratic" Republic (GDR) if one felt destined to be a philosopher but did not want to study Marxism-Leninism? There were only two alternatives: either you did not study philosophy at all or you saved it for after work. Unless, of course, you found a job for which you were mostly paid for attendance and thus could educate yourself in your own way during that time. My salvation was a secluded furniture warehouse and books from the city library. I replaced unavailable knowledge, if necessary, with my own ideas. In this way, four years later a treatise was completed, which I called "Existence Theory" and which, by and large, satisfied my need for knowledge of the world. It did not touch on the meaning of life.

After the reunification of Germany, from the "new" literature the Seth material impressed me so much that it completely turned my hitherto materialistic worldview upside down. The skeptic in me, meanwhile, was constantly trying to question Seth's teachings in order to close apparent logical gaps. Within two years I put down such a wealth of ideas (now after hours) as never before. Everything came together to form a multi-layered philosophical system. But to make it ready for publication, I had to work on it over a continuous period of time. So I gave up my current occupation and spent three years writing the book you now hold in your hand.

Since I give so much importance to Seth: Who is he?

He describes himself as an "energy personality essence no longer focused in physical reality." In popular esoteric terms, he is a spiritual entity who spoke for twenty years through the "channel medium" Jane Roberts, who died in 1984. But who Seth is should not concern us too much. The content of the books he has dictated soon becomes more significant to the reader than their origin. The philosopher demands logical consistency, the mystic immediate insight. With only one exception, I know of no work that establishes a true unity of the two. This exception is the Seth Books.

Nevertheless, in them comprehension through inner experience is in the foreground. Our thinking arises from deeper forms of existence and is just one of their expressions. I come to the same conclusion, but proceed differently, starting in the external frame of reference and showing that it cannot be sustained unswervingly. We increasingly have to use our intuition and our associative ability in order not to get stuck in a network of dead and limited valid rules.

To make comparison with the Seth material easier, I sometimes use original terms from it, but explain them in my own way. You do not need to know the Seth Literature to understand what is presented. On the other hand, I do not go as far as Seth, whose explanations fill many volumes, but limit myself to the most important and still inferable. According to my experience, the four parts of this book will appeal to different groups of readers in varying de-

grees: starting with those who are inclined to causal connections, through advocates of holistic views and professed builders of their reality, up to those who particularly expect ethical inspiration. It is not a pronounced self-help book. The main emphasis is on theoretical considerations, suggested exercises serve to test them. However, as you will note, the practical consequences of both are considerable.

Thematically, I could have started at any point. That does not mean, however, that I have written that way. Please scroll back if you stumble over incomprehensibilities. If you encounter statements that don't make sense to you, it's best to leave them in limbo and look at them again later. Look behind the obvious, or underneath it, inside. Then, I promise you, your reality will never be the same again.

Part I

The relativity of existence

1 Existence is effect

The very first question we must necessarily pose is why anything exists at all, instead of there simply being nothing.

Doubtlessly, this nothingness would be equivalent to a state in which *everything* exists. This is because *everything* could not be differentiated, since the assertion of any difference implies the non-existence of the respective other at the point being regarded. Let us examine this by means of a concrete example:

Take a vase and put it on the table before you. You look at the vase and can only identify it as such because it ends somewhere at its top, its bottom, to its left and its right sides. The vase's characteristic form is determined by its limits. But how does a limit become evident? By the fact that beyond it, something else begins, something which, in this case, is different from the vase. We can say that the vase is surrounded by an indispensable *halo* of *other* things.

You can recognize the vase as well as its surrounding objects because their (mostly reflected) light is received by your eyes and perceived by your consciousness. The surrounding objects each differ in color, form, and position, that is, they have a manifold effect upon you. If they all had the same effect, we would obtain a nebulous continuum that would still suffice to delimit the vase. It does not make an essential difference whether the vase stands on a table that is set or empty, because nothing affects you as specifically as the vase's form, whether the surrounding objects are differentiated *among each other* or not. The vase does not exist in its surroundings; it is delimited by a halo of *its non-existence* from which it stands out by way of its characteristic effect (so that the halo in turn does not exist in its place ...).

Nothing can exist *for you* that does not have a specific effect upon you. And without having an effect upon someone else, neither can it exist for them.

This statement is a little confusing. What if you turn your back on the vase? Does it still exist for you then? As an image in your mind, all right. But also outside of it? You probably say, "Yes." But on what do you base your opinion? On the fact that the vase is still there when you turn around? Are you sure about that? If so, you would probably be a pleasant spectator for a magician who apparently puts a cigarette from one hand to the other, when in fact he puts it somewhere else. (There he may also break it and crush it, so that not only has it changed places, but there is no cigarette there at all). The deception is based on your habitual *inference* about the movement and behavior of objects, which undoubtedly arises from your experience, but which you can only *assume* is transferable to the actual event.

Let's return to our vase. So if you stand with your back turned towards the vase, it could simply disappear. You can only ascertain whether that "really" happens by asking another person about the vase's state of being while you have turned away. This person, let us call him Hans, probably sees the vase and will tell you so. For Hans, the vase exists, and when he tells you so, it also exists for you - because you assume (!) that Hans is telling the truth.

Now regard the vase again. It exists for both of you and thus has a greater *range of existence*, since its existence is hardly reduced if one of you does not perceive it, as long as the other reports its existence (only a shadow of a doubt remains that the other may be lying). The vase still exists for both together.

But if we add a third person - Siegfried - who also observes the vase and to whom you both report *exclusively and separately*, the opinion of each observer loses significance, because even if the vase does not exist for *one*, it still exists for *two*. Its collective existence is therefore relatively independent of the perception of one individual; it is more "real" than his individual view. So far, so clear.

We dismiss Siegfried again. If you now turn away again, only the *description* of Hans exists for you, which will always deviate somewhat from the original in its individual coloring. It *is* not the

original. So a somewhat different vase appears to you. It becomes worse when Hans tries to communicate through his ninety-year-old grandmother and a disturbed telephone line. It's like putting a frosted glass pane in front of the vase. The translucent shape hardly reminds you of its origin. If you don't want to annoy Siegfried again and don't want to make just assumptions, you have to admit that for you there is only a blur of color. He does not exist for you as such, in which one could put flowers. Thus it resembles an undifferentiated halo of the former vase, and the more obstacles you put between that vase and yourself, the more nonexistent it becomes. Instead of the vase *and* its halo, you finally see *only* the halo; more precisely: the halo of some currently foregrounded object.

Each thing and *each* object of its surroundings has such a "shadow" of its own existence. Where these halos overlap, they form an area from which *all* the regarded objects stand out, and thus, a background of collective non-existence. But even a halo that is common to a group of objects still exists *as such*, and *its* own shadow then consists of the various objects themselves. A background of non-existence common *to all* will always remain hidden. It is a continuum from which all that exists arises. Nonetheless, a relatively continuous and general halo such as a bare wall can come sufficiently close to the characteristics of this background to serve as a perceivable representation of this halo. For simplicity's sake, I will speak of an "imaginary halo" in all cases in which such a diffusely existing halo can represent this hidden, imaginary background.

Meanwhile, an object can naturally act on the various objects in a structured environment, which in turn act on the observer. In the example above, they will deflect, blur, and weaken the original effect by scattering or absorbing the light coming from the vase. But to a *limited* extent, the environment can also amplify. For example, mirrors can make the vase look distinct to you in several ways at once, and as if Hans and Siegfried were collaborating, you can obstruct one of the ways without the vase ceasing to exist for

you. *Too many* mirrors cancel out this advantage, because they make the surroundings look the same as the object and make it disappear in this halo.

You have probably noticed: We have always spoken of a *human* observer, but we have hardly believed him to have higher abilities than a piece of wood. In fact, it is enough for a flower, for example, if a vase enables it to bloom upright and thereby exists for it. In addition, we can put a plastic stick into the vase. Without the vase, gravity would act transversely on it, instead of lengthwise. For it as "observer", the vase also exists, but again differently. The rod exists again for the "observing" flower, which can lean on it, because it extends the hold on the vase, which now influences the flower in *two* ways. The human being is only one of infinitely many and manifold observers, of which each takes a characteristic point of observation.

What can we conclude from what we have seen so far?

The existence of a concrete object is measured against its non-existence in its environment (and only then against *the environment's* non-existence in the place of *the object*). This can also be a temporal environment, such as the vase before its production or after its breaking. The object exists more *intensely* depending upon how relevant it is to us; either within a selected spectrum of effects (such as the reflection of light in the form of a vase) or within a broader spectrum including all recognizable influences (e.g. the vase is flying at 80km/h towards our heads). I label this relevance with which the object distinguishes itself from its halo as *intensity of existence*, to stress the fact that something irrelevant also *is* less. An object will seldom fade into its surroundings as would a veil of mist, such that generally some qualitative difference between the object and its halo will be detectable. However, since the observer *unites* all the effects upon himself, that is, also *abstracts* from their qualitative differences, an object can not only exist or not exist within the total impression, but also exist *more or less*.

Existence means a *certain* effect. All things in the universe are indirectly connected with all others - otherwise it would not be *one* universe. Every thing exists for some other. In this way, however, everything arbitrary can exist. Because only for *some* observers it is determined. For the others it exists rather *as* those other things which take up its effect and are then perceived.

Accordingly, for a concrete observer at first only the *received* effect is (existentially) relevant.¹ If he himself acts on an object, he receives of course with its reaction also his own changed influence. But most of the effects our observer probably calls forth in his undefined halo. Who knows what his actions cause besides the obvious: The dispersion of effects is more likely than their concentration at a particular point, that is, retroactions become increasingly blurred. The reason for this lies in the asymmetrical relationship between the observer and his larger, ultimately infinitely extended halo, which swallows all influences not again directed reasonably straight at him. Thus also their origin remains in the dark.

Summing up our reflections, the existence of each thing is relative. It is dependent upon the observer's viewpoint. A particular object, such as the vase, can only exist for a *particular* observer. Its existence for *several* observers, in comparison, is only possible if they are connected among each other - i.e., communicate with each other - to establish its existence together.

Then, for the observers *as a collective entity* the object will have a greater range of existence and thus exist more. Even for the single observer its intensity of existence will increase, since it will have a stronger effect upon him by way of the connection with the other observers. Nevertheless, the vase flying at you alone will already exist intensively. When you attempt to dodge out of its way, during which in the worst case you will knock over Hans, he will also not remain unimpressed. Its effect will rub off onto him, so to speak, and thus the vase will gain in range of existence. Within the point of observation that encompasses, i.e. *connects*, both

¹ The absence of such can also "act", but only by referring to existing influences and thus being mediated *through them*.

observers, a larger range of existence usually will signify an increased intensity of existence - and vice versa.

However, even with a high range of existence of *one* object, its essential characteristic must be preserved and not split up into incomparable variants by the different observers involved. Otherwise, we have a dozen of objects of observation at the end without recognizing their connection, let alone being able to trace them back to *one* cause. They would exist in this case as completely different ones.

Now another aspect is added. An *effect* on the observer causes a change in him (or what is the same: rest in contrast to the environment), and he subsequently perceives his further environment differently. After the vase has hit you after all with full force at the head, you dream for example of the stars. With the new perception, you have changed your individual point of observation, that is, the existence of your environment, just as a part of the old environment had changed you. Nevertheless, this passive environmental change has little effect on other viewpoints like Hans'. He may see you lying on the ground now, but everything else is normal for him. Also in the larger *common* point of view with Hans, the total change of *your* point of observation possesses a relatively small range of existence. Only if you perhaps go crazy after this blow, give the innocent Hans a slap and he also revolts afterwards, you have actively caused a more far-reaching environmental change.

Conversely, the range of existence of a change together with its starting point decides about activity or passivity of the observer. If the range of existence of a directed movement is large, its *originator* has also caused a lot. If, however, the extent of the movement or its *part coming from the observer* is smaller (you merely twitch briefly with the arm, whereupon you are determinedly fixed by Hans or immediately beaten through), the respective *environment* (in this case Hans) must be more steadfast or more active, thus the observer (you) must appear more passive.

Nevertheless, every observer forms an individual unity with his environment, *independent* of the range of existence of the activities. *Both* determine each other as sender and receiver as well as concretely related to each other. Therefore we can summarize observer and environment under the term "point of observation". Of course, this does not relieve us from the distinction between its details, because just their relations to each other describe it. It embodies a certain set of differences, which it unites relatively.

Then in turn we can compare different points of observation with each other, which will create yet another, comprehensive one. The difference between "more real" and "less real" is thus a difference in range of existence within this broader viewpoint. For example, everyone can freely change his thoughts, but without much influence on the collective reality. It possesses larger range of existence, is therefore spatially and temporally more stable, just "more real". Just like the individual material environment as a collective world of the different points of view which *one* observer can take and connect by comparison; for example if he looks at a vase at different points of time to determine its duration of existence. The material world appears outside our heads only because it also exists for many other "heads" with whom we share a common level of communication. This also contains past contents of consciousness and "dead" objects.

To point it out once more: We do not contradict here the knowledge that objects can act by themselves. Rather, their independence, like that of the other observers, is a *part* of every point of observation. But nothing exists completely independent of us. Later we will discuss this in more detail.

Alternation of the point of observation is only possible between stages with certain similarities, just as observers and objects in it need similarity to connect. Changes and connections follow certain rules that characterize the point of observation. For example, we cannot fly from one vantage point to the next like Superman, and we must speak a common language to communicate.

If "inner" rules, like those of communication, change, the point of observation does not remain the same. On the other hand, the point of observation changes according to certain "external" or better *wider* rules, which entail the change of the "internal", respectively *narrower* ones. We can travel by airplane, that is in accordance with the physical laws, to another country, but there we will have to communicate by means of another language. Because of this, we will experience even familiar actions, such as shopping, differently. By contrast, the meaning of what the sales clerk says to us in the local dialect will remain hidden from us. Something that does not obey the rules of our point of observation does not exist in it. Meanwhile, once we have become accustomed to the local dialect, our situation changes again.²

Of course, we cannot discuss all variants and combinations which may result from the relativity of existence. There would not be enough space for that, and moreover many of them are derivable from what has been said so far. Certainly, fundamental questions have remained unmentioned, for the answer of which the concept of existence alone is not sufficient. However, the unusual relativistic approach is the prerequisite for the understanding of everything else, with which we will also face the questions that

² Besides, there are things, which obey some rules in the context of a *point of observation* and thereby contradict others. From mathematics, the following example is known: $\sqrt{-1}$ is an "imaginary" number, because every inverse operation $(-1) \times (-1)$ or $(+1) \times (+1)$ always results in $+1$! Actually, it must not exist, and therefore it is designated with a letter: $\sqrt{-1} = i$. But if one multiplies this i , after having used it in various arithmetic operations, with itself, one gets again a real number: $i \times i = -1$. The "semi-existence" which existed only under the condition of its soon disappearance, was transformed again into "fully existent", after it was created for a real purpose which could be reached only with its help. It behaved like a catalyst, which first makes a chemical reaction possible and afterwards emerges from it unchanged, leaving a stable result.

We will encounter this procedure in less strict form, without my always pointing it out, several more times; for example, in relation to the universal continuum, implicate order, and the dynamic of consciousness, where the "imaginary" will turn out to be not so unreal as the a priori limited mathematical approach suggests.

have remained open. First, we want to discuss an important consequence of the relative existence and fathom how a being independent of an observer can be classified.

2 The absolute universal continuum

Objects must differ from their environment. If they do not do this, only this environment exists. And if there should be no distinguishable objects even in it, we have a continuum, an absolute continuum. Since there are also no reference points in such a continuum, based on which one could at least determine different positions in space (like with a compass on an infinite white sheet of paper, on which one has noted only one point for the needle of the compass), this continuum is equal to absolute identity. No point is distinguishable from the other. It is infinite, because borders would define an environment, a frame of reference.

As little meaningful as absolute continuity is absolute discontinuity. It is formed by the absolute separation of every possible point from all others. None of these points can exist for any other; none is distinguishable from the other. Again we get absolute identity. Reality necessarily lies somewhere in between; it must be relatively continuous and relatively discontinuous, like a landscape of hills in which one hill merges into another, but we can distinguish the hills only by *skipping over* the valleys. On the other hand, of course, each valley floor has bumps that we *pass over*.

The more continuously one thing flows into the other, the more the two approach a single identity, like two liquids that visibly mix or two soap bubbles that first combine into a double bubble and then fully merge into one. The degree of continuity indicates the closeness of a variety to the identity of its parts. Continuity *is* finely subdivided identity, the merging of each point with its neighbor. On the other hand, a *coarse* subdivision must be continuous at least within its single sections, for if not, the subdivision will become finer and finer, and thus again more continuous *overall*. If we cut an apple into smaller and smaller pieces, grate and mash it, in the end only applesauce remains. Therefore, discontinuity is only relatively possible. So is continuity, but with its help identity can be infinitely finely approximated.

For a better distinction from continuity I want to call discontinuity in the future by the (mathematical) term "discreteness" and do without the self-evident characteristic "relative".

Let us now bring in our thoughts on existence. It is relative as discussed. And it is discrete, that of a distinguishable object. A modification of existence is achieved by shifting the point of observation according to specific rules which, however, themselves can change with this shift. For example, although we may usually move to another location by driving, as soon as we arrive at an airport we are also presented with the possibility of flying.

In the following thought experiments we now connect the relativity of existence with our knowledge about continuity.

By following the rules inherent to the shifting of viewpoints, we will arrive at increasingly unknown points of observation. In a coherent infinite universe, we can "go" infinitely far. Somewhere along the line we must then also be capable of arriving at a point of observation at which *nothing* exists for us. Let us imagine at this point an extremely dense fog that prevents us from recognizing anything in our surroundings, even our own bodies. It also swallows all sound. Then we also switch off our other senses. Finally, we let the dense fog penetrate our thoughts and isolate them from each other. They can no longer refer to each other and also become increasingly frayed themselves. We don't even know who we are anymore, we are disconnected from ourselves. There is nothing anymore. Absolute discontinuity, absolute continuity, absolute identity. (Nevertheless you should read on).

We seem to be largely disconnected from the infinite diversity of the universe anyway - in the sense that we are not in connection with it *as such*, and as such it does not exist for us. Therefore, it did not take long for us to disengage ourselves from the rest too. The approach to this absolutely continuous point of observation, to the halo of non-existence, the overlapping of all halos of an existing diversity, was clearly ascertainable, because it took place on a *finite* way.

The path in the other direction, on the other hand, is infinitely long. It means the increasing existence of all possible things. But since on this path we encounter an infinite variety of experiences, it is far more interesting. However, at its "end", absolute continuity = absolute identity awaits us likewise.

The difference between the two ways is best illustrated with a simple model: Let us take a pencil and draw a few solid squares on a blank piece of paper. We have thus created a world, a point of observation. The respective outermost squares mark the limits of our viewpoint. Now, we can erase all the squares, one after the other, and all of the last one except a dot, with which we reduce the volume of our viewpoint to zero. That is the point at which nothing exists anymore.

Instead, we can also add more and more squares, which in this example only differ by nature of their location. The original volume will become continuously filled with squares, have no more points of reference except its edges, and extend infinitely to take up further squares.³ In the end, there are *no* points of reference anymore in this infinity, that is, all is identical. Although this identity is never reached, it is *tended towards*.

A similar situation is to be found in reality at large. In a diversified and *coherent* world, an expansion we follow will also lead to the expansion of the connections with other things and thereby to *their* expansion, which in turn will include yet other things, and so on. Thus, a thriving economic enterprise will also expand its cooperation with its partners and contribute to their growth. Furthermore, the business will find new partners and involve them in the same way. In an infinite world, there is no reason for any insuperable limit to this process. Even if only *one* of the *infinitely many* paths exhibits infinite expansion, this still suffices to conclude that the imaginary halo will be *completely* filled, because this one path

³ Outlines of squares would also be filled as soon as they begin to overlap. They would not restrict infinity in any way. Infinitely thin lines, however, would not result in a single existing square.

will then incorporate all other paths. It will reach anything whatever, even the most improbable, since in infinity *anything* is possible, inside as well as out. Therefore, this infinitely distant point of observation is an absolute *continuum*. It is hidden behind the existent and evident behind its respective halo, where it awaits realization. We do not know the whole journey, but we know its destination - the absolute identity of all the existent and therewith simultaneously non-existent.

In itself this identity is meaningless and resembles an infinitesimal (infinitely small) point without differences. It can only *exist* for a discrete (relatively discontinuous) real world; in "reaching" it, it immediately *reflects* upon some sort of separation.⁴ Since absolute identity now lies in every direction (see above), it is present, in final consequence, in every random point of our world.

In view of its derivation, I would like to call this point the absolute universal continuum. The infinite path of its approximation describes what is meant by it, but there are, as already suggested, also shorter paths. A point in itself is always the same. Only the paths leading to it are different, which is why it can only attain specific meaning *with* these paths. And this meaning is of capital importance, as we will yet see. Already we anticipate a connection between the infinitely large and the infinitely small.

To this point we have discussed the effect of the surroundings *upon the* observer. Conversely, as mentioned in chapter 1, every observer is also an object for others, he affects other observers. Especially from the *nearer* surroundings, his effects can be returned relatively *unaltered* (like in your fight with Hans), thus closing an interaction. By influencing the objects of his nearer environment, an observer exists for himself via their feedback - provided that he *notes* such an interaction. Otherwise, the *interac-*

⁴ This point of reflection bears much resemblance to a partially imaginary catalyst, as we described in chapter 1 (footnote 2). We will come to *what* it catalyzes. But it is more than that, because it can be realized in accordance with *all* the rules. It is the point that unites everything.

tion does not exist for him. No tennis racket can remember which ball bounced off it last and in which direction. So it will not notice that the same ball hits it again. But a *third* observer, a player or the referee, can see this relationship quite differently: as interplay and as a (partial) self-existence of the tennis racket (and of course of the player, the coach, etc.).

However, every such interaction is *contained* in the observer-object-observer system defined by it and consequently must exist in this system. Thus, the subsystem two-rackets-one-ball exists for itself in the form of its inherent interaction. In the same way, every observer consists of objects that refer to one another, and thus exists on his own by embodying the entirety of his inner interactions.⁵ He is a point of observation. If he interactively *incorporates* his surroundings, he only *extends* this point of observation. The self-existence of the observer is *at its least within him* - even exclusively, if he does not distinguish between himself and others.

Pure self-existence of *another* thing naturally is equivalent to its non-existence, that is, it dissolves in the imaginary, because *pure* self-existence can be *anything random*. The "imaginary" thus is a mass of self-existent things, "pure being", independently of an external observer. And the relativity of existence describes the transition to it. Nevertheless, it is observed. And the relativity of existence describes the transition to it.

The absolute universal continuum, which is hidden behind this transition, but *includes* objects and observers, exists thereby no less for itself than any real point of observation that includes an imaginary *halo*. Every world is a certain form of universal self-existence. But *within* such a world (respectively below its entirety) we distinguish different objects and observers, which is why self-existence (interaction) and existence of other (influence) are intertwined there.

⁵ It exists "for itself" just as much in the Hegelian sense, considering that its entirety *results* from the interaction with its parts.

3 The unity of the differing

Influence means the transfer of effects of a sender by a transmitter to a receiver. Sender and transmitter as well as transmitter and receiver *interact* with each other, of course, but since no transmitter acts back from the receiver to the sender, we can only speak of an *action of the sender on the receiver*.

But first the receiving observer registers an *effect* on him. That it was transmitted, he does not know, because in order to experience that, he would have to look at the way of the transmitter, the *course* of its movement, "from the side", thus on *another* way of transmission by another transmitter. A blow must be seen coming or its path must be reconstructed in retrospect in order to recognize it as such. Otherwise, all that exists is a muffled "Tock!" Even if you see a rushing vase coming *directly* towards you, its perspective enlargement results only from perceiving the spreading of the edges "laterally", by means of the light reflected by the vase as a further transmitter.

If you want to locate the thrower of the vase, he must also influence you in another way, for example, by calling out, "Hello, here I am!" He rests relative to the thrown vase, which should convey an effect *for him*. Therefore, he is the object and the vase is a transmitter of his existence. On the other hand, the transmitting vase rests in lateral direction to its way and therefore can be an existing object itself, transmitted by the light to an observer. The change of the incident light indicates to him the movement of the vase, but the course of this change must in turn be *stored* in the brain to be subsequently viewed as a whole object, and so on. Every change or movement without transmission and its reception in another direction, in which the movement rests, "exists" only an infinitely short moment ("Tock!"). It is infinitesimal; that is, mere rest, a point in space and time.

But something absolutely resting cannot exist at all, cannot *affect*. In addition, another movement, which we have neglected so far, is essential to distinguish an object from its halo: the compar-

ing movement between them. For example, to distinguish a car from its surroundings, you must let your gaze wander back and forth between the two. By behaving in different ways relatively calmly to this mediating motion, object and halo become distinguishable. But because this is a *reciprocal, repeated* motion, the *totality* of object, halo, and gaze eventually rests as well. Thus you can perceive car and environment *as a whole*. Similarly, you identify the car as such in the summarized comparison of its recognizable parts.

Object, observer and effect transmitter are to be understood as an entirety as well: Here, the transmitter takes over the function of the gaze - only in a more "real" or "objective" form, since it is more difficult for us to influence and can change objects that withstand our gaze.

The mediator between two different objects bridges their non-existence in their interspace or during the transition from one into the other. Therefore, as a concrete intermediate form, it must embody a unity of their existence and non-existence - but moreover, it must also embody its *own* existence and non-existence in *itself*, because it is a relatively independent object of view.

It does the latter in the Hegelian sense by uniting "being and nothing" into movement: concretely, it is in every moment another than in the preceding one.⁶ The succession of these infinitely finely resolvable moments results in the movement, but this is only ascertainable by the reciprocal comparison of previous and subsequent moments, which in their totality are at rest again. Thus, movement is on the one hand composed of resting moments and on the other hand exists only by leaving behind a relatively resting "history", without being reducible to either of them. Conversely, there is no rest without movement, no object without mediation with another.

⁶ If you want to compare these and the following considerations with those of G. W. F. Hegel (they do not agree one hundred percent!), I recommend his "Enzyklopädie der philosophischen Wissenschaften" with the oral additions, especially volume 1 about the science of logic.

Its effect consists in the *change* of the observer, which the observer in turn *notes*. The light coming from the vase constantly triggers nerve impulses in us, which we accumulate into a constant image. We then compare it with the images evoked by the rest of the environment (also stored changes in us), freezing the dynamic of this comparison in an apparently static difference.

All these aspects of existence - mediation, effect and distinction - are united by movement as transition of specific being and non-being into each other. Their demarcation from each other is as relative as that of rest from movement.

The inseparability of movement and rest despite their difference is found everywhere and on every size scale. Both penetrate each other at every place. Since their unity is the basis of existence, it is at the same time part of the unity of mediator and object. The mediation again links object and observer to a unity, although it separates both equally.

Via the other, "lateral" mediation path, we can consider this entity independently of whether it is an action or an interaction. By comparing the states of motion of objects and transmitters, we always grasp the *reciprocal* relation between their "lateral" transmitters (respectively their "effect nodes") *in us*. Thus, also the detection of a directed motion presupposes an interrelation.

This seems to be especially important if we realize that influence also assumes a causal connection: The emission of the transmitter as cause produces the effect of its reception. The recognition of the cause, however, is also an effect. The whole causal chain is itself an effect, which consists in the existence of a directed movement.

We are more likely to accept the interrelationship underlying it if we can attribute it, rather than just to us, at least in part to the players "per se": A tennis player's last serve (match point) may cause a futile reaction from his opponent. Here the interrelation of *intended* effect and *chosen* cause forms a total object changing to one side: the game coming to an end. Both for us and for the players. Afterwards, ball and players leave the court. In fact, it will turn out

that the result in *all* cases co-determines its occurrence, not only by the intention to achieve it, but also by its *having occurred*.

If the opponent plays the ball back, i.e. closes the fixed action as *such* to an interaction, the total object of course exists as a cyclic, largely stationary entity: ball and player remain on the tennis court; it is still the same game. However, it owes its structure precisely to the remaining movement.

You have surely noticed that the terms "mediation" and "transmitter" are not limited to ordinary spatial movements, but concern *all* state changes. *Every* change takes place in a so-called state space, which describes the possible ways of change. Accordingly, a transmitter embodies the transitional form of one state (a point in the state space) into another. For example, the mediation of a green banana with a later brown one by its mature yellow state can be explained only in a limited way (as a change in the wavelength of light) in ordinary space-time. For the change of any property of the banana, which is not completely traceable to other properties, we need a separate dimension. Space and time are only *partial aspects* of this multidimensional state space in which the color change takes place.

Since every structure is based on mediations that merge into the mediated sides and merge them with each other, one can say that only interweavings of concrete changes form a concrete object. In the total context everything plays at the same time the role of the object, the transmitter of other objects as well as the entirety of inner interactions. Every seemingly independent part exists, just like the totality, solely by virtue of reciprocal movement - inside and outside, either in the form of "subjective" comparison with a small range of existence or "objective" interaction with a large range of existence. Nothing is *without movement*, neither difference nor entirety, neither existence nor self-existence. And to the question *what moves*, the answer is: *other* movements.

Just as rest and movement form a unity of differences, logically their concrete forms like cars, bananas and tennis games do as

well. However, because they are not abstract but many *concrete* entities, they can also be concretely dissolved. After the tennis game that bound the players together, they can separate. *After* the dissolution of their unity, they appear as *other* components, since they are now no longer determined by *this* unity. For example, they are now playing family men. But as *definite* components of a *definite* unity, they are *inseparable*. Without playing tennis, there are no tennis players and vice versa.

With the reception or mutual transmission of effects, one object is included in the point of observation of another. Both are now linked to a *unity*, which is the stronger, the more the quality of the respective observing component depends on it. The opposite side can be so essential for the observer that the blowing up of the unity would destroy him or transform him into a fundamentally different one. He would depend on this unit like the seriously ill person on the doctor. The doctors influence the sick by means of advice and medicine, while they themselves have to live on the thanks and money of their patients or have to pursue another profession. No side would remain the same without the other; they form an *inseparable* unity of differences.

Similarly, two specialized surgeons for the man on the operating table. The unity of the surgical team is vital for him. On the other hand, it wouldn't be a team without patients. Moreover, surgeons have specialized precisely to be able to work *together*. Thus, we could cite however many more or less closely related units of difference, but we want to stick to a simple example in order to deepen now some aspects of *asymmetrical* essentiality hinted at earlier.

Let's focus on the side of a patient. He recognizes a doctor by what he gets from him and its effect on the disease. Thus, the essence of the doctor *appears through* transmitters and *in* their effect on the patient. After the patient has used up the medicine, he comes again to be treated further: his doctor is still a doctor, thus a constant, relatively independent of a *certain* transmitter. That is why the sick person comes to *him* and does not simply supply him-

self from the pharmacy. It is important for him to be *helped*, no matter with what.

The doctor, however, has other patients, and so it is actually immaterial for his role as a doctor whether he helps *this* patient of all people. As a therapist, he has not only a larger range of existence than his effect transmitters, but also one that goes beyond the individual doctor-patient relationship. Therefore, he could dissolve the relationship with a *single* sick person without consequences for his (professional) essence. This essence is more general. (But it is more special than his, largely unknown to the patients, human essence).

Our seriously ill patient converses about this with the light cases in the waiting room, includes them in his point of view. Yet their common doctor is not nearly as important to these people as he is to him, whose life and unfoldment depend on him so much in the extreme that he identifies him - as a paralytic does his caregiver - with much of his own essence:

While something general is characterized by its larger range of existence within the point of observation, something essential stands out by its larger intensity of existence within the same. As described in chapter 1, however, one conditions the other to a certain extent, so that an essence must also be a relatively *general* essential object of observation. It is, after all, determined in comparison with the many non-essentials that it influences or whose affects it outweighs (in the above case, after all, most of the patient's actions). Close family ties between the patients, in turn, would reinforce the existence of the doctor for all, in that the life of each one touches the others more. As yet, however, this commonality of reference does not create a common essence. Such a being would have to *dominate* each individual.

Especially to understand hierarchy, we should familiarize ourselves with these connections of existence, essentiality and generality. With every distinction we necessarily estimate essentialities, because it is always about the delimitation of *specific* existences, which are essential in one characteristic area, but possibly not in

another. Here we can abstract from the respective transmission of effects. (But every difference is mediated).

Some dialectic relationships

4 Essence, relativity, and contrast

We usually regard an essence as relatively independent, like an object, without accounting for the mediation of its existence. With a little reflection, however, it becomes clear that it exists only in the form of appearance. It embodies an aspect of *several* forms of appearances, which are *connected* by it. After all this aspect goes *beyond* every single appearance. It is the essence of a *group* of appearances. Admittedly - as we saw in the last chapter - only if it dominates the behavior of the single "members". Essential is indeed *every* generality on its characteristic level, but it does not necessarily spread to the other aspects of the "members".

In the case of a youth clique, for example, we speak of group pressure, but this is hardly based on the common wearing of leather jackets, but arises from deeper relationships between the members. The essence of the group can determine the behavior of the youth even if they are not wearing leather jackets at all. The leather jacket is a single characteristic of each member and, although common to all, relatively inessential. (But not if we consider *exclusively* this point of view).

What is the mediation here? Of course the communication of the members, the appearances. Its essence unites because of its greater stability (range of existence!) many different appearances on itself, which cannot influence it in their relative volatility as lastingly as it influences the appearances vice versa. The latter are therefore above all *its* appearances, *its* forms of expression. Whether a few young people rant about their clique, leave it or join it is inessential. But all members together *embody* the essence, as a clique. It expresses itself in the behavior of the members.

If the group has a strong leader, its essence may be decisively personified in him; but it may just as well lie in the mere relation between the appearances, without being partially condensed in a calmer object. And if we exclude any transmission of effect, we identify the essence with the totality of its appearances - but then

completely, as *one* object. Every object is at first such a unity of essence and appearance. Only when we *see through* it, the set of its different properties *contains* an appearing essence.

Looking at this limited object, there is no deeper essence than what determines it to this very concrete object. Each youth gang is and contains its essence. An umbrella organization of such gangs must disregard the individuality of each single one; it can only respond to their individual views, intentions and activities in a very limited way. It does keep the groups in line and thus makes itself essential to each single one; but it is still something single for each group, relatively unessential for the realization of a *concrete* project. It is not their individual essence.

However, if we ask what essence determines the essence of a particular group, that is, what moves it to a certain kind of undertaking, we arrive at a deeper essence, which may then include more appearances (such as that of the group). For example, we encounter motives that have their cause in quite different relationships, which may even underlie the umbrella organization. The deeper essence of a thing leads us to the essence of other things. It follows, conversely, that the essence of a broader web of relations is also the deeper essence of its single meshes - unless we limit them *by presupposition* in every direction, such as limiting a subgroup to the specificity unique to itself.

A deeper essence is therefore the essence of a more comprehensive point of observation. If we now proceed to more and more comprehensive points of observation, we get a hierarchy of more and deeper essences. However, such a hierarchy is only possible in a limited system. For in the absolute universal continuum the distinction between essence and appearance is obviously meaningless. But as long as we distinguish between universal continuum and discrete real world, we can regard the universal continuum itself as the deepest essence, because it is more comprehensive, i.e. more generally effective, than *everything* else and consequently essential *everywhere*. And *as such* very concrete and ultimately

always dominant, as Part II will show. (A Buddhist would probably speak of emptiness as the only actual).

In a limited world, there can only be a limited number of commonalities, otherwise everything would be identical. If we start from the unifying commonalities within a subgroup, we therefore experience an extinction of the most general factors of influence when crossing the group boundary to the more and more comprehensive. The head of an organization, who unifies the behavior of all members by using his right to give instructions, has few or no partners in this organization with equally comprehensive authority. Otherwise, the organization runs the risk of fragmenting - just like the diverse subgroups *without* a common leader.

Only in the all-sided infinity of the universal continuum, this desolation of the most general is cancelled, because there everything is directly connected with everything, to absolute identity. Just because of this universal connection, *starting* from the absolute universal continuum, already one single discrete thing has an effect everywhere and creates the whole hierarchy anew. (The universal continuum contains also non-being, why it does not immediately disappear by a gap, as a computer may fail, as soon as only one component is destroyed. Instead, a whole discrete world of existing and non-existing things is created: The "computer" has to reorganize itself).

This hierarchy of discrete worlds, on the other hand, must be crowned by a *still discrete* top level, which connects all others and is valid on every level as well as for the entire hierarchy. It must fundamentally *distinguish* itself and thus everything else from the absolute universal continuum. This something can be only relative distinction as such, which appears everywhere in the most different variants. It comprises at the same time its own relation to the universal continuum, in which it finds the necessary something different from itself - as something reflecting for its part (see chapter 2).

The absoluteness of the universal continuum and the relativity of the existing thus still form on the highest level a unity of what is

related to each other and what interacts with each other. In all more concrete relations "absolute" and "relative" turn into each other, as soon as one wants to make the respective "absolute" really absolute: From relative appearances we can work our way to their "absolute" essence, but as soon as we declare it to be however more comprehensive and thus go beyond its concrete form, it itself becomes relative, the appearance of a deeper essence. After all, it is more absolute than the appearances from which we started, and every deeper essence is even more absolute up to the absolute universal continuum. But this in itself is unsubstantial, it eludes all characterization.

Only relative things can exist. To declare the relativity itself to the absolute is nevertheless wrong, because something *absolutely* relative could "exist" at most for an infinitesimally brief moment, after which it is "relativized" again, passes into something else, disappears. The relative must lead to *another* absolute and *participate* in it. Accordingly, even an essence 'reflected in itself' (according to Hegel), which appears as itself (like that leader of a gang), is *constituted* by relatives (the members) and must *express* itself in them.

There is nothing left but to recognize the *way* of the constitution of the deepest essence respectively the way of its expression as absolute. Both the absolute universal continuum as such and the relative discrete enter into it. Both sides form a dialectic unity of opposites. Their more static form of a discrete real world with imaginary background finds its master in its own opposition, in its sublation: 'The truth of both sides lies in their interrelationship, in the *transition* of one side into the other.' (Hegel sends his regards once again.)

We have shown in chapter 2 that there are many possible ways to "approach" the absolute universal continuum, and the absolute way is relative in that it is split into many ways. Ultimately, however, they are all connected and thus, not only collectively but each individually, absolute. This insight will help us later to a deep under-

standing of consciousness. First, however, let us take a closer look at the dialectic that prepares the ground for this.

Every object, such as a screwdriver, is itself only with respect to certain objects of reference, in this case screws, and if one forgets this essential connection, one receives *another* object - here a strangely shaped stick. Screws and their driver determine each other; they form a unity of distinguished *components*.

Even the more "objective" interaction, which can be observed everywhere, simultaneously distinguishes and unites its acting sides, for example atomic nucleus and electron shell, land and water, man and woman. They do not stand statically next to each other, but change each other, which influences their relation to each other as well. It can dissolve or both sides can coincide. (Yes, even man and woman!) Or it remains and only changes the way of its expression, just as friendship can change into love and vice versa. One can call the sides (relative) *opposites*, which *maintain* their relation to each other *independently* by exchanging mediators, by communicating with each other, by establishing a relative unity.

Appearances reveal their different or common essence through this interaction with each other. Especially in marriage. But if both sides depend essentially (qualitatively) on each other, their essence *must* consist in their unity, which appears in the comparison - inseparable from the interaction - of the opposite characters. The intensive interaction with a certain "object" sets the same apart from the wider environment, to which a less intensive relationship exists. From the halo of possible lovers, the partners are comparatively separated.

Their environment still shapes them, of course; in the case of marriage as competitors and habitat. Nevertheless, this concrete halo is surrounded by further halos whose objects influence the partners less and less directly. Intensification of an interaction unites the poles, while reduction of intensity separates them.

Some aspects of the interaction can now strive for an increase in intensity and others for a decrease in intensity. Most of the time,

both tendencies balance each other out and maintain a relatively constant state of equilibrium. If we now removed the separating tendency, the density and intensity of the relation could increase up to the identity of both sides. We would get a finite, observable single object. (The entwining after the successful "consummation" of the marriage could not be released).

If, on the other hand, we eliminate the unifying tendency, the interaction would dry up by both partners moving away from each other. (Each goes his own way in the future.) One merges into the halo for the other, disappears. For an external observer, both could continue to exist, but would have (even after the death of their relationship) the *tendency* to move away from each other *infinitely*, if they are not stopped. Their goal is motion as such.

The movement due to a predominant tendency of unification, on the other hand, closes itself by letting the partners meet. Therefore, unity is represented not only by striving for it, but ultimately by a finite identity, an object. The opposition striving for the separation of the objects however, can *only* be an open tendency, the drive for change par excellence.

This asymmetry of unity and opposition is obviously founded in the asymmetry of finite object and infinite halo, which we have noticed before in the distinction of interaction and action. There, an effect must always be directed to a *particular* recipient, which makes a particular retroaction difficult in view of the many other possibilities. Similarly, identity refers to something *definite*, difference or separation, on the other hand, to the indefinite *between* two thereby definite. Amplified to tendencies, these are unity and opposition. The latter can increase up to contradiction, which neither limits the consequences of its divisive effect itself, nor facilitates the finding of the way back. (In general, these tendencies embody those forces that can make an interacting object the transmitter of an effect on a *third* object).

Decisive for the future development of an interrelationship is which tendency can be identified more with the given unity or *identity* of the opposites and thus exists more for the *relationship*

as a whole. This is at the same time the tendency with the greater intensity.

Nevertheless, other relations and tendencies can always be involved, which seem to "distort" the "pure" form, but alone represent nothing else. From the combination with these the total course results. For example, each partner can seek new unities with others, thus loosening his or her existing relationship that has become too tight. *In* the present unity of the relatively independent partners, the contradiction prevails, which, however, is not based here on the dislike of the partners, but on the more intensive striving for unification *with others*. But on the same striving once the relationship of the present partners was based and their unity can remain victorious also this time, if it turns out that it satisfies the needs of each side *more comprehensively*.

The environment is *always* part of the foreground interrelationship, without which it would not be this particular one, as we recognized in the first chapter. Whether as empty background, open halo or structured multiplicity, the environment is interrelated to all structures embedded in it, whose development it only makes possible (like the infinite distancing of contradictory opposites from each other) or even actively provokes.

In our marriage example, the separating tendency intensively promoted by the environment coincides with that of a possible dislike of the partners. This "harmony" makes the question of which cause now has priority recede into the background for the time being. Both sides are separating for now. Nevertheless, their relation *to each other* is important for their further relationship, because the environment *alone* will not weld them together again: First, the meeting of the partners would be unlikely (see above), and second, the background environment cannot replace their foreground relationship.

Just as a unity of opposites always represents a unity of motion and rest, it also means a unity of continuity and discreteness. Both interacting objects embody discrete qualities in relation to their

relatively continuous mediating motion. Therefore, they can also be considered as *one* opposite side with respect to the latter: The quality of the objects (or of parts of them) is maintained by a mediating quantitative change (the qualitative one of a part of them) that *alternates* between both objects, opposing them equally and *qualitatively*. The moving mediator is not mere a means for anything, but a full participant in the unity of all sides involved.

If we consider the process of interaction one after the other, we start with a certain state of motion, from which a new motion emerges, which leads to another, opposite state of motion. This subsequently releases a reversed motion, which ultimately reaches the initial state again, but now "stores" the entire previous path. The initial object was changed twice, last by the interacting partner, which it had influenced before with the first own change - or even produced, as a further mediating stage.

If the transmitter is so strongly involved in both objects that they flow into each other (as in the example of the ripening banana), he is nevertheless different from them to the extent that we distinguish the objects (here states of ripeness) *from each other*. It may thereby embody the *total* change of the initial object, which passes into another state, for example, from an unripe, inedible banana to a ripe, tasty banana, and from this to a *new* level of the old, which is a result of the previous process and thus a synthesis of the two past states: As the banana changes, it cannot taste good forever; but the overripe, squishy banana that now emerges from the green and the ripe one is still enjoyed by a few "gourmets." Even the later rotten banana on compost still serves as food for plants. If, on the other hand, it were to turn green again, the completed process would disappear as well.

Every object is itself a relationship and a couple that comes together again after a crisis has not only restored its old relationship, but also has enriched and consolidated it with an important experience. It has taken opposing states distributed over time, mediated between them and united them in a new one.

Here the relation has developed *itself*, in that its quantitatively growing opposition strived for a qualitatively different unity, reached it and returned from it in the same way of its own accord, but with a new content. The one marriage has interacted with itself, via another stage, which was potentially laid out in it (just like the "final stage", which is also different from the starting point). This allowed it to change in a *certain* way. A feedback loop and a directed open movement were carried out *at the same time*, which shows us again the unity of rest and movement. It is not necessary *in this form*, but *probable*, as the next chapter proves.

We also think to recognize in the described *interplay* of unity and opposition a more probable urge for expansion instead of final limitation and how it could be realized. Again I have to put you off for a while and would like to emphasize at this point only that:

- the transmission of effect is a characteristic of any unity of opposites,
- the tendencies of separation and unification, respectively their balance, ultimately originate from this transmission of effects,
- on the other hand, these tendencies can lead to new effect transmissions by turning the interacting objects into transmitters,
- each interrelationship is not only an object even as a whole, but can develop itself into a transmitter and its own counter-object.

The last two points show how unities of opposites can lead to further such, and the resulting interweaving of the most diverse interrelationships, of which we have discussed only some ideal forms, shapes the dynamic interplay of things. In this way they form a system, which as such is again different from other systems, but is mediated with them.

5 Combinatorics and reciprocity

In a system, many different but interacting elements have combined to form a single unit. Although, for example, in geological, biological, or social systems a vast number of parts interact directly or indirectly, we are usually not dealing with a mere hodgepodge of interlocking influences, but with a few primary interactions that result from the totality of all the relationships involved. They are more essential to the system and its external observers than the others that make up the system.

Thus, a bee colony is characterized more by the interplay between queen, drones, and workers than by the "conversation" of a few workers about the best nectar deposits. But that authoritative triangular relationship does not work without coordinated foraging. The essential is based on the interaction of the less essential (to which here unquestionably belongs some more). It differs, however, qualitatively from a loose sum, in that it in turn regulates the behavior of the parts. No worker can reproduce itself, not even survive alone. Therefore, it gathers much more nectar than for itself. It follows its overlapping role and merges in part with the whole. It is itself a product of the system! Its interactions with other bees are a priority *for it*. However, without the *relatively* independent action of the elements the system would not be structured, but a point, absolute identity.

Likewise, if its structure were absolutely symmetrical. This would correspond to absolute continuity. A system must therefore be composed of different asymmetries, which altogether result in a *relatively* symmetrical structure, like the teeth of a gear wheel. If the gear wheel were *absolutely* symmetrical at the edge, namely smooth, it could not mesh with any other. Asymmetry alone permits the combination with other things, because symmetry is already complete. *Absolute asymmetry* would be equal to absolute symmetry again, because it would mean that one side is identical with zero and the other with the all-sided infinite - both absolutely

"continuous". Therefore we find *relative* asymmetry and *relative* symmetry everywhere.

In the all-sided continuity everything is equal. The reflection from this point leads therefore to a structure that is based for the moment only on arbitrary possibilities of combinations of arbitrary things. How often something occurs in the arising world depends exclusively on how many other things it can be combined with respectively on the number of possible new combinations of its parts, which it tolerates. Only with the emergence of such combinations, relations begin to co-determine the probability of their occurrence.

The structure of relations appears naturally *at the same time* with the random combinations, which are just relations. This explains why statistical and logical regularities *basically* coincide.

In a discrete real world, however, chance and necessity are distinguished. If we face a diffuse halo, for example, and from this environment, suddenly something acts on us, we rightly say this is accidental. For this coincidence there was a probability, which can be known or unknown to the observer. If it is unknown, then it is equal to the probability for everything arbitrary. But if it is known to the observer, then there must already be an effect of the (thus determined) object. The probability of its *expected* effect has now a concrete value in comparison to the probability of other possible influences. It results from the known properties and relations of the object. For *another* observer its effect can even be *completely* determined and thus not random at all, if he maintains a more comprehensive relationship to it.

Randomness is therefore as relative as existence, here the existence of information about a possibly acting something. A relation, which is necessary for one, can be coincidental for the other and vice versa. The more comprehensive the point of observation, the better we overlook all connections, but we cannot get rid of chance. Because as the mathematician Kurt Gödel proved in 1931, the system of the known contexts in which we stand is never sufficient for the complete (contradiction-free) explanation of these

contexts. We would have to go beyond the system for it, thus to add unexplained things. There always remains unknown up to the - absolute equivalence itself embodying - universal continuum. (Increasing diversity and complexity of contexts even increases its effectiveness, as we shall see soon). Statistics possesses a *fundamental* nature that originates in the identity of all things in the most comprehensive point of observation and expresses itself (among other things) via the imaginary halo.

The absolute equivalence is composed of dis-equivalencies in and between all discrete real worlds, just as symmetry is composed of many asymmetries and all-sidedness of one-sidedness. However, the combination of different asymmetries creates not only symmetries, but also *new* asymmetries. For example, there is only one way to combine triangular-asymmetric pieces of cake into a symmetric cake, but indescribably many other ways to arrange the pieces more asymmetrically. The number of relative asymmetries is as infinite as the number of relative divisions, and only in this infinity do we reach the *absolute* symmetry of the universal continuum. Asymmetry is more diverse and more combinatory, thus more frequent, more "powerful" than symmetry.

Such powers, the powers of sets, can of course only be determined in a discrete real world, where sets are distinguished and the respective ones to be compared are selected. If the sets are infinite, the infinity is "cut off" at a certain level and the contents of the sections are compared. (Nothing else is done by pairwise mapping of the elements of one infinite set to those of another, which "cuts out" the finite space between two elements of each set). Thus, the result of the comparison also depends on the "cut", i.e., point of observation, from which it must then be extrapolated (projected) to infinity. Finite and otherwise limited sets are, as explained in chapter 2, always sections of an infinite continuum.

Every determined power therefore becomes inaccurate outside clearly defined limits, more statistical, so to speak. (Just like the logical relations, which cannot be explained from themselves, but which describe the point of observation as rules). In order to

achieve absolutely comprehensive accuracy, *all* points of observation would have to be included, which no longer results in a discrete real world. But this accuracy can be approached with any precision in the direction of the universal continuum (although not necessarily steadily).

On this way, analogous to our search for the most general essence, we get on the track of the most powerful asymmetry: directed *movement* (or change). As described, nothing goes without motion and even rest exists only through it. The logical necessity of movement meets with its statistical power, to which we want to turn now briefly.

Open, differently aligned movements are much more frequent than self-contained ones, which result in relative rest and can point only in *selected* directions, in such, which lead back to their "starting point". Furthermore, there are many more states of velocity and acceleration than those with the value zero. If, while observing a system at rest, one goes into it or beyond it until at some point one can detect a motion of the system, its previous rest appears *relative*, since it obviously results from a certain motion, such as a closed one or one coinciding with the observer in velocity and direction.

Conversely, however, one cannot compose motion from mere rest, because rest is already symmetrical and accordingly not very combinable. One can express a state of rest in units of motion ($10 \text{ km / h} - 10 \text{ km / h} = 0 \text{ km / h}$), but not motion in "units of rest" ($0 \text{ km / h} + 0 \text{ km / h} = 0 \text{ km / h}$). Among the multitude of possible states, rest occupies a minority. It is logically *and* statistically an extreme case of movement.

Thus, there is an asymmetrical relation between rest and motion. But motion needs rest as an opposition of itself and for its distinction from other motions, because otherwise it would represent an *absolute* asymmetry, with the described consequences. The asymmetry of motion must constantly strive for the symmetry of rest in

order to relativize itself. (This is also valid vicariously for all other asymmetries).

Every development is therefore "interrupted" by relative resting phases, after so-called qualitative leaps, where a continuous quantitative change passes into *another*, which rests in some respects like an object in relation to the preceding one, but as a whole never terminates the movement. Finally, the "disengaged" movement can be resumed.

If we call our couple to our aid once again, they will go through a wide variety of phases, exciting and monotonous, those in which their relationship fluctuates greatly and those in which they no longer know whether they have a relationship at all. They will discover new aspects of their relationship and let old ones fade into the background, which may revive later. This happens regardless of whether it is caused by external influences, such as a forced separation, or by reaching inner limits, such as those of mutual tolerance.

But every time the movement wins, because otherwise the relation would be *absolutely* closed, *only* self-existent, even dead for itself. (Such a condition is ultimately sublated on any way to the universal continuum). All other people, too, who perceive the couple in the *most manifold* ways, do this only by interweaving their own changes with its changes. Only in this way is the couple's connection with its acquaintances and its frequent presence (power) possible. The one couple exists *through movement* in many different states and acts in different ways in all the people with whom it maintains relationships. Ultimately, even the separation from them is based on the perception of this separation, the comparative movement, a *connection* with the "separated".

Everything is interlaced with everything, and the predominance of movement in discrete real worlds can pass over into absolute rest only in the universal continuum, which is composed of all movements symmetrically, but *reflects* onto their asymmetry (asymmetrically!). On the other hand, this "rest" is always present

as continuity of the imaginary halo and infinitesimal moment of motion...

A closer interweaving of open motion with rest, for example with the rest of a cycle, brings further statistical advantages. Ideally, we obtain spiral processes for which there are even more variants of development and which therefore have a greater power than, for example, linear, and circular processes in their sum. Accordingly, we encounter them frequently; indeed, they prefer to generate themselves:

A bit of open movement may first be followed by a resting phase of reciprocal movement, a qualitative novelty, an object. Afterwards there are different possibilities. For example, a while after our couple has divorced after all, the wife stays with her sought-after lover (case 1) or is thrown out by him (case 2).

Case 1: Why should her new relationship turn out better than the old one? She will think of her ex-husband eventually, at the latest when the new guy's behavior reminds her of him. The search for a lover was followed not only by a new relation of reciprocity with one, but also by a relation of reciprocity with the "former." And whether she returns or not, she will probably derive from this *more differentiated* behavior for herself than she ever thought possible.

Let's remember: Change is only detectable by comparison with previous states. "Subjectively" this comparing feedback is possible between *arbitrary* sections of a movement. But "objectively", that means with a larger range of existence, only between *more generally* valid poles: the qualitatively different phases of movement (here the two love relations). The "objective" feedback of temporally displaced phases results from the same reason as their "subjective" comparison: The movement is (*re-*)*executed*, it *exists*. Consequently, the future not only follows the past, but is also much more directly connected with it. More new movements can arise from this interweaving than merely from the respective last state.

Case 2: The expulsion does not mean that the woman will now return home to her ex-husband. Rather, an odyssey between differ-

ent lovers can follow, which obviously confront her repeatedly with what she has already gone through. Even if she enjoys it, she learns to appreciate something new from it over time: the value of stability and depth in a relationship. This brings us back to the starting point, marriage, - but at a new, higher level that also includes the opposite experience. A new permanent relationship is likely to weather greater storms, because our lady now has a significantly more extensive repertoire of response options *within* the new relationship, gained from her varied experience. (I apologize for leaving out the contribution of the male side).

The present life community is at least as strongly related to the recent affairs as to the first marriage. The latter is *repeated* now in a new way, but only after it has developed *in the direction* of the following events - which again has *happened* only with the feedback between all life situations. So every single partnership of the woman consists of a constant inner development and feedback, as relatively resting interwoven with her other partnerships.

We hold that a particular interrelationship is always the primary one of an *evolving system* of relationships. This system would be impossible without open movements temporarily changing into more or less closed curves, which take the form of structured objects and enrich the system with *details*.

All the changing love relationships reflect the path of that woman in her search for fulfillment. This need, the union with a "goal", to which we will turn later, determines her desires. When she encounters conflicts and contradictions on her path, these provide the impetus for new *directions* of movement, for correcting the stagnant aspects of a constant movement "to somewhere there." In this respect, contradictions mean a drive to change, to leave a unity that has become too rigid. The movement, however, by maneuvering itself into dead ends, only produces the inner contradictions of that unity, which now point to the only possible continuation. Inner contradictions do not produce the movement, but only *control and structure* it, together with *outer* temptations and resistances. They all shape the life path of each partner as an expression of their

overarching needs and *deeper* conflicts that *more fundamentally* determine the movement of each partner.

In the process, the unity of the sides is seldom completely blown up; rather, it remains reciprocally involved in the newly emerging relationships. Thus, many different developmental phases work together in an expanding spiral.

We all easily overshoot our next goal, which we have not yet become really conscious of, recognize the limits of this path and finally settle down to a "golden mean", which we could mostly find in such a more or less stretched process only. (This does not mean that we should make mistakes consciously.) Accordingly, a spiral process is not only *statistically probable* because it allows for more diverse relationships, but also *logically* favorable because it leads to more optimal solutions. (Optimality, in turn, has meaning only among many other possibilities and with respect to a conscious goal).

Statistics is statistical *logic* and logic describes statistical accumulations. Combinatorial conclusions, however, attain full validity only with fundamental equivalence of all "things", as in the absolute universal continuum. On the other hand, they make statements about dis-equivalencies and are meaningful only in a world structured by relations. The transition is fluid:

The absolute universal continuum in itself is homogeneous and allows the reflection into *every* division (variety), but it teaches by itself at the same time the *connection* of everything. Both together results in a hierarchy from the single to the most general. The universal continuum can only "exist" for connected discrete states (as a point of reflection) and is thus only *one* state among an infinite number of *discrete ones*. Therefore, absolute equivalence in the universal continuum means equivalence of all *different* potential states, *including* that of the universal continuum itself.

We recognize from it on the one hand the extreme high probability of relative discreteness, thus real worlds. And on the other hand that the absolute universal continuum contains the real worlds *as*

such. It *is* all real worlds! Discreteness, movement, relativity, one-sidedness are its expression. More precisely, they are sides of its expression, and we will find many more.

Developing systems

6 Irreversible movement

Water only flows out of the tap in one direction. The forms it can take outside the pipe are too varied for it to flow back again voluntarily. It eventually overcomes gravity by evaporating, but we would have to wait forever for all the water molecules to reassemble in the same pipe.

As an essence acts in its appearances and through them, the inexhaustibility of the universal continuum works very real in every system. The power of the variety respectively the power of the potential for variety shows itself most simply in the irreversibility of a movement.

We have recognized that movement changes into temporary rest during its course. But this rest is a *repeating* (reciprocal) movement, a constant reversal of the direction. So how could a movement be irreversible?

It will hardly do so by freeing it from all feedbacks, neither from the "subjective" ones - then we would not be able to detect any movement - nor from the more "objective" ones, the *interactions* with other movements - because if nobody *really tries* to reverse the movement, nobody can confirm that this would be unsuccessful.

Now, any object within a real system is usually surrounded by many relatively independent parts. Each molecule of a gas, for example, can move detached from all other gas particles. Nevertheless, it constantly collides with them, whereby the particles interact with each other. They are in a many-particle system. Each of the particles is both object and effect transmitter of other particles. In this way, actions and interactions take place, open and reciprocal processes. The more closed ones form the outwardly calm aspect of the respective particle pair and *altogether* that of the system - its entirety. Nevertheless, each single molecule also remains largely the same. In the same way, a star remains a star, whether it moves in the many-particle system of a galaxy or not. Even an ant

is still a rather independent part of the ant-state, although it cannot exist long without this system. After all, it acts *relatively* independently.

When it is transporting a breadcrumb or excitedly palpating with another ant, troublemakers have a hard time to talk to it: The unflinching continuation of its present movement or relationship is virtually predetermined. Only when their primary interrelationship reaches a relative calm phase are the previously insignificant disturbances able to acquire substantial significance. Now other ants can lead the resting worker in new directions, bring it to new work, and engage it in a new interaction. This new process of movement of the worker is relatively closed from its old one, and for it now the same applies as for that.

The memory of the former activity recedes into the background; it joins the variety of present environmental influences. It becomes more and more improbable that one of the *manifold* possible disturbances from the environment will lead exactly to a former state of movement. Rather, the working and communication process of the worker will constantly develop in new directions. It is statistically irreversible. But it always contains the increasingly improbable *possibility* of turning back to a certain past stage.

Partially reversing movements are even likely during the long, open zig-zag movement from one job or conversation to the next, because the possible new movement states are *not completely* different from the old ones. For example, it will not be the last breadcrumb the ant drags.

In the last chapter we justified why every movement and development *must* include past states. Feedback, among other things, forms the necessary opposition and conclusion of a given movement, against which the latter is measured. Here in a many-particle system now the relative reversibility of a process guarantees its *ultimate* irreversibility, in that starting from the present point *all* potential directions of motion are considered to be of equal rank and irreversibility results *from this equivalence*, which excludes nothing a priori.

The participation of the past also creates additional possibilities of continuation *combined* with earlier options, that is, it actively contributes to irreversibility. Again, openness and closedness of movement form a unity as in a spiral, whereby openness always prevails in an infinitely diverse world.

With the terms "reversibility" and "irreversibility" we consider *possibilities* in a system. It is no longer about this or that relationship only, but about *probabilities* for the same. Chance plays a role in determining whether a possible relationship comes about.

A single process in an ant colony has little effect on non-adjacent ants and equally little effect overall. Only some, like the egg-laying of the queen, are generally significant. However, just the totality of the (relatively) independently interacting elements is *statistically* essential for the actions of each single ant - and thus also for the development of the whole system, the ant colony - because of the effective potential it offers.

The irreversibility causing variety lies here *within the* system affected by it. The system therefore strives for the realization of its very own potential. Although the ant state owes its existence essentially to repeated processes and interactions, it develops irreversibly: A situation *completely* identical to the present never occurs again.

For every *partial* process, like the life process of an ant, the many-particle system belongs to the *outside world* with which it interacts. Subjective priority has the immediate happening, while the "rest" of the system extends into the unknown.

The ant-state as such also interacts with its external environment, the surrounding forest, and likewise with its *internal* environment, the single ants, from which it is qualitatively distinct. Both this "objective" and the "subjective" view of the ant-state-forest system are valid, and both individually experienced systems are *open*. Thus, via the imaginary halo also the universal continuum participates:

Many influences come directly from the diffuse halo of equal possibilities and those that come from the known environment can be traced further back into the unknown. Exactly this unpredictable interaction with the actual *and* potential manifold environment stimulates the irreversible change of the respective foreground object (for example an ant). In the direction of the environment (so *connected* with this object) there are more possibilities of combination and development, therefore the object strives to develop that way. It strives to realize its potential given only *with* it, to express in its way the equivalence in the universal continuum to which the environment leads.

Only when we *seemingly* close a system, it provides a "final" state of equilibrium, like a balloon for its gaseous content. Of course, there are no completely closed systems. But *relative* closure is as likely as partial reversal of a process. Indeed, object- and system-forming feedbacks *generate* the multiplicity that underlies irreversibility in the first place.

The elements of a many-particle system can also be more sensitive, more interdependent, to the point where a change in just one of them causes a change in all the others.

Such close interrelatedness is found in *complex* systems such as organisms. The motions of each part may be fully determined by those of the others, but because of the diversity of interrelationships and the high susceptibility of each part to the slightest change in any other, all motions appear "pseudo-independent" of each other. By this, I mean that the changes of the parts are as unpredictable as in a looser many-particle system, where statistics must be applied because of their extensive *separation* from each other.

For example, multiple organ diseases of a person are sometimes predicted very inaccurately because their complex interrelationship remains unclear - even though it is well known how they are *fundamentally* related to each other.

The crucial difference to a pure many-particle system is that the whole behaves more like *one* object (*one* organism) because of the

more essential connection of its parts - in contrast to a looser system on which it has only insignificant effect if you change parts of it. If you remove ten percent of all the inhabitants of an anthill, nothing significant will change in its economy. But cut a person by ten percent!

Unlimitedly increasing dependence of the elements on each other, however, lets the unity of the system behavior be lost again, in that each part now moves chaotically independently of the fate of the others. The system could easily dissolve, like an army in which everyone suddenly has supreme command.

A stable complex thus presupposes the right balance between intense interaction and *real* independence of its parts. In most human communities, features of a complex are *combined* with those of a loose many-particle system; let us think of how closely we are embedded in our family environment, how chance encounters can irrevocably divert us from our plans, and how one influences the other. Nevertheless, we are still operating here on a rather superficial level, on which many things appear random and chaotic, which will turn out to be unbelievably coordinated and anything but mechanical upon deeper understanding. The superficial appearance, however, forms an indispensable part of the whole and we will therefore still deal with it a little bit.

7 Higher development

Let us now consider the possible higher evolution of a many-particle system into an autonomous complex that learns to respond to changing environmental influences in a coordinated and appropriate manner.

One is easily inclined to associate such a process only with the origin and development of life. However, in order to make it clear that the changes taking place with it point to a more general applicability, I would like to explain it not by this example, but in an abstract form, which may even make it more understandable.

We start with a loose many-particle world, where "many" also means diverse relationships and qualities of the "particles". Their accidental effects on each other will eventually lead to some of them becoming closer together and creating a "starting complexity", a system of different but intensely interacting constituents.

This is immediately threatened again by random influences of the environment. If they can dissolve the connection of the young system, then it existed only momentarily. But if they destroy only a small part of it, and next time perhaps another, an internal selection of its elements takes place, so that over time a relatively insensitive torso remains. This was probably a particularly tightly knit fragment of the newly formed structure, which was able to save itself by "sacrificing" the looser parts. If this system core had been destroyed, the start complex would have disintegrated.

However, if the surviving core contains essential feedback loops between its mutually sensitive elements, then it has real chances to survive even a *total* threat by reacting as a *total system*: Even the slightest disturbance of one part evokes a reaction of all others, which can have a mitigating effect on the threat level of the directly affected area, as in a regulatory mechanism. (If, on the other hand, it intensifies the disturbance, the relationship to the disturbed part must be weakened or interrupted in some other way - or we are back to square one). Since a threatened segment signals danger for the sensitive total complex, the latter saves itself with it as well.

Within the system, it is now not so much the system *elements* that are selected, but rather their *relationships* to each other, which, moreover, are constantly changing with the external interactions. *Thus, the systemic connection changes* - in favor of disturbance-mitigating feedbacks. Certain amplifying (building up) feedbacks can also serve this, in order to increase the sensitivity to danger signals *appropriately*, to balance missing *necessary* relations differently and to use the few *favorable* influences better.

It is no longer only the environment that selects, but above all the internally active system itself. It strives to preserve itself. If the system elements were *too closely* intertwined, this would not be possible and the complex would destroy itself with a chaotic reaction.

Let's see what happens next: The system still maintains relations with the external world - some of them important for its preservation. It has adapted its behavior to the change of these relations, also to the lack of what is necessary, which particularly requires recourse to inner possibilities. The weight of those processes, which helped to compensate for what was missing, grew, because it is usually more difficult to find something certain than to avoid it.

The more diverse and changeable the environment, the more the vulnerability of the system had to be converted into flexibility. This could only be done by means of increasing complexity of its *internal* relationships, for example, in that their processes, which used to be directed in the same way, related to each other in *different* ways after various interactions and remained as advantageous combinations or gained in importance. The system became even more sensitive, because more versatile in its reactions, but overall stable: an autonomous unit.

It now acts more diversely on its environment, which provokes even more diversified - by nature already hardly repeatable - retroactions. The interior of the system also changes irreversibly (due to its real- or pseudo-independent elements), whereby it strives for

new external relations *by itself*, i.e. stimulates its further complexification.

Meanwhile, the surrounding many-particle world still struggles with the formation and development of starting complexes. But both are now additionally stimulated by the manifold interactions with the already existing complex. The environment reacts like the complex more and more differentiated and thus becomes inexorably involved in the complexity.

Now, the next stage of development can follow: The multiform retroactions again foster the increase in complexity of the complex until its core approaches a chaotic state and can only survive by striving for its part for relative autonomy from the outer layers. A hierarchy of relatively independent, inwardly increasing and outwardly decreasingly complex subsystems unfolds. Ultimately, the outer ones of them even have to decentralize *internally* in order not to become unstable for lack of direct connection to the previous center. (Here, as in the following, the oscillation between seemingly contradictory processes emerging from each other and their finally enriching synthesis is again clearly recognizable).

Let us first summarize: In a statistical manifold, more compact systems are formed by chance, and their complexity increases by selection, first of whole systems, then also of their elements and variable structures. While internal and later external feedbacks increase the complexity of a surviving system, its sensitivity especially that of its center, increases accordingly. This sensitivity limits the increase in complexity only when it no longer manifests itself in the protective *flexibility* of the organism, but in chaotic-suicidal reactions.

Already before, external interactions have integrated the environment more and more into the complex. But now the same must divide itself hierarchically. Interestingly, just this allows the *core* of the hierarchy to reach a maximum of complexity and flexibility under the protection of its outer decentralized shells. The stabiliz-

ing interconnection with its less complex shells now prevents the fall into chaos.

The center takes on the role of the brilliant theorist who leads his independent collaborators on a more or less long leash, with the latter occasionally bringing him back down to earth. One side relies on the other, and it is no secret that a balance of centralization and decentralization takes any organization furthest. In the ant state, the emphasis is on decentralized control, whereas the ant body and the human organism prefer to subordinate themselves to their respective brains. Meanwhile, the human state (usually) combines both forms of organization equally.

The higher development described does not appear compelling. Even under favorable conditions it is at best probable. Nevertheless, it comes about with essential participation of determining processes and shows us the interaction of necessity and coincidence. While we recognize in the irreversible change of a system the realization of its infinite potential, the higher development reveals to us the aspiration to approximate *locally* the manifold interconnectedness that we expect in the direction of the universal continuum. The intensive stimulation of the parts and the higher flexibility of the total system at the same time increase the number of possible combinations and help thereby - beyond the usual irreversibility - to realize a more comprehensive potential. With the expansion to the environment, finally, the complex exceeds its locality and strives also extensively towards the absolute universal continuum.

Hierarchy and wholeness

8 Harmony, coincidence and predetermination

I now ask you to remember what we had found out in chapters 4 and 5 about unity and opposition, because their interplay is not spared by the increase in complexity. What exactly is changing?

In a complex, the parts, despite their differences, enter into much more intensive relationships with each other than in a loose association. That is why unity and opposition of the components relate more strongly to each other. Each partial unit is exposed to constant "disturbances" by the rest of the complex closely connected with it and diverging partial structures are again "reflected together" by the surrounding ones. Opposites may follow from too oppressive unity and unity may be forced by external opposites. Unity and opposites quickly turn over into each other; they are hardly distinguishable from each other in this high dynamic (as are the relations and objects within a complex). But they do not really merge: we know that a complex, such as a brain, contains a *variety*, just more unity of unity *and opposition*, not a mush of unity. Otherwise you would hardly have read this far.

However, opposites cannot appear as intense contradictions in this way, because within the sensitive complex an intense relationship means either primarily unity or destruction. The high sensitivity allows opposites at most relatively statically, in the form of qualitative differences. They arise from the overall dynamic, for example of thoughts and feelings, as mutually independent stabilities, such as opposing character traits. These can alternately dominate as well, as perhaps in the fulfillment-seeking woman of our marriage example.

So if simple units and opposites are not enough to describe the interaction in a complex, what would be more accurate?

I propose the term "harmony". Without harmony, the complex becomes either destroyed (preponderance of an internal contradiction) or chaotic (preponderance of the tendency to excessive unification of the parts). Both emphasize the mutual exclusion of unity

and opposition, rather than a balanced interrelationship between them. We also find such isolation in a looser many-particle system (for example, a gas or a swarm of gnats), where the particles act primarily as separate entities and usually interact only randomly. They work together relatively disharmoniously, which we have described as mutual "disturbance". (I already classify the ant state in the border area to complexity. But even complex organisms do not get along without a certain independence of their organs, so the door to internal conflicts always remains open).

A functioning complex, on the other hand, unites unity and opposition to a high degree by the intensive interrelation of pseudo(!)-independently moving parts. (*Besides*, it also contains real independent things.) This harmony reveals itself first in constant and manifold movement, because movement connects with *other*. Even a continuous alternating movement - which just does *not* lead to separation - is only possible in the coordinated interaction of all participants.

Rest separates things. It is true that rest and movement merge into each other, but how should components that are *predominantly* at rest coordinate with each other? Who hardly interacts with others, will hardly be able to respond to them. The residual movement between the sides, as *part* of a primarily resting relationship, can realize only a disharmonious relationship - as in war, where one is limited to the exchange of shells.

In contrast, even a simple open movement appears more harmonious, since it at least continuously grows beyond its resting moments instead of preserving them. On the other hand, it remains monotonous without movements in other - even reversed - directions. Harmony requires to a certain degree "disharmonic" breaks, feedbacks and stabilities in order to become multiform and in a more comprehensive sense harmonic in the first place. No music without all (or with exclusively) repeating passages we perceive as very harmonic. Each passage must allow variations of itself, with which together only a complex piece can arise.

Really new, however, is only something unpredictable. The brain includes the unpredictability of pseudo-independent thought processes and the ant state the real independence of its "citizens". (We will see later that both kinds of independence are basically identical).

So harmony and disharmony form a *higher* harmony. It is described less by interacting objects than by vibrations. These do not collide, but interfere (overlap), are modulated (mixed) and resonate with each other (reinforce each other). It is not the mediated objects that are the focus, but the unity of rest and motion, not the structured flute and the flowing air, but the sound. We also do not know exactly what inspired an artist to what ideas, but we enjoy his living work. In the same sense, we cannot only hear or see harmony, we must *feel* it.

Does the way to the absolute universal continuum mean a harmonious development? *Basically* it should be so, because it leads to the all-encompassing unity of the *manifold*. In order to strive for the universal continuum, a system must gain harmony and versatility, which it reaches by increasing complexity - which it does *not* embody *before*, however. So the higher harmony of its way contains disharmonies, but without these *contributing* to the development of its harmony. Errant paths are by no means *necessary*. Also, successful expansion of complexity in interplay with the environment requires the transmission of inner harmony to the outside, not the absorption of outer disharmonies. Excessive separation is never progressive in the long run.

However, limited disharmonies can be integrated into a higher harmony. For example, on the way to a richer society in every respect, *all* nations should be included (but not mixed up), even the warring ones. Only together can *all* sides learn from each other and *resolve* causes of conflict instead of letting them be destructive. In the *context of a fundamental willingness to cooperate*, on the other hand, the signal effect of targeted boycotts may well make sense.

High complexity also shows us how determination and chance can be harmoniously combined. Causal relationships and unpredictable reactions form a functioning dynamic structure. With increasing density, however, their inner processes become less and less logically comprehensible. Logic and statistics unite on the random, seemingly chaotic side. Mirroring this, in a loose system of manifold but scattered parts, all determining relations are so far separated from each other that they can interlock at most by coincidence. The change of a predetermined sequence is unpredictable; the partial units of the system influence each other only by chance, but at least so often that we can still speak of *one* system. The latter obviously has not much to do with harmony, while we can at least ascribe a *hidden* harmony to the unpredictable complex (without guarantee).

Both extreme structures, densest complex and loose many-particle system, are dominated by *statistical* logic. This comes to bear, if structures are still recognizable, but not the *way* of their mutual influence. Therefore, in such systems, as well as those combined with them, always remain possibilities of action for the unknown. The structurally apparently closed organism contains further hidden relations. It is not really closed. For this, all ways would have to be known and traceable, which would unite logic and statistics on the deterministic side, in an ideal machine.

In an open discrete real world, random and deterministic relations are by their nature as widely separated as the parts of the particular system under consideration. Accordingly, logical-deterministic and actual-statistical results usually differ. The uncertain weather forecast jumps to mind as an apt example. Furthermore, every car driver will be able to confirm that even the behavior of his thoroughly designed vehicle can sometimes only be understood intuitively. The unknown is working everywhere, and primarily its relative *separation* from the known (not so much the

harmony with it) enables logical determinations to be of at least limited validity.⁷

The most powerful relations, like the unity of distinguished, or simply motion, reach the greatest span of *equivalent* correspondence of logic and statistics: one can say either that the power of motion follows from its logic or that this logic results from its statistical-combinatorial power. However, such a power resembles a closed system (separated from everything unknown), since it seems to *exclude* more concrete relations. Because of this, it also cannot stand well for harmony between the logical and the actual.

We can only speak of real harmony between determination and chance when they also appear as themselves and yet cooperate with each other. This often happens spontaneously in certain moments. On the other hand, a possible *more complex* harmony between both sides is often hidden behind a disharmonious interplay. Pre-determined movements are randomly influenced by just such ones, changed unpredictably, but they clearly continue. (Two old gentlemen walk straight ahead, lost in thought, suddenly collide and knock down the attentive grandma next to them). Behind the superficial events, though, there may be - potentially recognizable - a deeper harmony at work, unfolding into the more discrete form, so to speak. (The involuntary encounter of the two perpetually absentminded professors and Grandma's misjudgment - "They're not blind after all!" - will make all three more careful in the future and prevent more serious accidents). Only a harmony of this higher and - according to the provisional state of knowledge - rather uncertain kind can also have all-encompassing validity, especially since it itself includes relative disharmony. We will meet it especially in the activities of consciousness several times.

⁷ This statement is somewhat weakened because control loops (such as those found in "intelligent" control mechanisms) can redirect certain *possible* disturbances to a predetermined path. And "chaotic" controls (such as those of the heart rhythm) *use* random fluctuations to maintain a steady state. (Constant small irregularities prevent oscillations from building up). But here, too, uncertainty is *eliminated* in the end. Only a complex system integrates it harmoniously to the *autonomy* of its total behavior.

9 Interwoven pyramids

After these preliminary rounds, let us finally turn to the main topic of the section, which, after all, is entitled "Hierarchy and wholeness". The need to perceive both features of order in the right relationship is obvious when we become conscious of the exaggerated hierarchical structure of many human organizations and the lack of sense of holistic coherence in a competitive society. We tend to see hierarchical structures as natural and necessary on the one hand, but on the other hand as hindering the unfoldment of lower-ranking individuals. So let us first question the *generality* of hierarchies based on their most comprehensive and inescapable occurrence, in which they dominate even chance.

High combinatorial power of a thing assigns to it undoubtedly an upper place in the pyramid of familiarity. It describes its probable range of existence, the number of the different relations which it can unite on itself, finally its actual generality. This generality can encompass almost everything and is often logically justifiable. Meanwhile, the highlighting of that thing from the absolute equivalence of the universal continuum may have been completely arbitrary.

For example, there is something to be said for the fact that a thing arbitrarily picked out of the all-sided infinity shows feedback. Because logically only in connection with feedback relative stability and structure is possible. The probability to contain feedbacks is therefore one hundred percent for every thing! Logical and statistically ascertainable results agree.

This is not surprising: We have already stated something similar with regard to movement, of which feedback is "composed". The *open* movements necessary for connecting that thing with other things now form as such with its feedbacks a dialectic unity. Feedback alone cannot *exist*, which is why it grows spirally beyond itself, transcends itself *without giving itself up*. It continues to be contained in the open movement, for the latter is also meaningless without it (see chapter 3). Transcendence, not exclusivity, is what

makes feedback so powerful. All influences return *completely* only after an infinite detour. Transcendence means *relation to something else*, being contained in it. This *is* generality, and it presupposes that no side is *absolutely* predominant.

Not even one side has to be less general than the other, they can all contain each other in *equal* parts, appear general and special to the same extent - just as *part* of everything else.

However, it is unlikely that anything arbitrarily grabbed from the universal continuum (or the imaginary halo) will have a special property, such as quadrangularity. This would be just as little logically to justify as the fact that the known physical laws are just so and not different. We would be going much further into the limited discreteness in which supposed logic and empirical statistics often diverge. To compensate for this, the range of available possibilities could be artificially limited so that deviations from the "logically" expected remain small: We put on blinders. But even then we do not escape the influence of the already *previously* unknown, which is *missing* for the symmetry of even the smallest pie and lets us stumble over the asymmetry between little generality and much incompleteness every now and then.

In chapter 4 and 5 we discussed some very general dialectical relations. The power of these relations, which describe a relationship of reciprocity of usually *two* opposite sides, is apparently based on simplicity as well. "*Duolectics*" realizes the minimum requirement of discreteness, two differing from each other. (Any further specification would already be less general.) It works in *everything concrete* - but not alone: power is not exclusivity. A "duolectic" relation is the primary one of a whole *system* of connections. In highly complex systems, moreover, it can only form itself from the *totality* of all interrelationships, albeit always from *one* particular point of view. Thus, the inner movements of a people can be expressed in the interplay of two political parties and in the divorce rate as a measure of average marital happiness. The two cannot be com-

pletely independent of each other, but depending on the point of view, the party-political or family aspect takes precedence.

Thereby, every aspect is the general one of those relations which it unites on itself. It is at the top of its *individual* hierarchy - also in terms of essentiality, because without *this* unification there would not be *this certain* relation of its different components to each other: They would never discuss party politics or the future of marriage. Some relations to "lower" levels, in turn, are dispensable or changeable without changing the *essence* of the individual hierarchy - precisely its primary aspect. The particular entirety of relationships that congeals in this essence is relatively stable.

The more comprehensively an entirety is interwoven with a larger one, the more dependent it is, of course, on *their* stability, just as parties and families rely not only on the cohesion of their members but on the stability of their entire physical and biological environment. Stability here arises, as the case may be, from high dynamic, much as each single person arises from his complex internal and external interrelationships.

Nevertheless, the different aspects in which the manifold processes meet appear relatively separate from each other, like arms and legs, whose complete interrelation we can neglect or do not need to know in order to understand their behavior when walking. They maintain relationships that are qualitatively independent of their *precise* deep structure.

In the extreme case of the absolute universal continuum, the interdependence of the things and relations is increased up to the infinite, so that every arbitrary point *coincides* with the *total resting* whole. But in a moving real world the stability of an interrelation, and even more that of a complex, requires *also* the separation of the involved (sub-) entireties. And their most modest mediation with each other is at first again *two-sided*.

A seminar, for example, is composed of the current dialogues of respective *two* of the participants, each of which stores the previous multifarious branched course of conversation and expresses it

in his words. The multi-wholeness relation of the seminar does not come about without such duolectic partial relations, which are prioritized on *their* special level and are separated from the other conversations to the same *extent* as the respective *participants* (and their memory) are separated from each other.

So we get also quite generally a hierarchy from the simplest duolectic relations over "multilectic"-complex entireties up to the absolute identity of all sides in the universal continuum. On the other hand, there is the hierarchy at the top of which are the most powerful dia(-duo-)lectic relations arising from the entirety of the lower levels of the hierarchy.

Certainly, *every* hierarchy level, whether simple or complex, grows out of the entire details of the level below it, which it summarizes. Nevertheless, that totality always goes beyond a duolectic relation, it transcends it multilectically and finally gives it up in the universal continuum (but only then!), where all hierarchy levels coincide.

If we superimpose both opposite hierarchies (one above simple-duolectic - below complex-multilectic, the other above complex-multilectic to identical - below duolectic, but manifold), we get a hierarchy, in which priority duolectic (of every *single* relation originating from the totality) alternates with priority multilectic (the totality of all particulars), whereby both are more and more united in the direction of the universal continuum (*powerful* duolectic with increasing complexity) and at the same time the entirety prevails up to the absolute *identity* of all things.

Roughly speaking, everything that stands for relative separation is at the lower end and everything that stands for more unity - including unity with the opposite - is at the upper end. It should be noted that the top level, the universal entirety, also *unites* the lowest within it, that is, *eliminates* the hierarchy. The lower levels *merge into the upper ones*, as communities and cities merge into a state. Finally, the absolute point of reflection "creates them all anew," respectively, embraces them *also* as separate. The state needs the cities and municipalities also *as such*. Wholeness and

separation are equivalent in it, because *of their identity*. (This does not mean that this harmony is *realized*.)

Each object (or subject) is still at the top of its individual hierarchy, regardless of which *global* hierarchical level it is on. It results from all those interrelated things and levels; it includes its relation to them, its hierarchical position. A head of department is such precisely because he occupies a position between director and worker. The same applies to the latter two. Each individual represents a summary of the whole, as the summit of a hierarchy which extends infinitely in *all* directions and is interwoven with all other hierarchies. We distinguish these individual hierarchies as we distinguish persons from one another. And only when we compare them in terms of a limited characteristic, such as authority to give instructions or salary grade, do we form a *new* hierarchy of hierarchies, with the director at the top.

Now a connection of versatile hierarchical creatures *must* be based on something general and - at least in view of it - essential, which takes the top position of this global hierarchy. *Other* connections of the same creatures elect *another* connecting or determining entity to the "head": In the company soccer team, probably another one is the captain.

The chiefs (and their associated hierarchies), competent in different fields, can now in turn be compared according to a particular characteristic, which establishes an even more global hyper-hierarchy. Its possible head, a person who may instruct both the director and the team captain, is able to control both the professional activity and the leisure activity of the workers through these intermediaries. It can influence each level of the hierarchies subordinate to it more than the heads in charge there, by acting *more versatilely* on each element. Moreover, if it reaches *the heads of departments directly*, its influence on each worker grows even more.

If we push this further and further, we finally arrive at a highest level of hierarchy, which directly affects every smallest ramifica-

tion of the hierarchy tree. Movement par excellence is on such a level, as we have already seen. Nevertheless, it "respects" the individual hierarchy of each of its concrete forms, because as an *abstraction* it is still only a *part* of it (albeit of *any* area).

Curves, waves and circles are different branches of the movement tree, which together again form different tops (objects). Changes at one treetop are felt by all others via the inner signal system of the tree (the mediating movements). The individual hierarchy of each top is valid (existent), despite or just because of its unity with all others in a powerful trunk (the general movement), whose wood reaches into all tops.

Therefore, it makes little sense to overemphasize a hierarchy and disregard the entirety of each individual. Just the highest levels of hierarchy are holistic, they unite *all* individuals and each single; and they work only through all and each single. The separation and division of individuals alone creates a preponderance of *limited* hierarchies, which can then be played off against each other.

The head of department also in no way narrows down the individuality of the worker, in which he has only an insignificant share (as long as the worker does not make him the center of his life by himself). If necessary, the worker can change the department, the company or even the profession - he remains largely the same. As is increasingly being recognized, however, all those involved benefit most - *most comprehensively* - from each other when a company focuses on *individuals* from the outset and grants them as much freedom and responsibility as possible.

Part II

The logics of circumscription

10 The infinitesimal center

In the first part of this book, we have described many mutual dependencies: The properties of every object depend on the point of observation and therefore on the observer. A concrete something is always compared with its environment and emerges from the interrelation with it. Even its seemingly unidirectional effect on the observer turns out to be an entirety, because no side is conceivable without the other. Everything, from the rarest forms to the most general contents, appears as an entirety of different components.

What exactly does this entirety consist of? Obviously not only in the object itself, but it rather also encompasses the object's *relationship* to its halo, an *interaction*. To perceive something, you must constantly oscillate between it and something else, by which you notice a *change* in what you just observed and inscribe this into *one* predominant, more or less distinct differentiation - one that delimits the object of your attention. For example, we can only distinguish a car in comparison with its surroundings.

Remember our example with the car that you can only recognize by comparing it with its environment? The car also interacts with its environment independently of *you* as an observer. It draws in air and emits exhaust gases, it stands or rolls on the ground, is steered and reacts to that, and so on. Without this exchange with its nearer and more distant (gas station, oil rig, manufacturing factory) environment it would not be a car or at least not *this* car. A variety of interactions and other objects is manifested in this object; it cannot be traced back to *one* particular thing.⁸

However, we never discern its entire underlying diversity. What we respectively designate as a car - typical build, rolling means of

⁸ We regarded the existence of an object as independent of the *structure* of its halo (however not of its own structure). Here, now, we also take into account its *diversified* non-existence in the surrounding objects, which not only exist *differingly*, but also *relatively independently*. These surrounding objects first differ among each other, and only become relevant to the object when they are interconnected within it.

transportation, stinking gas consumer - thus can only be a successive approximation of that totality which is embodied within it.

After all, this approximation itself does not appear as a formless mass, but is composed of many different parts, such as seats, wheels, and motor. It is only in their characteristic combination that we discern its essential core. While we oscillate back and forth between the parts, correlate them comparatively or trace their interrelations, the back and forth movements *circumscribe* a car. Without these lateral movements, only an undifferentiated, infinitesimal "effect" would remain. There is no "car in itself", because it consists only of its details. Nonetheless it is more than them, namely, their *entirety*.

What does the "more" of this entirety mean? New functions (driving, transportation, etc.), that only pertain to the whole car and not to its fragments? Certainly. But they themselves are also a circumscription. Even every *single* function - such as "driving" - circumscribes and is itself circumscribed. It represents a mutual effect. It would be a contradiction in itself to try to reduce the car to any *one* side (or - one-step further - to the *sum* of all sides or the *oscillation* between them). As soon as we attempt to pinpoint one aspect of the whole, we lose hold of the others, which are then missing, and thus we constantly vacillate between several moments - a relatively self-contained process. It is exactly upon this reciprocity - and not upon a "substance" - that the relative stability of the perceived is based. A *distillate* of the complicated oscillations emerges that is naturally sufficient as such, as an *approximation* of the complete object.

If, however, we are satisfied with neither this approximation nor with the constant vacillation between parts and functions, all we can do is to relinquish one (or a number of) sides (the "contradiction in itself" leads to separation), or, is the vehicle to remain intact, to *penetrate* the interwoven circumscribing circles to thus discover that more comprehensive structure which *leads to* them.

For instance, we can open the hood, scrutinize the construction plans or study the process of production. Surely this deeper struc-

ture also holds an approximation, if a more detailed one. Actually, it contains yet more oscillation than the initially regarded surface. However, *relative* to this surface, it can appear to be more static, as the far-off assembly of motor and dynamo may seem more static than the spinning fanbelt under our nose.

Looking into the depth of a circumscription, however, does *not necessarily* open up more details to us. When we talked about the abstract relationship between movement and rest, we could observe how the feedback between the two is often repeated down to the smallest detail, without taking on more diverse forms. Quite poorly, too, the external richness of detail of a jeep congeals in the abstract term "car." However, the Jeep offers many more possibilities beyond this terse assessment. It is more likely that we will discover its inner diversity (sit in it, examine it, drive off) than that we will *remain* in a dead end of conceptual limitation.

Whether the depth of a circumscription consists of a multiplicity or an abstraction, its relationship to the superficial interrelationships is reciprocal to the same degree: one does not exist without the other. No circumscription without circumscribed, no depth without surface, no object without reason.

The deepest level we can arrive at is the absolute universal continuum. On the one hand, we may regard it as the fully unfolded secret that ultimately connects everything. On the other, we find its absolute identity at every infinitesimal point of the real world, as established in chapter 2. On the one hand, every circumscription is an individual embodiment of the universal Whole. On the other, it delineates *one* specific center point. When we concentrically and increasingly narrow down a specific circumscription, it becomes increasingly diffuse, all the way to that infinitely small point which corresponds to the infinitesimal, undifferentiated "effect" we would "perceive" without lateral, reciprocal movements (the car "in itself"). And since we always only recognize a *limited* relationship of reciprocity, to us its infinitesimal center - for the time being - is coextensive with the universal continuum.

Until now, we have almost exclusively spoken of the absolute universal continuum expanding infinitely behind each discrete object. Here, however, we see it completely within the "tangible" proximity of the center point. How does that go together? Well, to reach the universal continuum, we must go an infinitely long way upon which the diversity perceived grows into the infinite. But it is exactly the infinity of this distance that allows this diversity to *overlap* into a simple appearance that we can grasp in our delimited world. If we *limit* ourselves to a particular point of observation, the diversity of an interrelation *decreases* towards the middle, so that we do not recognize its underlying wealth. The diversity that we can still perceive melts, things *converge*. Looking into the circumscription, the ultimate meeting point and ultimate detail is central infinitesimality.

It is only when we allow ourselves to penetrate into expanded points of observation, that is, when we *dive down* into the center, that we *unfold* the things that are in identity there and tend *divergingly*, so to speak, towards the absolute. We can *realize* it only through infinite development. Nevertheless, limited objects, observers, or points of observation together with their center points *anticipate it as a whole*. Although the absolute universal continuum in itself has no meaning, but only exists in its reflection, it attains an *individual* meaning in these specific viewpoints.

Although any further unfoldment of hidden structures modifies this meaning, it continues to contain the universal continuum in the form of *newly* circumscribed infinitesimal points, as well as in the indestructible imaginary halo. We simply cannot rid ourselves of the identity of the continuum. Especially of its infinitesimality we can say that it *reaches through* everything that can potentially be unfolded - in infinite depth.

And its *effect* is just as incessant. In the following chapter, we will begin to deal with these effects.

11 Internal pressure and external pull

In contrast to the definiteness and identity of the infinitesimal center, one can distinguish *different* points in the extended imaginary halo with respect to the discrete observer. Starting from a concrete point of observation, the way to the universal continuum leads in many directions, the way outwards is open, indeterminate, divergent. This asymmetry between inner convergence and outer divergence is reminiscent of the asymmetry between unity and opposition: while increasing unity closes itself, opposition exists only as a *tendency* to separation. We identify an object with its *unity*, not with (but by means of) the difference between its parts.

It also plays a role that the reciprocal relationship of the components to each other breaks through the linear logic of cause and effect. Priority is given to the logic of circumscription. We do not gain much if we say that the rain clouds have an effect on the forest and this then again on the cloud formation and so on. What is important is which climate results from the *whole*. After all, the sides themselves only emerge essentially from their relationships to each other and include others.

We circumscribe the unknown aroma of a wine we are drinking to a snuffy listener with the most flowery expressions, the meaning of which he *knows*. And only when, during the revolutionary movements of our tongues, we remember the *origin of* this wine, its maturation in the southern sun and in the dark barrel, does it taste right to us. Nothing is elementary, even each so-called elementary particle represents a whole heap of probabilities and can unfold several other particles by which we "analyze" it.

Thus, an entirety does not describe what fundamentally "is" and acts on others, but it *arises* from the circumscription of what *in itself is nothing*. This circumscription, this extended feedback, only lifts an object out of the infinitesimal universal continuum in order to interact with others (observers) and to form a new entirety in this way.

It should make you think that even our "resting" eyeball performs tiny, lightning-fast vibrations, without which the visual cells would no longer register a signal. They perceive only the *change*, the vibration, between different but similar impressions, which are the *non-independent* sides of the overall impression. The similarity of the sides is at least as much a consequence as a precondition of their reciprocal connection. On a larger scale, we compare many stored images or partial images to "get the picture". We look at everything in this way. Music originates as superposition - more exactly: feedback - of faded and expected tone sequences in the thereby circumscribed, presently existing experience of harmony. One must *experience* this consciously only once.

The more the different sides depend on each other, the more *centrally* their unity is concentrated in the whole relation, because external details become less important. The alternating *movements* circumscribe stably a relatively *static* center and connect it with the outside world. For a change of the whole, even the single feedbacks become relatively insignificant. Much more important now is the relation between unity and opposition of all sides, which is just described by the relation between center and periphery (where the sides appear more separated).

For this purpose, let us consider two states that are trading with each other or are at war (being mutually exclusive in most cases). If they do one or the other very intensively, both sides are essentially shaped by this happening. Their general condition depends on their mutual relationship, their *unity*. One speaks only of *the* trade or *the* war, less of what the participants contribute to it. The *central essence* dominates the entirety.

In chapter 4 we recognized the role of the ratio between unifying and separating tendency for the changes of a reciprocal relation: Decisive is, which striving can be identified more with the *unity* of the relation. Since we now find this unity primarily in the static center, this must also have the *potential* to change its circumscription!

In the case of the two interacting states, further development will depend on whether the central event (the current unity) is based on the striving for unity or for separation. Either each wants to profit more from the other than the remote periphery, that is, to strengthen the center, or to exclude the other by force even further than they already are peripherally, that is, to dissolve the center.⁹ From the present unifying center (trade or war), which *includes* these tendencies in varying degrees, emerges the change: the expansion of unity through trade or the deepening rupture through war.

The aspirations of each *side* arise, of course, also from its very individual social feedbacks. The development of the *whole*, however, is decided by the *communication* of all participants. Only if one wants to *analyze* this communication, one unfolds it in participants, methods of communication etc., whereby the same scheme applies again to all these things etc.

As long as the entirety is in the foreground, a contradiction unfolds from *its* center and leads to dissolution if this *center* does not hold the whole together anymore. Nevertheless, the center is nothing without its determining environment!

We should also not forget that every perception of a circumscription involves the *whole* respectively unfolded complexity - including that of the observer. Especially with "in itself" relatively static differences, like the one between front and rear spoiler of a car, the observer dominates with his activity. For example, if we find the two parts do not match, we dismantle them *from the center of our comparison* and choose others whose common center is strong enough to bring them together.

The following properties of entireties now favor their *expansion* (1), which is characterized by *symmetrical* change (2) and by the *preservation* of older states *in* the system (3):

⁹ The "suppression" of one side by the other can mean both the one and the other. We will deal with the decisive factors of self-responsibility, sense of harmony and value fulfillment later.

1. The inner potential for change, which ultimately can only push outward,
2. The relative symmetry of the circumscribing feedback and the imaginary halo, which does not favor any direction,
3. The relative stability of the feedback loop, which largely closes the system.

"Expansion" here means not only a quantitative spatial enlargement, but the most all-sided increase possible in inner *variety*. With it grows the number of dimensions of the state space, the *qualitative* differences (see chapter 3); at the same time the circumscription of the whole leads through a more multifaceted world.

We have already seen how the open halo with its inexhaustible offer of development possibilities promotes irreversibility and complexity. We want to call this the "pull" of the outer potential, in contrast to the "pressure" of the inner potential of circumscriptions.

The *infinitesimal* center of a feedback system is, as shown, the absolute universal continuum. It expresses itself in the real world, it reflects onto it, onto the way of its realization. Only it does not do this alone from the infinite distance, but as a central component of every *part* of this world. *It expresses itself through every single thing.*

While the stability of a system is based on its feedbacks, the *independence of its development* originates from its internal pressure or urge. Only this drive (not the external pull) is identified with the system. And the universal continuum possesses the same potential as inner infinitesimality as it is offered by it as outer infinity!

Pressure and suction are its expression "forces", both acting in the same direction. In the example of an expanding complex, we have observed how they work hand in hand: in this case, via the dense pseudo-chaos in the core and the loose statistical deterministic many-particle world outside. The connection of a system with the convergent and divergent manifestation of the absolute universal continuum is mediated by very concrete relations, to which we will come in detail.

Without going into these relations, however, we recognize that, because of the circumscribed determinacy *in* any relationship of reciprocity, the universal continuum must be expressed *individually through* the latter. The only way to the real connection of the infinitesimal center with the imaginary halo leads through the individual structure of the existing circumscription, thus must be mediated by *its* expansion. The concrete system (respectively the existing world) restricts the actual possibilities of expression.

This harmonizes with the fact that each object and its movement are an individually limited embodiment and expression of the underlying but hidden entirety. The many different relationships that lead to a particular object fold into its ostensible shape. While their remaining diversity reaches its maximum at the outer edge of a sort of crater or funnel that it forms in circumscription, it is reduced toward the middle and further outside, so that we perceive less and less of the deeper forms. The hidden *can* be conveyed upward, that is, unfolded to external richness, but it remains oriented to the further development of the known, with which it is reciprocally connected. (Like everything hidden an outer surprise comes *from inside*, if we count the existing halo consequently to the circumscription. More details about this in chapter 13 and 18).

The existing diversity on the one hand circumscribes a center condensed up to uncertainty, which on the other hand encloses the *essential* potential to change the whole; and that in view of the invitingly open halo. This constellation literally cries out for expansion! If we follow the mediating movement between depth and surface, respectively core and periphery, we can ultimately only experience the unfoldment of the hidden, since every restriction ends in a dead end of pent-up energy.

So all things strive individually and together, in the long run and probably at this moment, for the realization of the absolute universal continuum. In doing so, they interlock to complete the whole.

Something similar is described in many theories, where one starts from an all-encompassing unity, which "falls" into discreteness, in order to rise again to that unity. In some of them, for ex-

ample in Hegel's "Science of Logic" and in Theosophy, this new unity embodies a *higher* level because of its mediation through the rich discrete states. It is important, however, that the higher unity would disappear again *without* discreteness, that the movement of the discrete *is* this unity. Every convergent movement - for example towards formless unity or powerful abstractions (!) - restricts itself, if it does not lead to further variety and thus changes into divergence. In the end, the complete concrete fullness of every possible and "impossible" world must be realized.

A higher developing system therefore produces, as in chapter 7, many simpler, decentralized subsystems, with which it constantly renews the development. For these more limited "babies" the complexity of their higher "mother" remains nonexistent for the time being. They continue to develop relatively independently. But the unknown entirety works in them *through* them.

This section has certainly left many questions unanswered, which hopefully has not led to misunderstandings. We will clarify everything little by little. However, something essential has already become clear: While we were still able to follow the usual logic in the first part of this book, we will not be able to do without intuition in the future. Thinking alone is no longer enough. When linear logic reaches its limits, actual experience must help - and this consists largely of holistic, *intuitive* understanding. This is by no means a more primitive form of cognition, but rather a *more complete one* - even if it *includes* the more limited logical structures.

As we develop the concept introduced here, our understanding of logic and intuition will deepen as well.

Order, chaos and holomovement

12 Enfoldment and unfoldment

Although the fundamental relationship of each thing to all others - usually mediated through "intermediaries" - is easy to see, we often view the respective superficial relationships in isolation and ignore the larger whole that is expressed in them. This is undoubtedly appropriate when we want to focus on specific effects. But not if we intend to describe their causes exhaustively. It is too easy to succumb to the temptation to think that what we have recognized is already complete, to overlook the gaps in our knowledge.

If we take our analysis of the relationships we have discerned to lesser depths, we arrive at what David Bohm called the "implicate order", the hidden relationship of all things to all others.

We have seen how an object enfolds its varied background, how it emerges from the overlapping or entwining of highly intricate interrelationships. We observe a circumscribed entity, whose hidden richness we can unfold by "looking more closely".

On the other hand, that complicated order enfolds itself into *different* forms (sub-entities). We observe various objects. The implicate order of the background thus unfolds *their* diversity, an *explicate* order.

After the hidden has unfolded into the visible, the explicate must in turn influence the implicate, since the effects of the explicate forms must, in a world of ultimately all-sided reciprocity, finally also reach the implicate order; and at least partially beforehand, otherwise we could not speak of an unfolding movement. (Movement requires reciprocity, see chapter 3.) For example, the unfolded effect of a car type upon its buyers influences the manufacturing enfolded therein, and even before buying it, we relate the car to its manufacturer (brand, nationality, etc.).

On the whole, we are dealing with a permanent reciprocal transition from one order to another, whereby each side (on the one, the production or construction plan, and on the other, the produced vehicle) is maintained by this dynamic: the construction plan by

positive test reports, and the vehicle by the fulfillment of its planned use. Each side enfolds (contains, encodes, processes) the other in a certain way and unfolds it again in a modified form. It is a movement of wholeness (holomovement).

The exchange between enfolded and unfolded order of course is not always visible and can take the most varied paths. In quantum physics it operates - according to Bohm - much more directly than in classical interrelations. Generally speaking, however, it is clear that each part is also connected to the all-encompassing whole, even when this does not appear to be the case in *unfolded* forms of movement. Like the implicate order itself, the transmitters of effect also are hidden at some point on the way towards it.

This does not prevent these mediators from themselves enfolding the whole or from acting as unfolded aspects of it. Their movement, like that of all objects, can be interpreted as a continuous alternation between hidden and revealed structures. The mail, for example, mediates between the populations of two cities. The correspondents encode their thoughts in writing (enfold them) and decode the incoming messages (unfold their meaning). The postal workers have to eat occasionally, go home and come back. The transport vehicles are regularly refueled and taken to the workshop, taken out of service and brought back in. They exchange information with other drivers and vehicles via their own drivers (forms of the own and other's existence, respectively!), that is, they change via communication with their observers. They arise and pass away and are centers of another world order in every moment. With this order, they disappear constantly in formations existing no more or appear from those not yet existing. All these transverse movements mediate the mediators for their part with the more comprehensive sphere.

Nevertheless, we recognize for instance a relatively stable post car, because we *summarize* its periodic changes. Those interactions and state changes only *circumscribe* it. The car "in itself" does not

exist here either, although some circumscribing aspects may be less conscious to us than the circumscribed condensate.¹⁰

The perceived wholeness moments of a moving car represent in this way the explicit side of a holomovement, the series of its unfolded reversal points. Eventually, every recognizable section of motion must be an expression of all motions in the universe, which can never be seen completely, but equally cannot be excluded. (Especially not in view of the ultimate continuity of the universe.) You already guess what this means for our human actions, because of course then each of them also enfolds the motion of the whole universe.

We understand that a whole can essentially determine something single. However, the effects, which are often mediated through many intermediate stages, raise the question, how then the single could exert a significant influence on the incomparably larger entirety. In this context, it should again occur to us that the higher complexity of the whole (in the direction of the universal continuum) also increases the sensitivity to initially small effects. The single acts quite comprehensively. In return, the complex expresses itself only very limitedly in the simple, since the latter naturally offers fewer possibilities of reaction. Thus, certain symmetry of the intensity of existence sets in by itself.

Two apparently separate events can be connected after all completely without recognizable intermediate stage. They act synchronously. You have probably been in that situation where you "coincidentally" expressed the same idea as your partner or colleague. You both developed, possibly on different ways, the same thought. Suddenly a deeper order revealed itself, but the tortuous path to it remained hidden. The implicate worked "directly".

By contrast, we unfold the universe via *traceable* movements in *unfolded* way, by existing interactions with other objects. These we

¹⁰ Of course, the whole thing also works by e-mail, that is, with personal computers, electrons, waves, servers, power sources and - information packages. Especially the latter are kept artificially constant.

include most clearly, in comparison to the unknown ones in the background. Nevertheless, even every transmission itself must enfold the background "crossways", that is, the implicate order *surrounds the* real objects. It unfolds their interrelation as a whole!

Let's take once again the correspondence by means of which we participate in the life of our friends. It is revealed from the order of our society and nature, unknown in detail, which unites the participants via further exchange processes. It unfolds our explicit interaction (an *unfolded holomovement*) by means of everything that prompts and enables us to write letters and to transport them. Even if we do not know such a mediator, we know that there must be an overarching order from which only that of the ostensible movement emerges.

Why do we know this? First of all, of course, because every movement must originate from another one (chapter 3). But let us also remember that motion exists only as reciprocity between its moments. Even the interrelation between infinitesimal moments circumscribes an entirety that goes beyond its details, but is... yes exactly! - enfolding and unfolding these details. This holomovement of fusion and division *is* the interrelation! If it expresses a continuous movement, then that of a vortex in a larger vortex, where all vortices are connected by the one flow - that overarching context - from which they emerge.

On the other hand, every vortex in the center flows into infinitesimality, into a point beyond which we do not look. Everything unknown what rises from there (respectively from the imaginary background) works *for us* directly, immediately. It acts out of the *totally* united variety of the universal continuum. Nevertheless, we can unfold it.

Only because *as a result of its fundamental ability to unfold*, the limit of the observable stands for the rest of the Universe. The hidden *proximity of* its ultimately universal (!!!) diversity establishes the proximity of a hidden *complexity* - independently of the number of *known* intermediate steps in which it enfolds.

Order can manifest itself in various forms: in a clearly structured entity, such as a tree; in a seemingly chaotic system, such as the atmosphere, whose movement is such a complex reflection of hidden processes that order itself is sometimes barely discernible; or in a complex that responds sensitively to a wide variety of influences but retains autonomy and a stable overall structure despite or because of its seemingly chaotic inner life (see chapter 7).

Such a stable structure, which is based on instability, corresponds to the so-called "strange attractor" in chaos theory. By an attractor, one understands a steady state that arises from a series of movements. For example the point on which a free pendulum comes to rest. Likewise, the path to which a clock pendulum always returns after small disturbances of motion. "Strange" is the name of an attractor only when it consists of motions that never repeat exactly but still form a consistent pattern *overall*. The prime example is the orbit of an asteroid, whose motion is disturbed constantly and unpredictably by the gravity of other celestial bodies. Nevertheless, it does not deviate from its "orbit" or rather a "limiting tube" beyond a certain range.

What does this have to do with us? Well: As self-sustaining complex systems, we are all strange attractors of the ultimately all-sided but hidden diversity that we enfold (for example, via biosocial evolution and our receptivity to external stimuli). In the circuit diagram of our brain it is still unfolded quite chaotically. Only in our not too strange creations this inscrutable unfoldment of the hidden condenses to an unambiguous structure. The house that we build thus embodies - after our brain - a further *enfoldment* of the all-sided fullness - and on the other hand an *unfolded* order of the brain structure which is more diffuse *for us*.

In other words: A hidden order can unfold several *degrees* of order. Here, a largely unknown complexity unfolds an apparent chaos at first - the electrochemical whirring in our head. This still inscrutable complicated order unfolds in turn the building planned in it. Thereby, the more comprehensive order of the cosmos (following David Bohm) can be considered as "super-implicate" order,

since it unfolds the house by means of the implicate order of the brain.

We recognize a hierarchy of increasingly complex and hidden (Bohm: subtle) orders, which *enfold altogether* into more limited forms and *unfold* thereby in a *certain* way. The hidden in each case contains the primal forms of the just not unfolded objects as well as significantly more multilayered connections between the current forms of existence.

The absolute universal continuum, however, does not possess any information except that of the unfolding urge (the reflection, which then first follows a statistical-combinatorial order). Its order is the discrete.

Analogously, an implicate order, like that of a piece of music, reveals itself only in its unfoldment. In implicate form, for example on the sheet of music, *other* relations of the elements to each other and to the observer exist, which describe another - *differently unfolded* - point of observation. Someone who does not understand sheet music does not recognize music in it. For him, the sheet of music contains other information, perhaps the score on the sack race.

Both information orders may be able to transition relatively clearly into each other - notes into music or music into written notes. But only this *relationship* of the orders to each other is their *common* order. It is represented by the abilities of the musician or composer who transforms them into each other. This transformation, the *holomovement*, unfolds those separately appearing orders of the melody and the note sequence from the super-implicate order of the musical knowledge, their essence (!). Without musician, there is neither music nor notes.

I would like to emphasize that the information of an order is *changed* by holomovement and that actively. The information does *not only alternate* between two different orders, but during their transition into each other the musician brings in his individual accent, he offers his personal interpretation.

Moreover, this openness of each involved order lets the existing amount of information fluctuate. When we say that a complex order is enfolded in a simpler one, we mean that it *can* be unfolded from the latter - but it *is* not already. Its information content must first *emerge* from the simpler one. And vice versa it can disappear again.

Every holomovement in itself reaches out into the infinite. Nevertheless, the chaos theory adds one more thing and concludes infinitely sensitive forking points, at which the further direction of a way is co-determined by infinitely small influences. Whether it rains or snows would depend also on the weather in the Andromeda nebula. The infinitely distant, the inexhaustible entirety of the universe, is brought forward into the finite. Innumerable (almost) infinitesimal effects overlap, inform the receiving system and contribute to its change within the scope of the explicitly possible.

Admittedly, the different energy of the transmissions (their *more general* potential, see chapter 14) determines in advance the *rank* of the different effects. The weakest ones (during a *finite* observation period) still get lost in the stronger ones. At least the system that provides the forking point is more actively involved in deciding its further path, in selecting the effects that it reinforces. Therefore, we say here the external influences only "inform" the sentient system.

What else do we recognize? Order is inseparable from concepts of existence, essence and appearance.

An essence, like the breed of a dog population, projects itself in the existence of its appearances, the different dogs. The crossing of the dogs with other races again, transforms with sufficient range of existence the essence of this population. In it now, for example, the breed "promenade mixture" prevails. Likewise, its implicate order, the genetic code, projects itself by unfoldment in living beings. And their new love relationships affect the implicate genetic pattern through the holomovement of their intercourse.

Basically, implicate and explicate form an entirety that only transforms *as a whole*, because one side is nothing without the other, into which it is continuously transitioning. Analogously, an essence without appearances is unthinkable, while intensely connected appearances automatically establish a common essence (see chapter 4).

This essence, moreover, likes to hide in the diversity and equivalence of its appearances. What is the essence of a wetland, for example? It can be seen only in the *totality* of all relations between innumerable living beings, in the *order* of their holomovement.

If this holomovement is also hidden, we call it "implicate", but still emphasize its *structure*. The unfolded forms of life and their recognized movements lead us to the *justified assumption* that an order is working in the hidden. The imaginary is *potentially* structured. And its order is determining in that biotope for the behavior of the appearances.

In such cases one cannot avoid to regard the implicate order as the essence of the explicit order, as the *complex* essence of its respectively simpler appearances. It unites the properties of an essence and an unfolded structure on a deeper (potential, closer to an *abstract* essence) level than the world of appearance does (through which an essence exists concretely).

Reality, however, contains *all* these categories. It embodies not only the unity of essence and appearance, but the implicate structure is also merely hidden *in the unfolded one*. Thus, the genetic order of a dog population enfolds *into* the same different patterns (cells, organs, bodies) that it *contains in potential* form. All these patterns are the potential of *every existing* pattern; they can arise from any cell.¹¹

¹¹ If we go just one step further, we can also evolve with acceptable accuracy the associated biotope from each of its participants. (As I will show, the interior of each object is infinitely comprehensive, but absolutely accurate reproduction is unlikely for another reason. Compare chapter 30.)

In the reality the essence therefore differs from its appearances, because the appearances differ *from each other*, because they leave gaps, which can be closed only *with* the essence. Accordingly, the essence, like the implicate order, appears *incompletely* in every unfolded object. The major part of its potential remains hidden. But its implicate order (more precisely: the structure of the hidden holomovement) we need to explain the connections of the discrete among themselves *without gaps*.

Total continuity is of course reached only in the infinite. However, already every essence and every implicate order as such is unity-oriented. The former then multiplies with its appearance - the latter expands. The unfolded structures arise *from* the enfolded (and in this way encoded¹²) information *by virtue* of an essence. (*The musician* shows what he has learned.) In other words, the enfolded information is active.

Thereby the surfacing of information is always original, because it did not exist before in the target standpoint (A) and *in the same form* nowhere else. We cannot anticipate this unfoldment *exactly*, because even if we decode the unfolded information in another, *more comprehensive* point of observation (B), a part of its potential in A remains unknown (non-existent). A *complete* interpretation seems to be possible only in the infinite - but this is structureless! The shifting of a point of observation, which always takes place in the form of a holomovement, is therefore creative in a very wide sense.

¹² Enfoldment, for example of a written sheet of paper, always means encoding. But encoding does not necessarily mean enfoldment: the text can also be encoded on an intact sheet and at the same length.

13 The reality funnel

Readers familiar with the results of quantum physics may expect their detailed discussion at this point. A great deal has already been written on the subject. But I think it makes little sense to draw general philosophical conclusions mainly from a special field of our science. In this book, I would rather like to call attention to the facts that we find indivisible entireties *everywhere* and have to consider the active participation of the observer. Both are expressed in different ways in different areas of reality, both in quantum mechanics and in everyday classical-physical interactions and in the psyche. Nevertheless, I will briefly place David Bohm's view of quantum theory in the previous picture.

According to Bohm, all atoms and elementary particles are in constant information exchange via a quantum field, an implicate order, into which they periodically enfold and from which they are unfolded again.¹³ That is, the motions of each particle influence the motions of all other particles via the underlying quantum field. This connection exists always and independently of spatial distances. With it every "particle" emerges so to speak from the totality of all others and is itself their "part", a sub-entity.

Because all material things are built up from elementary particles, the microphysical holomovement also works on the macroscopic level. Via that implicate order all objects and events form an inseparable whole. Only if we relate the parts to each other on the *explicit* level, their collective entirety appears to us as an interaction of separate objects or even as coincidental correspondence. In this case, we try to apply our usual scale.¹⁴

In the following, I will now stick to my own view, which does not always have to agree with that of David Bohm.

If we disregard the spatial distance between two objects, they still differ in many ways. As indicated in chapter 3, we can inter-

¹³ David Bohm, "Wholeness and the Implicate Order," Routledge 1983.

¹⁴ A summary essay by David Bohm is titled "A new theory of the relationship of mind and matter," *Philosophical Psychology*, Volume 3, 1990 - Issue 2-3.

pret their divergent properties as patterns in a multidimensional state space that cannot be reduced to the spatiotemporal dimensions. Accordingly, much information must remain distinguished - precisely *ordered* - even at the implicate level. If we consider the entirety of an object characterized by *all* its differences, we see that it is more comprehensively, indeed fundamentally, connected, yet *mediated*, by the implicate holomovement with other such entireties. Neither a *direct* connection nor a *complete* unity emerges. (The unfoldment of the implicate basis then of course entails new differences, such as spatial distance).

At least we recognize a closer connection between unity and separation of the objects (respectively events). The network of relations including the quantum-physical links turns out to be *more harmonious* compared to the exclusively classical-physical one, for example when we suddenly understand the chaotic movements of the molecules in a glass of water as a common dance on an implicate lake. (The interactions in many-particle systems are apparently less random than they seem on the surface). And an argument among friends often turns out to be a game in which both ultimately grow. We will discover in the end that the (higher) harmony between limited, comprehensive and - yet to be discussed - infinitesimal connections holds the key to a more complete understanding of human communication as well.

After the quantum field has projected the ordinary interactions, these influence their source again as qualitatively *other* relations. They represent, after all, a section of the holomovement which folds back into the implicate, thus transmitting to it the new that has only *emerged* with each unfoldment, as well as multiplied by the peculiar relations on *this* level.

Of course, an object must have at least its *deeper* essence in that greater whole from which it *constantly emerges*. Its drive to independent actions derives from this potential, which is realized *from the inside* of the appearance. If the overall context is enfolded, it can well stand as such for the essence (see chapter 12). If, howev-

er, it is partially unfolded, this part, too, first compresses itself into the *single* object, in which it then appears essentially. The essence as such is always the core.

In the last consequence, *exclusively* enfolded phenomena enable a *concrete* potential - by *forming* the implicate essence. Only what once disappeared in the fog of the hidden determines what comes out again. Here we are not dealing with the indefinite pressure of an infinitesimal center concretized by circumscriptions, but with the potential of an implicate *order, pre-structured* by exchange with all forms that have been unfolded at some point.¹⁵

What makes unfolded forms so idiosyncratic that they can exert this influence? I suppose you are right: *This* is again due to their circumscription by feedbacks, external as well as internal.

Remember: An unfolding circumscription "raises" an object from the infinitesimal. It gives it a meaning by interrelating its inner properties among each other and with the external. The relationship between this reciprocity and its infinitesimal center welds the object into a *single* entity that in consequence also enfolds itself *as such* and co-determines the next unfoldment.

The interrelation between center and periphery thus basically is an interrelationship of depth and surface. It is the holomovement of enfoldment and unfoldment that itself is partially unfolded (fanned out). We can follow it up to the infinitesimal central point - everything else we only suspect. (Furthermore, the oscillation between depth and surface circumscribes its own enfoldment and unfoldment.)

You can think of it like a funnel. The uppermost edge circumscribes the center, towards which we "slide" into the depths of the hidden, and from which the funnel shape arises.

Although we *infer* an enfolded structure towards the center, its larger depth remains hidden to us, since what we can recognize there is but a continuation of the known. In implementing this ever-narrowing speculation, we asymptotically approximate a zero

¹⁵ What that means exactly in *existential* terms will become clear in chapter 18 at the latest, when we discuss dynamic existence.

point, that is, we delineate border lines that rapidly come closer to each other (the funnel's stem), which will only meet exactly in the infinite - the place where we also assume the universal continuum to be.¹⁶

Let's clarify again the difference between inner and outer connection to the universal continuum:

First of all, the interior lies within a finite area, thus is *enclosed* by certain boundaries. Seen in this way, an inner infinity, as the one described above, can only be convergent, tending towards a point at *finite* distance from the circumscribing boundary. We can see the center of the funnel. Everything external, in contrast, lies outside the finite district, is - without additional assumptions - divergently infinite, nowhere limited.

Now we connect with each other the main results of the previous three chapters:

The divergent infinite forms, as you know, the halo background for the finite objects. But we identify something with an object only if we perceive it as its *interior*. A swing chair is something different than a chair in front of a swing. Thus, only the *central* connection to the universal continuum is united with each object (inseparable, as we had stated).

Nonetheless, there can only be *one* identity of the absolute (!) universal continuum. That means that every object must also be connected through its inside with the outside!

This unity is not yet *realized* (not "posited", were it up to Hegel). But it is in the process of becoming by means of the holomovement, which is merged into the circumscription by interrelating external objects, that is, the existing halo, and which encompasses their enfoldment/unfoldment into/from the hidden depths of the

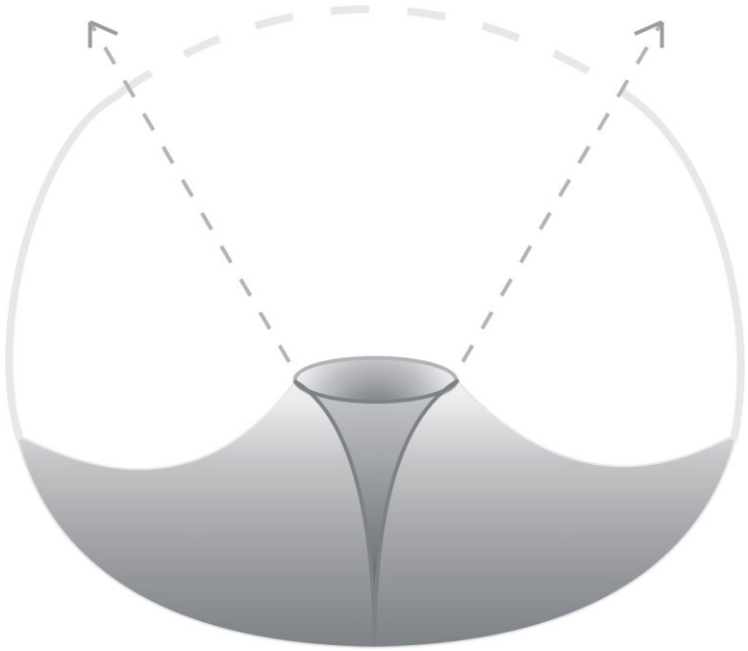
¹⁶ For the time being, we are only examining the *explicit* perception of the inner relationship to the whole. This is not yet the progressive *unfolding of* depth, because for that the circumscription would have to *change*.

whole.¹⁷ Altogether the individual "breathes in" his interrelated surroundings and spreads himself into them through his (re-)actions. This movement forms a complete funnel and holds its middle asymptotically *open* towards the infinite depths, whereby this infinitude ultimately is the same as the one we could tend towards outside the circumscription. All the internal comes together with itself by means of all the external and vice versa.

Now, because of the still existing asymmetry between foreground and background, between convergence and divergence (resp. pressure and suction inside) of every existing funnel, the holomovement is finally *expanding* everywhere into infinity to bridge the respective external differences (compare chapter 11). The comprehensive reality funnel is widening. Its infinite development strives for the *complete* projection of the holomovement by unfolding all circumscriptions more and more. The depth of the funnel(s) reveal(s) itself (themselves).

With the absolute universal continuum, "implicate" and "explicit" finally coincide in an indefinable identity. But its *reflection* onto enfoldment and unfoldment is the reason of every "breathing" reality. (Illustration)

¹⁷ Now also the *imaginary* back- or underground (which *appears* as potential multiplicity of outer objects, as "imaginary halo", but itself always remains hidden - see chapter 1) is linked with the inside of the existing objects. Consequently, it lies likewise within its uniform halo appearance. In some respects, the halo can be regarded as the "space" of all infinitesimal points.



A picture can only imperfectly represent our reality structure: The edge of the crater symbolizes the most visible circumscription, while the existing halo falls off outwards and conceals the imaginary background. Inside, the circumscribed whole condenses until it reaches the infinitesimal center of the funnel, which in the depths of the increasingly enfolded collapses with the absolute universal continuum. The latter envelops the point of observation as vision. The openness of the same and the pressing potential from the inside of the existing thereby cause an infinite unfolding of the holomovement.

14 The potential for order

The just founded expansion of reality is of course only meaningful if it takes place as all-sided as possible. But not as a uniform distribution of energy up to the so-called "heat death", as it is described by the second law of thermodynamic known from school¹⁸. It is true that the theorem applies exclusively to closed systems, such as a container of water, whose heat is never concentrated in one corner but spreads over the entire contents. But it sometimes tempts to apply it to the whole universe, from which it then follows that all structures (accumulations of energy) ultimately decay inexorably. We tacitly assume that we already know everything essential in the universe, so that it can be considered somehow completed. The universe ends now in the same dead end, which we have created only with its artificial restriction to the known. For a really open universe such a development is impossible.

Every attractor - also the energetic state of equilibrium - is only *one* attractor in view of the infinite variety of possible structures and distributions. These differ (not only in energetic terms) in as *manyfold* ways as they represent *different* points of observation - or they are *identical* to a corresponding degree. One wall of fog looks like the other, although its water droplets are always in different positions with respect to each other. Just the "disordered" distributions, whose "abundance" makes the increase of entropy so probable, hardly deviate from each other as a whole and practically coincide in a single point of observation - a lukewarm particle soup.

We have already proved that the wholeness of a structure is of fundamental importance. Accordingly, if we compare the *total states* of a system instead of the combinations of individual partial states, *their* variety, a multiplicity of *orders*, becomes probable.

¹⁸ According to this statistical law, entropy (the disorder of energy distribution) increases within an isolated system until the most probable state is reached in which energy is dispersed as uniformly as possible throughout the system. Since there are many more disordered energy distributions than ordered ones, the reverse is so unlikely to occur that it is practically non-existent.

A development towards final equilibrium can only be necessary for a correspondingly restricted point of observation. Here it is even provable, as in our thermodynamic. For an open observer, however, the existing - and in their hidden depth complex - structures strive for the realization of the absolute universal continuum. The most probable state is not a uniform mush, as it appears in a continuous halo, but maximum diversity of the existing. Only this can claim statistical-combinational advantages on a *global* scale. (How this fits to the absolute identity of the universal continuum we will see a little later).

A similar question as the one raised by the second law is why we live in the world we know, considering the many possible worlds - especially the "disordered" ones. This is usually explained by the fact that we could not exist in another world or would not be ourselves (so-called "anthropic principle"). Undoubtedly a captivating argument.

Concerning disorder, however, one should consider - besides the above - that any chaos could well be experienced in an orderly way from *another* point of view, like our brain waves when we *think* in them. (These are less in *thermal* disorder, but a *philosophical* application also goes far beyond thermodynamic). And how could we exclude that even the order of an enclosed set of water molecules increases in hitherto unknown ways?

The "anthropic principle" explains neither how order comes about at all, nor why exactly *this* order exists, but it only expresses the inability to infer a *certain* order from itself. This corresponds to the result of Gödel's incompleteness proof described in chapter 5.

However, if we understand disorder as *enfolded* order, it becomes obvious how order can *unfold* from this "chaos".

In order to emphasize this aspect, I will now describe a process of enfoldment into and unfoldment out of chaos, which summarizes several processes abstractly. In a concrete and always limited area of nature, however, one or the other process can run primarily or even none of them. In a more comprehensive system they then always come together. You can imagine brain waves or thoughts

for this, or a set of humans, animals, bacteria, molecules; as you will easily find out, the following could have been copied from all of these.

If too many opposing effects collide within a limited space, a stable structure is no longer possible after a certain point. The former order turns into chaos, it is enfolded in it, hidden. Although all parts still move on clear "paths", these have "adapted" to each other and balance each other out *altogether*. Meanwhile, the information about the original movements is not lost, but only encoded.

Only out of this relative calm can individual parts gain influence whose effects were previously suppressed by the coordinated power of the others. A small movement, which "accidentally" breaks out of the general chaos, now unfolds, due to the still clear linkages, a locally ordered relationship to its environment. The latter thus gets the chance to join the fluctuation by supporting it, i.e. reinforcing it. The thereupon-larger deflection causes a stronger excitation of the chaotic set again, and so on.

Such a resonance is possible because the "chaos" is deterministic in reality. And it works only if enough energy (namely from originally ordered movements) is available to amplify deviations more and more. Consequently, a single resonant feedback can cause similar loops, so that the whole system builds up to a new total order. In this process, the form of the "first" feedback is used again and again (iterated) in a spiral fashion and at the same time enriched with the forms of the other processes involved, until a new form of feedback takes over, which encounters the same resonance. Provided that at some point also damping feedbacks arise, a stable organization forms by itself (compare chapter 7).

The transition from order to chaos and the emergence of a new order is what *we* observe. But only because order was actually always present, the chaos possesses at all the potential to an again recognizable structure. From nothing, nothing becomes. Even the initial fluctuation was determined out of the chaos; or it was caused from the outside, in which case the same applies to the total system. Therefore, the emergence of the new order appears only

for us as self-organization. From a more comprehensive point of view, which is able to decipher the chaos, it is *reorganization*.

This is undoubtedly creative; and no point of observation is comprehensive enough that for it the measure of order could not still increase or decrease. On the other hand, a holomovement also *preserves* certain forms; it embodies, after all, an order itself. This becomes particularly clear in the similarity of structures which have transitioned into each other via the implicate order of chaos. So-called fractals¹⁹ emerging with an expanding and multiplying feedback - the *movements of unfolding* - not only recall the previously enfolded patterns, but also remain similar to themselves on all scales of size: their essential order features persist throughout the holomovement. *For us*, by contrast, it seems as if the chaos is able to remember the order "submerged" in it, as soon as an occasion (an initial fluctuation) is found for it.

One would like to object here that probably not every en- and unfoldment describes a fractal form or takes place in expanding and multiplying spirals. However, we have already justified why feedback is necessarily present *everywhere* (chapter 9 and 10). Therefore, it must also work in every smallest section of the holomovement, namely by causing a *directed* movement, altogether a spiral movement. This contains - formed by circumscriptions differing from each other - structures, differences and relatively closed areas, which distribute themselves over a larger space with progressive expansion. They are *unfolded* and were *enfolded*.

Still everything is well-determined, because every coincidence is only based on the ignorance of the observer. It is different if we, instead of the transition to and from a deterministic chaos, consider the reflection by the absolute universal continuum. Here we can

¹⁹ An example of a fractal is a snowflake, which after its melting, evaporation and re-emergence never forms exactly the same, but always a *similar* shape, furthermore repeated approximately in every *part* of the snowflake. We find fractals everywhere, for example in trees and mountains as well.

hardly speak of a hidden determination, for the formless unity is now truly total.

David Bohm instead would say, 'Order reaches an indefinitely high degree, it becomes indefinitely subtle.'²⁰ Its *complete* unfoldment, however, would be enfoldment at the same time - not because the domain would be so narrow that chaos would arise, but because all-sidedness can "exist" only for one of its *limited* embodiments (as *transition* to it, as described in chapter 2 and 10).

The limited reality *as such* must consequently also be part of the infinitely refined order, above all if it wants to satisfy the claim not to exclude any coarse object. The unlimited, so to speak, also includes the holomovement between fine and coarse. Just as it is not sufficient to distinguish between objects and imaginary halo, it is not sufficient to distinguish between coarse and infinitely fine order. All these distinctions coincide in the infinite.

That is exactly why there is no "naked" continuum there, but a point of reflection onto the relative separation of (respectively from) the existent. The identification of continuum and discreteness "lasts" only an infinitesimally brief moment. Its infinite potential could be called, freely after a saying of Jiddu Krishnamurti²¹, the movement of absolute silence.

However, it forms a *potential* only for us, who again distinguish between point of reflection and reality. The absolute universal continuum *is* rather the *way* to it (like the absolute idea in Hegel), which is just symbolized by the reflection.

Let us note the essential difference between Hegel's, Bohm's and my view:

²⁰ Also "going beyond any specifiable level of subtlety"; D. Bohm & B. J. Hiley, "The Undivided Universe," Routledge 1995.

²¹ J. Krishnamurti / D. Bohm, "The Ending of Time," Krishnamurti Foundation 2008.

<u>Hegel</u>	<u>Bohm</u>	<u>Janew</u>
Absolute idea, which is <i>clearly determined</i> by the <i>logically necessary</i> development of reality.	<i>Order</i> of infinite degree, which means an inscrutable, but still universally valid <i>determination</i> .	Reflection in an all-sided <i>continuum</i> respectively absolute identity. Thus, the reflected is <i>no longer fundamentally determined</i> , but only pre-structured by statistical-combinatorial powers.

All three conceptions contain a kind of reflection, which is derived in different ways. In the conception I advocate, it results from the ultimately total unity of identity and distinction of *all* realities. This conception includes logical necessity in Hegel in the form of statistical power, as well as Bohm's infinitely fine order, which occurs "just" before and after the reflection, or more correctly: only appears in it. By considering *total* identity, *absolute* indeterminacy, the meaning of creativity is raised to a new level. More on this in the next section.

For the time being, let us return to the level of concrete phenomena. Here, too, everything implicate has at first a relatively unspecific potential, comparable to the darkness of the night. Only when a light approaching from the distance turns out to be a car headlight, we know that it will not rise far above the ground, that we are not looking at an airplane or an UFO. The hidden thing has partially unfolded into a car, limiting further possibilities. Is it a police car looking for us, a truck about to roar past, or just a convertible whose driver is enjoying the balmy night air? Part of the still hidden potential has become the potential of the unfolded object.

Let's assume a truck finally drives past us. Meanwhile, its different positions are unfolded one after the other and enfolded back into that *larger* environment which contains *all* positions. To expe-

rience this process more vividly, you can imagine that the truck disappears behind a hill every now and then and appears again in between. Altogether, this also unfolds the relief of the landscape from the darkness.

The implicate order connects each section in which the truck appears with the next one. But we already know where approximately the lights will appear again: The future realizations of the hidden potential are oriented at the already realized, at a law of motion, which we believe to recognize in the so far developed form of the truck ride and the landscape. (Furthermore, also in what else comes to our mind about cars and the terrain.) More precisely, this "law of horizontal motion" is justified by the *interaction* with the implicate order, because if valleys would not disappear in the darkness again and again, the vehicle would stand still. The next lights *should* not appear then.²²

From this it follows that a "law of motion" - the more stable pattern of a holomovement - must be just as capable of changing as the conditions inseparably unfolded *with* it, "under" which it applies (here, for example, the course of the road). It exists only in what is present to us: the truck suddenly "descends" fifty meters vertically because the road has disappeared into the abyss after a recent landslide. An unforeseen change of circumstances occurred, because holomovements are still at work, which do not reveal themselves to us in the same way as the movement from valley to valley. The latter represents only a *part* of the whole flow (of world events).

For that reason all objects and relations can develop creatively under more favorable circumstances. Otherwise nothing should strive for the absolute universal continuum, because the once determined potential would never increase. Only the contact to the

²² We could also extend the example to several vehicles that appear one after the other, *each of which* travels the route of its predecessor and (has to) disappear again completely. The principle would be the same. The routes would only be more similar than the valleys, the "law" thus "harder".

hidden variety enables the unfolded to expand. Its creativity is as inexhaustible as the unknown.

Conversely then, no object can be definitively "destroyed". Whether that would have been a comfort to the driver? I think so... But we will come to that later.

It has long been clear to you that by "expansion" I mean that of a *point of observation*, an individual reality, that is, the increase in complexity of a (also self-referential) structure and its propagation in the environment, but not necessarily the production of matter. What does "potential" mean in this context?

You could say it is something like energy. But I don't want to understand the term here as narrow as in physics. More generally, a certain potential simply denotes the "distance" to another point of observation. The more different this standpoint is from the present one, but the easier it can be reached, the higher is the potential between them. A high potential means therefore a close connection between on the one hand near (easily accessible) and on the other hand far (strongly deviating). Just imagine its tremendous strength at the point of reflection of the universal continuum, where the absolute unity of the worlds is *identical* with their relative separation!

Let us first consider a simple example. A stone weighing five kilograms, suspended by a thin thread above a valuable vase, embodies a quite respectable potential, because not much is missing until the system (and the mood of the owner) is in a strongly changed state. But the owner puts a stable chair over the vase in time, thus significantly reducing the potential of the stone still "hanging by a thread". The momentous condition is now almost impossible to achieve. The stone finally falls onto the chair, where it merely leaves a scratch.

Let's assume instead that the stone had smashed the vase. The more extensive the resulting change in the point of observation, for example, the more people had felt connected to the vase - a me-

mento - the stronger the potential of the stone. The change brought about by it possessed a greater range of existence.

Why actually do we attribute the potential or the corresponding energy only to the stone? Are not also the vase and the thread, even the floor and the whole environment involved in the emergence of the concrete potential? Indeed, if we consider *only* this point of observation, all its elements contribute to the one particular potential, *the potential of the standpoint*. But we can also take a bottle of champagne from great-grandfather's cellar instead of the vase - the result would not be much different, merely foamier. The stone is (largely) the same in both cases and the changes of the actual standpoints correspond to each other in their measure. So the stone, unlike the vase, is capable of effecting *similar* changes in *different* situations. Its potential *abstracted* from these points of observation - its energy - has a larger range of existence than the likewise abstractable potential of the vase.

The term "energy" ultimately even refrains from a concrete "carrier" which can change or which can "possess" different energy. Whether a stone or a brass lamp falls down is beside the point. Nevertheless, the energy does not get along without carrier because it always refers to an interaction of concrete objects.

Analogously, "information" abstracts from a specific information "carrier", although it always appears as a concrete structure. When a text has been transferred from paper to hard disk, it is (largely) *reproducible* as a printout. Nevertheless, there is no text "in itself".

Finally, energy and information also represent abstractions *from each other*. A "dead" newspaper text can trigger a mass protest, while people's energy might otherwise have been discharged in the soccer stadium. On the other hand, the information in *that particular situation* "possessed" the potential to "discharge" the masses. Better said: It was in the whole constellation.

In this sense, we now want to reunite gradually the material carrier with its abstract potential and its information structure from the perspective of the "point of observation".

In order to assess a potential, we have to go a little beyond the point of observation to be changed, anticipate the vase shattered in the future, and thus take a *broader standpoint*. It anticipates the change. However, the potential standpoint exists *primarily* only for the "overhanging" part of the current one, i.e. at present still with small range and little intensity. (Only when it has happened, all become lively.) Its potential to more range and intensity of existence will have realized only when the existing beside it has given up its present priority. "Potential" is therefore the relation between a revealed point of observation and another *partially* enfolded in it. The potential standpoint is unfolded only so far that it acts unambiguously and is compressed strongly enough to be able to realize itself further.

"Matter" (the mere "carrier") now means a point of observation *without* relation to that more comprehensive one which would include change. Thus, the potential remains outside. Matter refers to the actual state (rest), potential or abstract energy on the other hand to its relation to future states (still rest). Their union is called *movement*. And since everything existing moves, since every point of observation changes constantly, matter and energy are *inseparable*. Already the energy concept *alone* includes by its reference to motion the "resting" matter in the form of moments (compare chapter 3). Instead of changing matter, we can therefore speak of changing potential or energy transformation.

Nevertheless, only the integration of energy into the concrete *structure* (the information content) of the point of observation opens us the *meaning* of a possible change in all aspects. In order to estimate this meaning, it likewise requires an observer, who judges the possible transformation of the narrower standpoint from an extended one, with all concrete consequences. But while above we still abstracted from a part of the potential, namely the *activity* of all observers, we must now consequently include it. The recognition of a possibility (its existence in the current point of observation) has an immediate effect on its probability, for example, if the owner of the vase now hurries for a protecting chair. Will he make

it or will he not? Immediately, the total potential of the situation has changed: The pile of broken pieces has moved into a greater distance. Thus, the meaning of the potential for the standpoint also has meaning for the meaning of the potential: The owner calms down a bit as soon as he has recognized the chance of rescue.

Such meaning loops (meanings of meanings) shape every self-referential system; they help determine what will ultimately unfold. With increasing complexity they develop more and more irreversibly and can only be grasped intuitively due to the increasing variety of circumscribing details. Here, feeling can expand the limits of conventional logical cognition by integrating all feedbacks and grasping the meanings of the system as an individual entirety.

Having discussed holomovement in detail in this section and linked it to the concepts of circumscription and potentiality, we can move on to the central theme of this book - the creativity of consciousness.

Conscious creativity

15 Activity from the depth

Every existing system is active. It causes changes in its environment, which would not take place without it. And as we saw, this influence depends again on influences of deeper origin, which the active system *transmits*. As a transmitter, it is a creation of the hidden, but also of the selectively observing environment.

Everything new that a system embodies and passes on must on the one hand originate *directly* from the unknown and on the other hand refer to the already existing, in which it is supposed to *work*. Otherwise, it is either not new or not arisen. An event *completely* foreseen in its mediation *has* already occurred, while the spontaneous emergence of an *unobserved* ice crystal remains imaginary. In a real creation, unknown and known always participate *together*. That is why we speak of the *creativity of a certain system*, namely the one that controls the unfoldment of the unknown potential into relatively stable loops of meaning, into relations to an environment in which the creations can *exist*.

Just as energy and information merge to the meaning of an event, unpredictability and its control unite in the holomovement. This flows into circumscribed centers - of the total system as well as of the subsystems - beyond which we do not see and from whose infinitesimality all creativity worthy of the name must originate. But we have already justified why only the reference to the existent gives certain meanings to each of these points of reflection of the universal continuum.

Therefore, existing objects appear as the source of creativity. Depending on the range of existence of their effects, they are called more active or more passive (see chapter 1). Nevertheless, who *decides* to be passive also acts actively.

Strictly speaking, the difference between activity and passivity arises from the difference between inside and outside: "Range of existence" is only applicable to distinguishable objects; the inside of each object is thereby combined into one unit, so that each ef-

fect can be identified with a firmly defined source. If an effect reaches other objects beyond this area, the whole source appears more active. *The volcano* erupts, not the magma; *man* is active, not his mere mind. Otherwise, the source remains passive (activity = zero!) - regardless of whether other sources act on it. (If, of course, one *compares* the degrees of activity of objects with each other, some act less active than others, or just "more passive").

So, whoever can bring more of his own identity into a community is more active.²³ But only if he maintains his idiosyncrasy during the actions within an appropriate framework, he can be identified with this activity.

If now somebody consciously renounces a *possible* action, he nevertheless influences its *foreseen* and in *this* way real goals, so that the same step into the background again. Consequently, there can be no passive *decision* between *considered* probabilities! Every choice must be based on an activity moment which transcends the options. We will soon recognize it as exactly that from which the activity starts *within* a circumscribed source.

Activity can express itself in a statistically irreversible change or a clearly determined movement. Or also - combining both - in a purposeful expansion. Such an expansion results from the harmony of statistical and determined development, as we have described it on the basis of an expanding complex. It is by no means random, but arises in its turn from the unity of combinatorics and feedback. Irreversibility alone does not necessarily mean expansion, and feedback by itself is completed. But both *together* establish the urge for *expansion of unity*, with the *aim* of greatest possible presence (see chapter 7 and 11).

Furthermore, the realization process not only creates hierarchies of increasingly flexible subsystems towards the inside, but also experiences their support. The extremely changeable core region of

²³ This also happens when he actively changes himself, that is, when future versions of "himself" are particularly influenced by his present identity. (See chapter 27.)

a complex, for example, constantly plays through new possibilities with its inwardly irreversible change. These are not yet realized outwardly, but are again "bent over" inwardly and further exploited. Models are tested. (This is already reminiscent of the human thinking process.) The decision to realize a model is only made in cooperation with the next outer shell, the possibilities *of which* are scanned by the continuously thrown back creation attempts. Only what fits into the outer order of meaning can be established there, and so the trial-and-error process continues through the outer, less complex shells into the environment. The innermost and the outermost - immediate present and possible future - work together in selecting a realistic goal.²⁴ The decision process is thereby determined by complex feedbacks and inspired by chaotic sorties.

Of course, the inspirations are based on always incompletely known influences. And as described in chapter 7, the sensitivity for inner and outer changes increases towards the core of the complex. But it reaches a limit when we restrict our attention to the known types of effects. For even when sensitivity to them becomes infinite, it remains oriented to the possibilities of the *unfolded* order in each case. Only when we take into account the deep, implicate organization, from which the whole complex unfolds, we understand that inside must grow receptivity not only to the effects of *explicit* objects, but also to things hitherto completely *hidden*. Indeed, the deep infinity respectively infinitesimality is thus continuously included in the decision process! More about this in a moment.

The choice finally falls on a new inside-outside relation, whereby the system, as (ibid.) justified, tends to prefer the expansion of itself. By this alone it can preserve its creations for itself and ascend to the absolute universal continuum. The "pressure" of the inner inspiration and the "pull" of the outer enticement (or lack), however, can only work together optimally if the core of the com-

²⁴ Only in this case we can speak of a *goal* at all, be it the most powerful combination with other objects or the realization of a model adapted to the external conditions.

plex harmonizes with the outer subsystems - or the system dissolves sooner or later as a result of an overpowering contradiction. After all, inner flexibility and outer toughness - as long as they do not degenerate into extremes - favor a coherent and creative interaction that extends into the environment. The unity of the system, like the feedback that forms it, is incomplete, the circumscription rather *spiral*, since it cannot be isolated from the influences of the environment, but *includes* them. The system strives with it in any case *by itself* for new ways.

We have already established in chapter 13 that a feedback is also connected to the outside by its *center* (reality funnel). The highly sensitive core region of a complex now leads us to a more detailed understanding of that holomovement.

This center can only be a relatively small area; otherwise the quasi-chaotic movement in it would endanger the whole system. It is, so to speak, the thinking center of the complex, which processes a vast amount of information in a short time and connects it with impulses from the unknown depths. The more chaotic its work appears, the more it resembles a dream. Such a dream is known to help *prepare* decisions, but we make the choice on the waking level in cooperation with ordered thinking. (Apparently we have finally arrived at human consciousness. Although we still know very little about the same, it is familiar to us and therefore best suited to clarify such complex processes as are indicated here).

We spoke several times about the relationship to the implicate order being a reciprocal one, an *oscillation* that makes the unfolded order appear stable. What happens between the unfolded states usually escapes us because it doesn't get caught in our coarse web of meaning. Often, however, we subsequently suppress it from our perceptual grid, for example, when we "forget" our nightly dreams. Yet it is undisputed that dream and waking experiences influence each other: you dream in part about your experiences during the day, and your dreams essentially determine your mental state the

following morning, which extends into your physical activities. However, this is only *one* manifestation of that interrelationship.

Just realize that your whole state of consciousness is constantly fluctuating: At shorter intervals between daydreaming and sharp concentration, and at longer intervals between night sleep and wakefulness (with the shorter fluctuations also occurring at night, but now between sleep stages of varying depth). In even quicker succession, you alternate between thinking and physical activity - which does not preclude being able to do both at the same time. Even in the latter case you will still recognize the alternation, between individual thoughts and their practical implementation. But finally, both merge into an overall activity, as we have described - or rather *circumscribed* - using the example of the car driver.

If we take the implicate order seriously, we must consequently expect that our consciousness also temporarily dives into unknown depths, for example in the course of the supposedly dreamless deep sleep. Not only do the more chaotically working parts of our brain respond to deeper influences, no, the whole consciousness fluctuates with varying frequency between hidden and overt states of order.

The reality perceived in hidden states is of course unfolded and well-ordered *there*: While dreaming, everything seems quite logical to us - only after awakening, when we want to fit the highly dynamic events into our relatively rigid thought patterns, we shake our heads and forget everything very quickly. In dreams we are more sensitive, take *more* influences into account and give priority to *other* relationships than on the waking level. We work there with a *more complex* pattern of meaning that *integrates* many subliminal connections and one-sided experiences and influences our perception in the waking state predominantly *as an overall experience*.

Not the *whole* consciousness always changes state to this degree. Just as we enter an intermediate state during half-sleep in which we see seemingly unrelated images that we judge according to the criteria of waking life, we can also daydream and think at the same

time. Part of the consciousness may sink into deeper states and then return with new data. The same now enfold into the coarser thought patterns (meaning loops) that are valid here and unfolds its effect *in this way*. All information, which does not fit in here, but still remains unfolded in *its way*, appears chaotic.

Overall, one can say that our "thinking center" *extends* into unknown orders, which are *not* able to unfold *completely* on the level of our waking consciousness.

In the implicate, basically unlimited depth - according to everything we know and must assume about it by now - the possibilities of connection are greater, and so otherwise separated phenomena can *meet* here in an *orderly way*. As it were the dreaming aspects of those structures meet, which unfold from a common order. That depth, on top of that, is the *own* (inner) depth of each of these objects. That is, with the fluctuation into this depth, each object encounters both unknown aspects of *other* objects and unknown aspects of *itself* - in the form of distinguishable entities.

Let us stop for a moment and realize what this means. We have already recognized the unity of the universal continuum in the infinitesimal centers of all circumscriptions. But with its unfoldment, for example in dreams, this unity, our all deepest essence, becomes more concrete: people, personalities, fragments of entities that seem to be to us of little concern communicate with us in a hidden world that includes each of us. A dream scene may represent a question and a *seemingly* completely different one the answer - that of a person asked, who thus sends us an aspect of his consciousness. Sometimes this aspect takes on the complexity and shape of a person with whom we are "conversing". The other dreamer, on the other hand, may see completely different images, while his experiences have a more *emotional* relation to our situation.

Almost more astonishing is the following: As we have recognized, even the simplest thing exists only as circumscription by details and further things, which establishes an alternating movement between center and periphery. That means, *every* object fluctuates

tuates - at least partially, but thereby finally altogether - into an infinitesimal appearing world.²⁵ Just as, for example, an atom emerges again and again from its (in itself absolutely neutral!) center, we have to assume that there is an order there which constantly produces its structure anew. Circumscription is not self-sufficient; it requires an "explanatory" source, which in turn only bubbles up from a pool of submerged condensates of circumscription (see chapter 13). While in the said case this pool hides from *us*, it opens to the *atom* in the hidden phases of its holomovement. The atom dreams! And in its dream, it is just as little a conventional particle as we in our dreams possess a physical body.

In this sense *all* things dream. Each of them embodies the incessant protrusion of a more complex essence, which unfolds at most *partially* to a structured core. The simpler the nuclei, the more random, dependent or collective the behavior of their circumscribing systems must appear; the more complex, the more autonomous (which is by no means contrary to the sense of community).

I would like to emphasize once again that the ultimate unity of everything with everything - and thus its *proximity* - is compelling if we do not want to limit the world in any respect. It becomes more plausible if we consider the necessity of circumscription as well as the resulting *universality of holomovement*. Their perceptible form leads us to hidden *orders*, which let us retrace the unification of the superficial objects in detail. Finally, activity and organization of these orders establish the *deeper essence* of each of their unfoldments.

Let us now turn to the processes that lead to the *decision* between diverse possible paths of development of a system. Firstly, they have to do with the reality funnel's "horizontal" level, with the circumscription of a whole by means of its structure.

²⁵ Since we speak of *one* object, its basis lies in *its* center. If we consider the parts of an object *separately*, however, it hides in *their* infinitesimal centers. But strictly speaking *both* is always true, as will be seen from the next chapter.

Like holomovement, the circumscription of an object - be it complex or simple - is oscillation. It traces the relationships to other objects and thus also the tendencies to reinforce some of these relationships and to establish *new* relationships in those directions. It does this on the outside, in contact with the surroundings, as well as - depending on the degree of complexity - on the inside in the more or less playful handling of models.²⁶ The interaction between periphery and core makes the choice for one of the paths; but it is not yet clear how the decision itself comes about.

We cannot speak of a decision if it is somehow anticipated, neither by external circumstances, nor by hidden forces. For if not the considered system chooses, but vicariously something else, which in its turn relies on another one, in the end nobody decides - everything would be already determined. This is contradicted not only by daily experience, but also by the unity of all determinations in the universal continuum and especially in every "tangible" infinitesimal point. The latter is an indispensable part of every circumscription, since circumscription *alone* does not yet result in an *entirety*. The absolute identity of all details and possibilities of a point of observation cannot be omitted from finite reality.

How do we perceive a decision process? Imagine you are a hunter who is chasing a pack of deer (or a bunch of poachers). All of a sudden, the track forks, and you must decide between one of the two paths. In your mind, you jump back and forth between the left and the right track. First, you try to read the track more carefully, taking into account the known habits of the tracked and their own possible benefits, that is, you try to deduce your further course of action logically. If during the back-and-forth between the arguments for one or the other track you come to a clear conclusion, the continuation of your path is obvious. The side to which the entangled movement opens (more precisely: extends) was predetermined, and you do not need to choose. If, on the other hand, you do not come to an unambiguous result, you can also toss a coin and

²⁶ Even inner circumscription (of the center) delineates pre-stages to relationships that can be further unfolded.

let chance "decide". But by doing so, at most, you are deciding *not* to choose by yourself.

If one doesn't work and you don't like the other, you will make your decision "emotionally" or "instinctively". Try to feel what is happening here. You perceive the interrelation between the two ways as an *entirety* - in the same way as you perceive objects as a unity of their details. This representational entirety appears somewhere "between" the reciprocal periphery and its infinitesimal center. We call such comprehension *intuitive*. It integrates the whole, possibly very complex network of relations between the alternatives. And it is, finally, from this synthesis that the impulse arises: *this one path* is the correct one - and none other. The decision comes from the middle of the overall logical reciprocity and leads to a *new* logical development. It is the *common* result of external reciprocity and internal identity, which leads to an outward activity.

We have not only intuitively taken in the situation, but also chosen freely. Passive understanding and active decision go the same way - only in the opposite direction. If we listen attentively, we can feel this movement as a current between inside and outside, between depth and surface. In the depth of the funnel, it finally leads to the infinitesimal point of reflection of the circumscription, which is at the same time the point of reflection of the *totality* of all standpoints *from an individual point of view*.

From that common depth, logic is only *created* - as *connected* with the already existing logic. All of a sudden, we realize that we could pursue the poachers (somehow I find chasing these more pleasant!) in a completely different way - through the air! But we must resort to one of the known aids to do this. We begin to deliberate the quickest way to engage a helicopter - a surprising third path that arises from the unison with the enfolded *total* context.

Everything is interconnected - through very real effects and realizable relationships. Therefore, this connection must also be *felt* on every real level. Its sensation unites existing structure and univer-

sal identity, determined and undetermined potential. And it points the way to the right decision.

However, creativity, the emergence of something new, seems to be possible in different ways. Even during the determinate movement of a rolling billiard ball, old positions disappear and new ones emerge. In the game, the paths of several balls will cross, thereby creating new paths "by chance" for each *single* ball - again, relatively constant states of motion. From the more comprehensive standpoint of the billiard player, this creation was predetermined, but on the other hand, no point of observation is comprehensive enough to exclude chance completely. A stumbling waiter (or, for that matter, an earthquake) could still deflect the balls.

Unfortunately, neither clearly determined processes nor unforeseen influences lead to *universally valid decisions* that are not already anticipated somewhere. Just as little the mere mixing of known and unknown in a complex thinking process, in which logical considerations lead to accidental discoveries, which then again trigger other logical trains of thought and so on. Determination and "coincidence" remain the same here, although they influence each other. Actually, everything is "decided" long ago, even if *we* do not know the result yet.

However, if there were nothing to choose, everything now new would already be realized in the future world. Only if we *ourselves* decide on our *conscious* level (and if something equivalent is possible elsewhere), we can claim that something *fundamentally* new comes into being.

16 Consciousness - the infinitesimality structure

What does "conscious" even mean? The fundamental trait of being conscious is the interaction with something that is perceived, for example the discussed vase, which therewith circulates in a consciousness loop. This loop extends beyond the observer when he holds the vase in his hands - then he interrelates with an external object - or remains exclusively within the observer when he gives the vase away. Either way, he is conscious of the vase. The effect of the external or internal object is maintained by constant repetition, but due to the omnipresent irreversibility it is gradually changed. At some point, the vase becomes boring.

An *infinitesimal* effect, however, would disappear in the same instant as it "affects". It could hardly become conscious. This means that on the one hand a conscious effect must circulate in the form of a circumscribed whole. The image of an *object* is stored. On the other hand, that preserving repetition circumscribes the entity of perceiving part and its object: it establishes a point of observation.

In the same way, we visualize the possibilities between which we weigh. In your mind, you jump back and forth between the left and the right track. You are aware of both paths, which themselves are sufficiently circumscribed, in an overall reciprocal relation. This reciprocity describes the framework of the possibilities that are relevant to you in that moment. It forms an island of relative calm and stability in the sea of infinite possibilities that we have outside this framework (from boot cleaning to mushroom hunting) and that continue into the indefinite halo (out of which an angry boar can suddenly attack or a beautiful "woodland fairy" can seduce us). While the field of ultimately uniform uncertainty extends outside the current consciousness loop, the latter circumscribes an infinitesimal center that "embodies" the identity of everything discrete.

Your consciousness loop of course only allows a choice between the one *or* the other track. Even though the oscillation delimits itself with respect to its undifferentiated surroundings, it still requires a further definition, a *de-cision*. This definition within the

yet undetermined dissolves the loop by realizing one alternative more strongly than before from the imaginary halo and by leading to *new* possibilities with the continuation of your path. In this, a *conscious* choice must spring from the entity of the reciprocal relations itself. It must *entirely* unite the indeterminacy of the alternative to be chosen with the determinacy of the decision - and not only mix known doubts with unknown certainty, with which basically everything would be predetermined.

Total unity is given as long as we do not divide the reciprocal relationships into single parts. Furthermore, such a division is not even possible if we want to comprehend its full meaning. The relation of reciprocity already *is* totality - namely, the indivisible unity of the alternative sides with the clearly circumscribed and thus determined, but *neutral* core at its middle. *At the same time*, however, it *differentiates* all these parts in the *structure of* its totality. That is why we prefer to speak, instead of a *total* unity, of an *infinitesimal* unity that is only total at respectively *one* point of the whole: at the center of the *respectively analyzed* relationship, such as here in the middle between the core of the whole and its periphery.

At first glance, this seems to be nothing new. But instead of the rigid infinitesimal core of a circumscription, we now speak of a *flexible* core-periphery relation within any entirety. It extends, like the full circumscription, out into the indefinite halo, and it will prove its comprehensive significance later in this section...

Infinitesimal core and imaginary halo are united by their very own structurelessness. They would allow any creation (absolute equalivalence, see chapter 5). But *between* them lies the concrete circumscription, which gives them *concrete meaning*. The determinacy of feedback therefore means restriction of creativity to *related* novelties, those that emerge from already circulating options. On the other hand, because of the involved *identity* of the alternatives (and the universal continuum!), the decision cannot be fixed beforehand for any standpoint.

Consciousness is the infinitesimal unity of the concrete reciprocity loop with its neutrality at its center. It is consciously creative. Its free choices determine that which will be subsequently realized from the imaginary halo. But just as the universal continuum limits equivalence by reflecting upon a limited world, the impartial core of consciousness does this in a more strict way: only with relatively determined structural changes can it *practice* freedom, implement decisions. Its informality, which in itself is diffuse, thus gives itself a framework of probable lines of action.

This once again explains why we do not ascribe choice to the core alone, which in itself is meaningless, but rather to its infinitesimal *unity with the reciprocity* of the alternatives. Only this *has something* to choose from. And it encompasses a relative separation of the possibilities.

Furthermore, coincidental influences and meaningful interconnections are also involved in the decision process. Like the hunter's logical considerations, they lead up to the moment of choice and there become identical with their unity. The decision is not arbitrary - for the hunter it has a meaning within his wider context without being strictly determined by it. Its permanent share in the infinitesimal unity can still lead to completely unexpected solutions, such as the one with the helicopter.

Let us now examine *what* connects the circumscribing alternatives with their total unity in the center. For this we have to think about an important property of consciousness, which has already been mentioned several times.

The mental movement from one possibility to the other is not a stepping back and forth between mere objects of view, but a movement of the *potential* to new ways. As a hunter you weigh *tendencies*. Thereby you cannot clearly foresee the movement of your thoughts - like any real change that brings forth something *new* (chapter 15). Your consciousness does include, like a circumscribed object, the whole existing environment, just everything that is *conscious* to it, but it reaches equally into the unknown.

We have already talked about the irreversibility of change. Each moment of change is associated with a different combination of known and unknown environmental influences, which also provides it with altered response options. Thus, the weight between one and the other possible continuation of the hunt shifts with each clue you discover while tracking and with each logical conclusion you reach. Even entirely new variations can emerge that qualitatively change the previous consciousness loop.

In your head circulates therefore nothing rigidly fixed, but an open potential. Consciousness is the movement of energy, which includes the already materialized as *one* alternative - in the case of the hunter for instance the further persistence at the fork. Because of the irreversibility of the process, even this alternative is only an approximation: even if you have stopped, your thoughts have changed and with them the whole situation. The repeatable certain is only a "strange attractor" which the uncertainty weaves.

But it gets even thicker: each bifurcation on the circumscribing line of overall feedback, for example, each consideration of what a particular feature of a track might mean, must embody a consciousness of its own. For the perception (existence) of a bifurcation presupposes the comparative feedback between the available alternatives at that point. Circumscriptions formed in this way exhibit all of the properties discussed with respect to conscious decision-making.

Already the necessary circumscription of an object with the changing reference to other things transcends this object by offering alternatives to it. (In the same sense the existing whole has the *tendency* to continue into its imaginary background). Every circumscribing movement therefore constantly bifurcates, offers further possibilities besides the old state (and be it only *one* and on top of that unknown), between which a feedback by virtue of infinitesimal unity *chooses*, decides as *consciousness*. The total consciousness includes in this way the free decisions of all partial consciousnesses which build it up and cover the whole point of observation:

Once you have decided in one sub-area, all subsequent decisions require *other* considerations. Suppose you decide to attribute a broken branch as an indication of the size of the passing animal, instead of attributing it to the following poacher as before. This decision entails new considerations about which part of the pack you want to give priority to protecting - relative to the other. The preferred option has been realized in a spiral fashion, as the oscillation of your situational consciousness shifted or expanded. It grew at the same time into a new total consciousness. Such spiral movements connect all consciousnesses and partial consciousnesses (formerly: all points of observation and objects) with each other. Their decisions control the energy for the change of the respectively existing "matter", the former potentials now coagulated to a new starting point (compare chapter 14).

You may suppose that just this spiral movement also describes the connection between periphery and center of a consciousness. The only partly unfolded holomovement of the consciousness is composed of a rotating as well as ascending and descending stream according to chapter 13, comparable to a water vortex, which pulls the swirling water alternately upward and downward. The "vertical" movement component is just as much a circumscription as the "horizontal" one and, like the latter, requires a constant choice between alternatives (about which we will have to say something later). The unity of both movements forms our reality or consciousness funnel.

The complete unfoldment of the vortex to an "absolutely clear structure", however, would be equal to its dissolution and is just as little possible as an absolute division without renouncing all parts. For already the perception of separate things or sharply delimited functions circumscribes their blurred connection. The components enfold each other and altogether establish that collective center which draws them all together into an abstract point - including the imaginary halo. Determining and flowing into each other thus form an inseparable unity that is total in any domain somewhere. This *infinitesimal* unity is never lost, but can be concretized infinitely!

Holomovement describes only the asymptotic transition to any infinitesimality.

Let's look at it again from the other side: Every "effect" is infinitesimal at first. Infinitesimality alone, however, leads to no *structure* and therefore to no existence. Structure needs relative stability, reciprocally *preserved* effects, which exist in the periphery again of *one* circumscribed entirety. The "sum" of alternating points of effect survives in it as *one* infinitesimal unity. Only such entireties can distinguish from each other, whereby their distinction itself represents a comparative feedback.

Yet, only the inseparable unity of alternation, repetition and holistic effect at *any* examined place results in a structured *object*. Thereby the infinitesimal of its entirety is symbolized by the center and its structure most clearly by the circumscribing periphery.

It is of utmost importance that we understand the connection between the structure of consciousness and infinitesimality *before* we continue to look at such structurally emphasized aspects as spiral motion. Because from this the decisive difference to the usual conception of consciousness and reality will emerge.

Let us use the movement of an object from one place to another as a simple model. An object transitions into one that lies beside it. If this did not occur in *infinitely* small steps, the movement would occur in leaps. David Bohm advocated this latter view. In his opinion, the holomovement into and out of the depths closes all the gaps between perceived moments of movement, which enfold themselves into the hidden order, only to unfold again a bit further on.²⁷ In a similar way, single pictures at the movies appear as moving figures as they are projected one after the other.

But how do we correlate the unfolded moments of movement in such a way that they appear to us as *one* movement? We *compare* the different frames and perceive the unbroken entity of their reciprocity. We recognize *one* changing scene.

²⁷ David Bohm, *Wholeness and the Implicate Order*. Routledge 1983.

An optical illusion? Fine. But then, this illusion is so universal that we can no longer designate it as such. Because if we look "behind" the apparent continuity of movement, we will only find further "illusory movements" - in our case, the spreading of the light waves from the projection lamp, the film winding through the projector, the movement of electrons in the electrical cord, etc.²⁸ It is of no use to further divide these movements into discrete steps (even if we refer to quantum mechanics), because only *wholes*, which *as such* present structure, can *have an effect*. Otherwise they will remain infinitesimal. However, their structure *contains* infinitesimal centers; each part includes its own infinitesimality. We obtain a transition to the infinitely small at each point of the (holo-)movement. More exactly put, the *unity of* structure and infinitesimality repeats itself at every point all the way down to its *own* infinitesimality.²⁹

Each infinitesimal point is significant only within a *non-infinitesimal* circumscription, which only coheres *with* it. And the transition from discrete structure to infinitesimal unity is itself structured, moreover potentially unfoldable. (The reverberation of the last picture overlaps with the following one to a unified movement, which on the other hand can be broken down into light waves, film transport etc.). But the same can be applied to each part of this structure: Each partial movement forms an entirety (a light ray, a film roll); each partial area includes its own infinitesimality. We get a transition to the infinitesimal at every point of the (holo-) movement. All non-infinitesimal objects which can be further unfolded thus also remain connected to each other infinitesimally - not only by way of the identity of their centers, but because of *the presence of such centers at every point of* their transition. This total - better: infinitesimal - unit of infinitesimality and non-infinitesimality is what I mean by *infinitesimality structure*.

²⁸ Please excuse the old-fashioned technology. It simply is more vivid.

²⁹ Zeno's paradox, by which infinitely small steps cannot result in any movement, is obsolete. Movement is a dimension that is not reducible (to moments).

The following analogy may clarify this fundamental concept: Imagine an infinitely fine network of relations from which the more or less roughly structured entities of our reality rise. These are now in turn linked with each other at every point to an infinitely small mesh, an infinitesimal center. The tension resulting from this fabric, the uniform perception of coarse, fine and direct connection of all entities, allegorizes the infinitesimality structure.

Whenever we perceive an object or a relation, we perceive its infinitesimality structure. This does not mean that we decompose our object into the infinitely small. The continuity of *its entirety* already expresses infinite fineness. But even this we mostly bypass, because we do not account for the difference between entirety and structure. We perceive both at every place together, just *also unmediatedly* united. (Continuity is only the "most infinitesimal" manifestation of an infinitesimality structure within the non-infinitesimal).

To emphasize it once more: Infinitesimality structure is *not* merely an infinitely fine fabric, but the *absolute* and just therefore *flexible* unity of identity, continuity and discontinuity. Therefore it can be more or less structured itself. After all, it describes areas of reality, structured to different degrees, which it in turn connects with each other in an infinitesimality-structured way. Only in this way transitions between relatively continuous and more discontinuous zones are explicable to the last consequence. In particular holomovement and circumscription flow together in an infinitesimality-structured relation, in which we distinguish successive projections and their more uniform totality only *relatively*.

Reality still presents itself in the form of a funnel reaching into infinite depth, although we perceive its "bottom" also in our limited world (chapter 13). What we recognize is the *unfolded opening* circumscribing an individual center, in which the underlying manifoldness of the universe must hide.

The same applies to all subareas of the funnel, which again consist of many smaller funnels circumscribing all their infinitesimal

centers. The interaction of the smaller funnels constitutes larger funnels up to an overall funnel of the existing world. And all these funnels we now recognize as infinitesimality-structured.

We can expand the reality funnel yet further, fan out the diversity overlapped into one relatively simple image, whereby we bring new objects to light. In the movie example, we would penetrate into the film's production company, then into the life of the director, of the actors, the targeted audience, etc. The existing infinitesimality structure expands to a greater diversity which of course also has its own infinitesimality structure. *Infinite* expansion finally leads us to the infinitesimality structure of the absolute universal continuum - that *point of reflection* that all reality funnels already contain in individualized form.

What does that mean? The infinitesimality structure of the infinite universe - the absolute *unity* (!!!) of all coarse, fine and direct connections - is included in every limited object or consciousness, where it plays an individual role. There, it is but less unfolded, relatively diffuse. It is more infinitesimal. Only at the extreme end of the respective funnel's stem does it merge into *one* central infinitesimal *point*. That is, the potential structure of the universal continuum is compacted into every concrete circumscription!

I know this subject is not easy. We are creating an *extended* logic here that integrates basic intuitive perceptions by breaking them down as much as possible, but not breaking them up. Accordingly, intuition remains significant for understanding this logic.

Normally this - no, not complicated, but only unusual - perception of reality asserts itself subconsciously. It merges with the superficially conscious perception of single objects to an intuitive overall view, without which a relatively discrete world would not be possible. That feeling, which *integrates* the respective single aspects of a perception, perhaps makes this more vivid. If you are attentive, you will notice that even an abstract line still triggers a sensation in you that is "contained" in its image. Otherwise it cannot be grasped as a whole. Not even if you look at it with a microscope. Or if you erase its center and perceive only that wholeness

of the two remaining partial lines which passes over into the infinitesimal.

Moreover, you will recognize something else: Your conception of the line includes all the other components of the standpoint you have just become conscious of. You can emphasize more their differences to the line or their unity with it, but you cannot separate the two. If you now slowly concentrate on other objects, the same *kind* of perception remains *in every moment* of the change.

17 Our permanent choice

But of what significance is the ubiquity of infinitesimality structure to the freedom of choice?

Since nothing exists without characteristic tendencies which reciprocally refer to each other, nothing is without selective consciousness. Every one of these consciousnesses, be it that of a human, a plant, or a growing crystal, in turn is interrelated in an infinitesimality-structured way with all others. Accordingly, their decisions must also be interconnected: every partial consciousness makes its choices in mediated *and direct* connection with the respectively broader consciousness of its viewpoint.

Although the relative separateness of the spheres of consciousness is sometimes large (*within* their entirety) and the point of observation always restricted (there may be few or improbable alternatives to choose from), the more all parts unfold, the more detailed does the connection between mediation and direct unity become, while the overall consciousness grows beyond its previous bounds. It projects an increasingly complex network of nested reality or consciousness funnels that was compressed asymptotically within it. It is in this way that we become ever more conscious of the cultural and ecological interconnections of the world, and increase our possibilities of choice. We become more *consciously* responsible.

However, even the unrestricted breakdown into different infinitesimality structures (connected objects or consciousnesses) does not capture the infinitesimality structure as such. Whether we regard relatively separate or detailedly mediated spheres, the existent *whole also* means their *unmediated* connection. That is, the *direct* contact of any random circumscription with *all* others and to the absolute universal continuum is and remains given. Any decision we make should therefore *immediately* have an effect upon the decisions of all other consciousnesses; this will be noticeable, of course, only in those that are part of our current point of observation. We want to concentrate on these for the time being, repeating

some things as well as mentioning new points of view, which we will elaborate on in the course of the book.

According to our analysis, each of the infinitely close points, which is characterized by a circumscribing movement, is surrounded by a relatively independent consciousness. It can choose, grow and dive into its diffuse depth with the oscillation between periphery and center. This oscillation is as real as the sides of the circumscription are mediated with each other. And as the circumscribing periphery extends into infinity, the foreground object in the depth of the consciousness funnel also unites with its boundless halo, with all other existing or imaginary objects. Outside the center, however, object and halo separate - their *divergent* synthesis is remote.

Decision and potential for unfoldment of discrete structures therefore originate from a *close* unity: from the identity of confining form and completely free potential of the universal continuum, from the existing infinitesimality structure.

But what if a consciousness dives deep into its inside? Also then it expands as soon as it *realizes* this depth "dreaming". In dreams, we are by no means thinking that we are merely acting inside our heads. The infinitesimal center, however, always remains central - it represents the depth-independent *axis* of the consciousness funnel. We see from this that any outside or inside is relative. Absolute is only the infinitesimal center, which *shifts* according to the current circumscription.

The proximity of this navel or rather the *unity with it* in relation to the infinitely distant universal continuum nevertheless establishes the direction in which something new realizes itself: from the inside to the outside. That something appears suddenly from infinite distance is infinitely little probable.

On the other hand, any appearing from finitely distant *realities* cannot be all-encompassing *new*. *Universally* valid creation is only possible from the absolute *identity* in the universal continuum, where again all creations must join the existing: on the one hand to

work and on the other hand because the above identity means something only within existing circumscriptions. So, strictly speaking, creative is only the conscious *decision between existing possibilities*. (One of them stands for the effect of the completely unknown.) It draws from the infinitesimal unity with that identity - whatever is its consequence.

In an *infinitesimality-structured* world, such decisions are made in *every moment*. Because since all preliminary "endpoints" of a change are *circumscribed* by others, they always contain *various* possible continuations.

But "who" is deciding what the next step will be? And who could change the course of the sun? Here we should remember the rolling billiard ball, namely that every situation not only includes the regarded object, but also the observer, the entire point of observation. Its entire *consciousness* participates in the permanent choice. Nevertheless the essentials can be predetermined. The sun inevitably sets. But whereby? Actually, only through the decision of a *consciousness* that has given rise to the situation. And that consciousness is enclosed - consciously or unconsciously - in each of the consciousness funnels involved. Every moment of a change realizes a choice of the whole, but limitedly unfolded, universe. In the deepest depths, it is *our* will that the sun sets.

Maybe this sounds too mystical for you. But please consider: Infinitesimality structure and forking are omnipresent. The entirety of the reciprocal structured universe we find not only in the infinite vastness, but *at the same time* in every individual consciousness funnel (stem). It participates in all decisions not only as neutral core, but also as *infinitesimality-structured* infinity. Thereby its structure remains subconscious to us for the most part, only potentially unfoldable, so that we easily regard this part as imaginary background or equate it with infinitesimal centers of our consciousness plexus. Influences from the subconscious may seem like coincidences or "givens" and impulses sometimes like superficial decisions. But in fact, the activity arising from the depths has

the same basis as our freedom of choice: the inexhaustible, asymptotically compressed infinitesimality structure. And by choosing, we *create* real lines of development.

Then why don't we at least arrange our lives better? We can certainly do this more often than we usually think, if we only free ourselves from ingrained behaviors and personal dogmas. We *always* have the chance to do this, even at this moment. It is true that we are only able to realize an intention if we persevere with the change we have chosen for it. However, we limit ourselves as soon as we finally "forget" habits of thinking that have been repressed into the subconscious and now believe in the immutability of "external circumstances". *We* are the creators of our reality. *We* decide for "unwanted" activities - even in a much broader sense than we have discussed so far.

The same applies to all other consciousness. This again creates situations with more or less choices. Non-uniform - for example crossing or overlapping - movements lead to *emphasized* forking points, which differ from the steady selection process. For example, a tiger encounters another or circles in a trap. At such points, there may be more or fewer alternatives for him than during his usual stalk through the jungle. We highlight the current decision-making accordingly. The relationship between this and similar experiences represents the *rough* aspect of the infinitesimality-structured tiger life, which now provides the repertoire of behavior. Nevertheless, the tiger's *constant* choice also goes - summarily and quite topically - into the present decision. It not only implements freer decisions consistently, but always participates actively *as well*.

The strange tiger appeared, however, quite unexpectedly from the thicket. Only something whose approach has not been observed affects so spontaneous (compare chapter 3). However, its effects must constantly feedback on itself within the all-connected world. There must be a *consciousness* of every movement course. *Some* "body" knows about the way of *both* tigers - although the number

of possible surprises is infinite. Finally, continuity and discontinuity merge *also* continuously.

According to a related pattern, the periphery of a consciousness binds itself to the central universal continuum. The circumscribing movement is never completely closed, but always *also* new: At every point, a choice is made between several continuations, those that have approximately (irreversibly - only asymptotically exactly) been passed through before and those that have more new things to offer. Should you, the hunter at the fork, first think further or continue the hunt in the process? The result is always a spiral, whose old and new arms are in a reciprocal relationship to each other before the de-bifurcation: The circulating thought is in its turn a consciousness funnel open to the front.

Openness and closedness of the feedback are infinitesimally connected in this way. Therefore, the outer circumscription of a consciousness does not form a contradiction to its interaction with the inner depth. The unity of both movements is an *infinitesimality-structured* spiral web, which reaches out to infinity. On the other side, it leads into the funnel stem of consciousness and establishes the connection with the subconscious diversity of the universe, which through its infinitesimality structure participates in the decision-making process of the less infinitesimal consciousness.

Let's summarize a few important conclusions:

1. The infinitesimality structure connects *everything* (even with the unknown) and transcends, like the infinitesimal point, the "pure" physical or biological. Thus it leads directly together with everything "higher".
2. Every consciousness has the tendency to go beyond itself and to build up new infinitesimality-structured entireties. This universal urge to creativity could be called (see 1.) pure and at the same time inexhaustible energy, which is consciously controlled.
3. The scope of decision of the consciousness *is* its potential. *A consciousness* realizes only what it *decides* on (and be it

the hitherto completely subconscious), because it embodies the branching out *par excellence*. (Later we will nevertheless discover a relative difference between freedom and potential. Besides, the subconscious is undoubtedly *involved* in every realization, with which immediately also the unknown - just *not* yet realized - comes to light).

4. The absolute freedom of the infinitesimal universal continuum gives itself a frame with the respective conscious alternatives. Only by this it can become *effective*. At the same time, the degree of freedom of the consciousness grows with the increasing unfoldment of its depth. (I will provide the proof for this later).
5. Meanwhile, the infinitesimality structure proves that the choice between *given* possibilities is *always* free, more exactly: has a free part within the total context. (More about this later, too).

While we originally spoke of effects and interactions, we are now only dealing with different forms of consciousness. Of course consciousness means more than the fundamental ability to make a free choice. It communicates with others, feels and fosters individual intentions. It is in ceaseless exchange with its subconscious, without which it is unthinkable. How does it attune the creation of its reality to other individuals and "God"? What personal use can we distil from these cognitions? This and more will be the subject of the next chapters.

Part III

The communicating consciousness

18 Projection and creating approximations

Normally, we believe that the objects around us can also be seen by others. We have ascribed a determined range of existence to the vase on the table, which would mean that it exists for a certain amount of observers. Nevertheless, we begin to doubt whether every observer really sees the *same* vase.

We perceive an object by including it in our consciousness. But this consciousness evidently differs from all others. It contains a completely individual combination of opinions, preferences, and memories, which it here relates to a vase, such that we become conscious of this vase in a different way than Hans standing right beside us. One observer may be a passionate collector, and the other a flower fanatic. And nevertheless, both say they see one and the same vase at yonder place. So, do their vases have something in common after all?

No, strictly speaking, they don't! Since every detail relates to a *particular* whole, it is identical with none of the details of another whole. The different consciousnesses of both admirers only meet in the infinitely minute that is really accorded to both - but no longer represents a vase.³⁰ How then do they succeed in *agreeing* upon one, only this one and no other vase? Of course, one communicates, makes a deal: you tell me what you see and I tell you what I see, and then you correct me and I correct you, etc. In so doing, each includes a bit of the other's viewpoint in their own, creates a *new* consciousness *with* this information, upon which the other in turn creates a new consciousness including the information from the first common consciousness, and so on. Of course, the observers now no longer perceive their original object. Instead, they have created an *overall consciousness of* both viewpoints, with which they are interwoven unto the infinitesimal. They *cir-*

³⁰ This example is taken from Jane Roberts, "The Seth Material", New Awareness Network, Inc. 2011.

cumscribe its wholeness, in which a common *approximation* of their individual vases now circulates. This is that vase with a determined range of existence.

You can verify this construction of reality by means of a simple experiment: ask someone from your family to point at a random object. All those present should then follow the associations this object brings up. Exchange your impressions, observing all the while how you integrate the others' references, and how through this an object that is common to all crystallizes. This is not that which every single one of you now perceives, but it is the particular object contained within the new *overall consciousness* of the observers. Further differentiations, that is, new references, arise constantly, which can be adjusted equally constantly. The resulting approximation is the common - "objective" - reality of the communicating individuals.

Of course we do not always have to start at zero. We already have internalized certain ideas and rules about approximations and their formation. (Almost) everyone knows "what" a vase is or "how" to speak. But if you also know someone who always understands what you say differently, it will be clear to you what we are talking of here.

One question we have already answered in a different form remains: how can a *single* observer perceive something unified if such perception requires communication? You know it: his consciousness, his *inner* communication, circumscribes the object as an entity which continues to circulate as such within it. If a consciousness did not consist of interrelating partial consciousnesses - down into the infinitely small -, there would be no expanded, let alone structured objects of contemplation.

Accordingly, collective approximations are formed like circumscribed entities. At first, no individually perceived object exists for another consciousness. It is infinitesimal, non-existent. Only by means of communication, that is, reciprocity between different consciousnesses, is an approximated object acceptable to each side brought forth from the imaginary halo *and* individual knowledge.

However, the *imaginary* is hidden *in the existing*, the "space" of all circumscribed infinitesimal points. Therefore, the new approximation is created from the *unity* of concrete circumscription and infinitesimality, which can be found everywhere and altogether in the present consciousness. Everything new arises *from the inside* of the known *outward* into the hitherto nowhere (which, not to forget, is merely approximated by existing halos which are still *conscious* - see chapter 1 and compare chapter 13).³¹ Thereby it links to the projecting consciousness and expands its individuality.

Although all communicating individuals intertwine and form a new community consciousness, it is still perceived *differently* by each of the standpoints involved because they are *centered* in it differently. So we have at least two new aspects of consciousness: "left" and "right" (and infinitely many in between). They contain two new intertwined objects, which again only *circumscribe* the "real" *common* entirety of the approximation object. The approximation is most "average" from a third standpoint centered in the middle. Again, though, we can form another average of all *three* individual standpoints not identical with any of them and so on. A common object is not only the *result* of an infinitesimality-structured relation, but itself such a movement - between unanimous center and dazzling periphery.

According to the above considerations, unequal consciousnesses create a new object by deciding to communicate with each other. However, just as reciprocal as this communication must turn out the object circumscribed by it. In the object the constantly new communication *condenses*, without which it would not exist. Therefore it also has consciousness with its own ability to decide. It was created as a relatively *independent* partial aspect of the total consciousness projecting and perceiving it. And as a relatively independent one, it affects its creator(s) back.

³¹ To be quite precise: The outside also *comes into being* with the new and is *no longer* an outside after its completion.

Here an important point comes to bear, which we have already indicated several times: The vase under consideration is by no means made up of clay and color alone, but of the entire conscious context out of which it "crystallizes." Therefore, it is more conscious than we would give clay and color alone credit for. What we see now influences our consciousness *of* the vase, whereupon we feel prompted to place the same in our collection or to adorn it with matching flowers. The consciousness, already expanded by the vase, has creatively enriched itself by another partial aspect.

If we continue this process, we unfold our consciousness in a spiral or fractal way, just as one thought complex gives birth to the next, from both of which another sprouts, and so on. In this case, the presence of "the" vase multiplies. We can then summarize the variations again in *one* approximation object - to *one* vase with a large range of existence respectively high stability. This confirms its inclusion in *one* comprehensive consciousness. The intensity of its condensed existence is thereby described by its *influence* within this consciousness, in the form of a "decision potential": The conscious perception of the vase more or less *decides* on its further use.

To illuminate the whole from another side, we recall again that the interaction of an object with another object is infinitesimal for each *single* one. It is only created when a third party looks at it "from the side" (chapter 3). This third party only can grasp a *reciprocal* meaning of the *different* components for each other. Thereby it is in its turn connected with each side. So there is no two-body problem at all, no real "duolectics", but everything is at least "trialectic". The circumscribed center of a reciprocal influence falls into an observer, who forms another partial aspect of the new total consciousness. His position relates, so to speak, inversely to that of an approximation object: It is the precondition for perceiving two *different* aspects of consciousness.

Both points of view - the one of approximation formation and the one of observation - as you can easily see are intertwined (up to the infinitesimal). And in both versions the total consciousness pro-

jects partial aspects of itself to the outside by identifying itself with *another* partial aspect (self-consciousness). The circumscription or interaction thus split off now appears as an "objective" unity of its *own* components.

How easily we forget that we determine our environment ourselves - not only by the way we perceive or influence it and by constantly choosing the same, but simply because we *include* it. All parts of a total consciousness act relatively independently, so that it is apparently only a small step to separate them also *fundamentally* from each other. Their alternating changes do indeed appear unpredictable to the extent that all participants are free to choose their relationships. Yet they always decide *together*, as was evident from the last two chapters. In the section "Individuality and freedom" we will examine this point in more detail.

Projections are not conscious to us before they appear. But we also do not create them out of *pure* nothingness, but out of our individual view. We contain them *potentially*.

Looking deeper, that which we want to see, for example flowers in the vase, already existed before in a *similar* form for *other* observers. Mother had already put such flowers in that vase (in *her* vase) before. Mother had already put such flowers in that vase (in *her* vase). Even that upon which we are not focused is available in *principle*; it can at some time be brought up from *somewhere else* where it *must* exist, since *everything* exists for someone (chapter 1 and 2). Only the *decision* in favor of a particular communication is made by each consciousness in association with its central *zero* point. The ensuing projection arises (via holomovement) from the world of its respective un-/subconscious.³²

Despite our choice, then, we project objects which have existed long since as approximated from another perspective. To *establish* this, however, means that we were already conscious of these ap-

³²...whereby that which is to be projected from there is altered and other free decisions take part in this, such that the exact form of the projected remains unknown until the very end.

proximations *before* their projection. Because to what extent an object exists beyond our own world is measured by means of its more comprehensive range of existence, which we paradoxically must *know*. How is that possible?

Let us imagine a cave whose dark interior we want to explore archaeologically. We light a torch and step over the border of our current viewpoint into another, the interior of the cave, where we become aware of several prehistoric paintings. Eventually, we return to the outside, but keep the cave entry in view. Now, the artifacts are again steeped in darkness. However, we know with *relative* certainty, that these target objects (still) exist (more precisely, that they *will* still exist when we go back to them) and keep the beginning of the path to them in our consciousness. When we enter into the cave anew, this time nothing wholly unknown emerges. Nonetheless, we will perceive the pictures slightly differently; perhaps they even have been damaged in the meantime.

Before we stepped into the cave for the first time, we were *not* conscious of its content as part of the enfolded universe. After we had unfolded it, it became *subconscious* through its re-enfoldment - a subtle difference that emphasizes the *dynamic* existence of the object. That means that it alternates between potential and actual existence, by which the potential is confirmed through its repeated realization and at the same time is preserved *as such*. This alone entitles us to assert that an object will also distinguish itself from the sea of randomness, even when *we* are *not* observing it. In this case, we are observing the circumscribing *oscillation* between existence and non-existence, which condenses in a real potential.

While shifting our viewpoint *creates* things that may already exist similarly for others, the potential *connects* us with them and is therefore itself perceived as their approximation - that is, as incomplete.

Again, please try to *feel* how this happens. You can only speak of a possibility if you keep its realization in mind, but at the same time suppress it. You *could* continue reading, but you don't *want to*. After all, you do read a piece, however, and thus confirm its

potential. Finally, you let it go and go to sleep for now - tomorrow is another (potential) day with (probably) similar reality. Again you think of the coming in relation to the present. The entirety thus circumscribed is the resulting potential. Nevertheless, it does not exhaust its circumscription, because the latter consists essentially in its details, here in the *distinction* between presently conscious and future conscious reading material.

Real dynamic existence is not, as you know, the only possibility of delineating a potential. With respect to worlds that are not yet accessible, we are dependent upon inferences or extrapolations whose continued validity we assume on unknown ground. The confirming side of the circumscription is itself still potential here, only verified in relation to known phenomena. This is the way we go about when we infer an implicate order from explicit movements. And it is in the same way that we come to the assumption that our subconscious extends into the *infinite*, potentially unfoldable universe.

Dynamically, however, we can also capture the unique perception of the vase of flowers, the cave paintings, or the next chapter by which another individual is *distinguished* - without diluting it into a potential. This requires a more sophisticated method than mere information exchange, physical standpoint shift, or hypothetical inference. Before we get to that, let us briefly summarize and then turn a little bit to the projection of independent consciousness.

An object is created by a consciousness deciding to open its internal feedback for communication with other consciousness. The individual circumscriptions and holomovements intertwine to the approximation of a common object having consciousness itself. Thereupon, the total consciousness can exclude its object from the self-perceived identity, apparently perceiving it as external.

Similar approximations of the object already existed *before* the current communication - in *other* consciousness which we enfold subconsciously (and together with which we may construct a common object one day). The degree of enfoldment, however,

depends on the standpoint. We can *dynamically* perceive the hidden approximations (via our holomovement), circumscribing a *potential* for their *projection*.

To sum up briefly, new objects are created through the interplay of three processes: the *decision* to create, the *exchange* with other consciousnesses, and their *ascent* from the subconscious.

19 Putting ourselves in another position...

The ascension from the subconscious is that process which exceeds the mere unfoldment of an object. With it not only a hidden *order* manifests itself, but already a hidden *object*. We can observe it in *its* milieu by going to its level of existence - for example, when we dream (as in chapter 15) or alternate to the kitchen. There we gratefully become aware of the blinking light of our coffee machine and pour ourselves a cup, which we then take back to the living room. If we do wake up from a dream, we will be prompted to make a cup of coffee that we can also enjoy while awake. In any case, we drink a different coffee than we initially poured. We perceive it differently, in a different context, in a different state. Yet, we uniformly call it "coffee" what we are pouring or sipping.

Let's consider again exactly what happened: we felt a need for coffee, whereupon we projected one - in the dream already ready, here still to be produced. We unfolded an inner sensation of what we want to the outside, to an independent object. It is true that what we wanted (mentally) immediately smelled in our nostrils, but now we can distinguish *its* effect from *our* activity more clearly. We have not only de-veloped a circumscription of coffee, but also our interaction with it.

But where does the need for coffee come from? Sure, we have smelled and drunk some before. We think of *such a one* (not the same one). We fetch a cupful from the subconscious, from the order of memory *unfolded in the hidden* (not on our table); and we *bring* a brown powder *from* the kitchen cupboard to unfold it in the conscious order in front of our nose. Here it transforms into drinkable, but already formed before with the still mental versions of the elixir the *approximation* "coffee" - the very one which we now project into our present reality.

By enfolding both the subconscious and the conscious, we form the eye of the needle, but also the (dynamic) mediator between the two. Implicate is always what is not conscious at the moment or what does not come to light even by the alternation between con-

scious and subconscious. From the latter permanent hiding place comes the need "in itself" or the *impulse* for something *like* coffee - from the not yet confirmed potential of an un(der)conscious order (see chapter 18). We will come back to this in the next section. At this point, we shall only be interested in what is really new about what we pull up from the subconscious. And to this the preliminary answer is as follows:

New is the individual approximation, which we circumscribe by our conscious communication after we have decided on a known alternative. Old, on the other hand, is the general (and therefore more abstract) approximation that can be circumscribed by the oscillation between conscious and subconscious before we project it into our individual reality. We *choose* an already conscious approximation to create a new one; we choose coffee for our personal enjoyment. This decision, in turn, does not originate fully in *any* order, as we have justified in the section "Conscious creativity."

Moreover, something of what we project always arises from that entirety of the universe condensed *to the infinitesimal*, which we include; it is thus *fundamentally* new, not to be found even approximately in a subconscious. All these justifications of creativity will yet turn out to be different aspects of one.

From chapter 18 it appeared that an approximation object enfolded the communication of its observers. Now I go one step further and claim that it can project the observers for its part.

Let us expand our coffee circle to include two coffee machines, each with a different type of coffee rattling through its filter, and our assistant Hans. You and I, we talk about the two machines we have set in motion and the two types of coffee, each of which likes a different one. We project a communal approximation of this situation onto the kitchen table. By perceiving it in this way, we realize something about our coffee preferences, that is, about ourselves. Perhaps we are moved to try the other person's variety for once. Since we consider the machines to be independent objects for good reason, we have to admit that they have projected some-

thing onto us that would not have reached us without them. They unfold an altered image of what they enfolded before. And this quite "objectively": we can leave the kitchen, while Hans enters it a minute later. He sees the running devices and *draws* conclusions *from them* about us putting on the coffee, about our different tastes, and so on.

We actually only need Hans because I don't want to presume to judge the intelligence of coffee machines. So I allowed him to "contaminate" the experimental conditions with his knowledge about making coffee. If we take the coffee machines "in themselves" instead, we can justifiably puzzle over how their inner interactions unfold two "somethings" handling them. Probably not at all as complex as we know ourselves, but at most as primitive as the communication in and among the machines is. (In the same sense, a dog sees us more simply than we see ourselves.) All in all, the holomovement between us and the devices establishes a new total consciousness as an extension of each.

We are merely bringing to consciousness what was previously an *implicate* basis of coffee making: *we* provide the machines with their function. Without us, they would *no* longer be coffee machines, but something else.³³ Just by repressing their mutual (!) relation to us, we can consider them independent. Admittedly, displacement into the subconscious is a general phenomenon, without which there would be no approximation objects at all. All approximations abstract to some degree from the details of their constituent (total) consciousness (but at the same time integrate them infinitesimally). Otherwise, no conscious structure would arise.

Depending on which aspects of our consciousness we emphasize, its center shifts. Either our previous center or centers outside of it become more significant. But if we shift a part of the whole *into the subconscious*, we subsequently have to identify with one of the

³³ This other offers us again the function of its operator, it seduces to make coffee. The possible roles of both sides (from one view each) were hidden *in the entirety* of each side - and remain connected with the view of the opposite side: Infinitesimal structure.

remaining fragments, against which the other fragments now seem alien. All partial consciousnesses undoubtedly *decide* for themselves, but the less we identify with them, the more *detached* their activity appears to us. Nevertheless, they are *within* our consciousness, sometimes even irritatingly close.

This is how we get sick seemingly without meaning to. Our cells act and communicate on a different level than we do, in a way that we are not conscious of. Consciously we converse with the doctor about the symptom picture, which expresses our illness in a mutually accepted form. Accordingly, symptoms are usually treated as a priority. It is true that nobody denies that our physical and mental condition is connected with more subtle processes in the body. The physician also investigates at the cellular level - but again interprets the processes there in terms of his accepted frame of reference. He may even consider this way of understanding as the only possible one.

If he is generous enough to let us participate in his reflections, he will encourage us to look at our interior more or less like that of a technical device, a foreign body. We then even more don't come to the idea of *identifying* with our inside. Nevertheless, we actually know that we communicate with it in other ways than via a microscope: If we contemplate on it, we *sense* the holomovement between the inside and the outside of our body. We sense it *mentally* - between the inner and outer form of *one* consciousness. This sensation comes from a level of communication that we usually exclude from our reality.

Every reader has certainly had to painfully experience that he can never share the richness of his personal experience in all its fullness with other people. Pictures, language, facial expressions and music are too limited means of expression. What we want to express must fit into our level of communication *shared* with the addressees in order to exist for everyone involved. Our listeners, in turn, interpret the transmitted symbols in an individual way. Only if we manage to do it very skillfully, do they get approximately,

what we wanted to say to them. To do this, we need to *know* approximately how they interpret certain signs; we should have already communicated intensively with them and *anticipate* how they will receive our message.

If, however, we notice that the other person does not understand us at all, we have no choice but to *put ourselves in* his place, to understand his point of view, and then to articulate ourselves in accordance with it. Particularly those who work a lot with children can hardly get along otherwise, they cannot really connect with them. The external exchange of information alone is no longer sufficient to create a common reality. We have to exchange the *center* of our standpoint and from *this* communication pre-structure the desired common approximation. We first conduct the exchange of information with the other *inwardly*, remembering the original unity of all consciousness and from it re-establishing familiarity with our counterpart. In other words: We project from the asymptotically condensed infinitesimality structure of the universe the *individual* reality of the consciousness in question, which we now connect less infinitesimally with ours.

In doing so, we cannot construct another individual's standpoint from his external characteristics alone. We also have to go *inward*, to follow the holomovement into our own depth, to surface in the consciousness we know only superficially. This dynamic of the focus of consciousness is a completely natural process and is directly explained by our model of the consciousness funnel. The oscillation between its periphery and asymptotic depth itself forms a partial consciousness. It is circumscribed by the alternative movements outward and into the depth. The decision in favor of one side, because of the entanglement with the superficial feedbacks, would finally pull the whole consciousness in the same direction.

Let's say we want to help a friend who is going through a family problem. After what he describes to us, we imagine his situation and try to imagine ourselves in it. But in this way we find at most ourselves in that situation - but not *as him*. "He" is an entirety that

we can only comprehend *as a whole*. We can perhaps grow into it piece by piece, but we are only "in" it when we grasp it in its totality. If we proceed in this way, we have shifted our consciousness outward on a comprehensible path - towards an already conscious goal.

To some, this elaborate method may seem the only logical one. And yet we have another one that we use all the time, but which requires some practice for its fuller use. I mean that shift in the other direction, into one's own depth, the subconscious. Here, too, the goal may be known beforehand, but the way to it is not. In the example above, we start from what we know about our friend and then dive into our inner self. We have set a destination and the intention to arrive exactly at that destination. Then we *open* our inner being and with it the paths to other realities. If we succeed, we feel how we *slip into the* other's viewpoint, the other consciousness. If you think closely about how you normally put yourself into other situations, this method will not seem so very unfamiliar to you. You will notice that your consciousness usually works with *both* methods *at the same time*.

Just as we put ourselves into a friend, we can "beam" ourselves into other sub-aspects of our consciousness. After we have arrived in one, it forms our *central* partial aspect, for which the old center lies outside. We see ourselves through the eyes of another. Just try to put yourself into a coffee machine! After a few attempts you will be similarly amazed as a student of meditation after his first successful "contemplation exercise".

Admittedly, an infinitesimality-structured consciousness complex is not a rigid framework. Its shifting into a certain goal can be quite incomplete, partial. In this case, we would experience our standpoint as a *combination* of several points of view, like when we are talking on the phone with the above friend and at the same time drawing stick figures. One can also say, different realities of *one* consciousness interpenetrate each other (without uniting com-

pletely³⁴). That is why I prefer to speak of the shifting of the *focus* of consciousness, instead of that of consciousness. Even the one who identifies himself so much with another center that he forgets his old identity can find back again. After that, at best, his consciousness has dynamically *expanded*. The holomovement between waking and dreaming, for example, is a constant oscillation between the identities of a wake self and a dream self.

Let's not get lost in too many reflections here: Even if you do not specifically look at your consciousness from the outside, but rather - as is usually the case in dreams - become completely absorbed in an experience, you remain aware of your identity in the mirror of this experience. Your personal reality looks back to the source of its unfoldment. Similarly, the self does not have to fear the omnipresent penetration on the part of other individuals - it always maintains its consistency in the consciousness of *its unique* characteristic. You cannot give yourself up at all; so feel free to let go and perhaps allow the limited ego a conscious union with its freer dream version.³⁵

In the deep subconscious everything meets in the end, and so we may visit quite other realities in its direction, which have hardly anything in common with the superficially conscious objects anymore. Really new, though, is never the self-existing target focus "in itself", but its *conscious connection* with the initial focus. The information taken in at the target focus benefits *us* as soon as we unite it with *our* knowledge, i.e. during partial putting into one's place constantly and during total putting into one's place after returning to our original, now changed consciousness. While each focus (conscious or subconscious) is strictly different from that of all others, the focus dynamic creates a new unique connection of

³⁴ If this had happened, we would only have *approached* the other reality. But this way we link it *as such* with ours. The emphasis is on the difference.

³⁵ During a dream, the relative stability within the changing experience condenses into a less rigid ego. The same basically happens during wakefulness. This self-consciousness only makes itself not so superficially noticeable, but likewise permeates all experiences of interaction. Analogous to the consciousness funnel, each stage of self-consciousness contains all the others.

all these individuals. Overall, this gives us a *less infinitesimal* knowledge than we were previously allowed to attribute to ourselves. Our reality funnel has expanded.

20 Self-consciousness and independence

To the extent that the scope of the conscious narrows down, the deeper one wants to look, the relationship to this depth also slides into the hidden. After all, a consciousness can expand *dynamically* by moving in and out of this *its* depth. It discovers the *subconscious* connection with the hitherto unknown as well as with the already known. Consciousness *consists* of subconsciousness and consciousness in the narrower sense, whereby also the subconsciousness is composed of independent structures of consciousness. Among these are the individual focuses of other objects.

Therefore, neither a human being nor any other individual has to feel that we have put ourselves into the same. We obtain information that already exists from its standpoint. The information is not increased, but only becoming *more conscious* for us. Whether we can *have an effect* on someone with them, so that *he* changes his consciousness, is a completely different question. In any case, *we* have changed ours *ourselves*.

However, we seem to have to confirm by other means that we have actually reached the targeted focus, that we, for example, could really comprehend our friend's experience as his. Ordinary communication is insufficient for this by its nature. Confirmation can only arise from the further *consequences* of our empathy, and even then only asymptotically to an acceptable degree of accuracy. So let's stay on the trail of subconsciousness and self-consciousness for now; we'll talk about the question of proof later.

We can create approximation objects, put ourselves into one's place, and expand our consciousness by relatively independent aspects. But we cannot *consciously create* ourselves *as a whole*. The constant re-creation of our consciousness during the holomovement must come from something more comprehensive. In fact, if our consciousness does not experience itself as part of such a producer, it is created *exclusively* from its subconscious. No consciousness without subconsciousness. And as we stated, the latter

encompasses the whole infinite universe. The relation to it merges with the relation to the infinitesimal core of the conscious reciprocity.

Analogously, no consciousness is *completely conscious of itself*. Just as we can only look at our eyes in the mirror, a consciousness cannot feedback to itself without opening a loop which does *not* yet circulate with it, i.e. remains subconscious at first - a variant of Gödel's incompleteness principle (see chapter 5).

I now propose an extended version, according to which the *individuality* of all partial consciousnesses can never be conscious *as a whole* - just as little as the group reflects the single individual. To grasp all focuses - conscious peaks of unique hierarchies of the less conscious - in *their own* way, one would have to *alternate* between them, whereby, of course, most individual perceptions would constantly disappear in the subconscious. A total consciousness of several individuals merely *approximates* their standpoints more or less, provided it also includes all standpoints *between* its own and theirs. No communication can identify the individuals with each other, but only bring about an - ultimately infinitesimality-structured - open unity.

This openness shows itself especially in the fact that the focuses necessary for the completion of the self-consciousness bring in their turn connections to *new* sides, for the inclusion of which more and more total and intermediate consciousnesses become necessary. Every discussion with oneself brings to light new unexpected aspects, which in their turn would be in need of discussion. Self-consciousness is never complete; instead, it extends throughout the whole universe. This, in turn, is largely subconscious. Thus, a self-consciousness is able to complete itself only by including the subconsciousness *as such*. In which way this happens, we will discuss in the last part of the book. Here, we shall only emphasize how the incompleteness of conscious self-contemplation determines the will of consciousness: Exclusively by expanding its

focus dynamic it can satisfy its curiosity about itself - by *unfolding its* subconscious in *different* ways.³⁶

The self-consciousness, as a partial aspect of the respective total consciousness, is as flexible as *every* consciousness. It decides with which part of reality the individual "egoficates" and which things are external. This is at the same time a decision on which objects appear as relatively independent - even if they are in *some* respects within the ego realm. (Not in every one, since they would then coincide with the ego - or more precisely, their center with its center). Who does not sometimes look at their inner self from the outside, as an "alien power" that tempts us to do "unwanted" deeds? We sometimes equate ourselves with these and sometimes with those aspects of our entirety.

Thus, self-consciousness *also* follows the focus of consciousness, because who we see ourselves as depends on what is important to us at the moment, what we focus on: on certain relations to other things, on more or less loved sides of our inner being, on communication with the subconscious. But certainly the single focus does not so much change the self *condensing* in its changefulness, and even less the *source* of our consciousness, a largely subconscious essence. And especially to these two - to *us* - something matters...

By choosing a focus of consciousness, we have decided on the being conscious or being subconscious of things and relationships. This being subconscious of many relations is the second reason for the independence of the other, namely for the unpredictability of his actions. (So we are often surprised by inner impulses as well.) And because the holo-relation to other consciousness *always* remains partially subconscious (is *implicitly* maintained), and thirdly because the equivalent-undetermined entirety of the universal continuum is always *immediately* near (in the form of infinitesimal

³⁶ In the same sense, the universe is aware of itself in the totality of its limited embodiments, but never conscious at the same time of all points of observation (chapter 32).

centers), a certain stubbornness of each consciousness cannot be circumvented. The relation to the decision point, to the subconscious and to itself is inherent in it individually. Consequently, it also organizes its activities individually.

Ultimately, we find a consciousness at every point of a connection we *know about* that contributes to that connection independently and, above all, *voluntarily*. By projecting connections, we merely break down the infinitesimality structure of our consciousness funnel into a less infinitesimal structure (Chapter 17). Every detail is already born as consciousness. We may determine its initial scope of action, but we can create *absolute* determination with infinite difficulty. In contrast, the relative freedom of a new consciousness will also influence the further *development* of its degree of freedom. As we pursue this, we simultaneously fathom its origin, the depth of the conscious, and thus the subconscious.

Individuality and freedom

21 Messages of the subconscious

"In every perception there is the potential for knowledge of the universe."³⁷

The easiest way seems to be following the conscious relations of an object to learn as much as possible on this *logical* way. One follows known paths into the unknown. This procedure involves our knowledge in a relatively superficial way.

If we associate a sailing ship at the sight of the setting sun, on the other hand, we sense *hidden* connections. They *express* themselves only on the surface of the consciousness, and still without our focus having left it in the meantime. Thus, after all, more contacts are grasped than with logic alone.

The most comprehensive knowledge, however, we gain by putting ourselves into known and unknown consciousness. In this way, we not only open up their foundations, but also get to know other standpoints *within them*. By using the *inner* connection to them, we unite with them on a deeper level; they become *more familiar* to us.

It is true that external-logical relations ultimately lead us to deeper orders as well - only more indirectly, more circumstantially. If logic is not to come up against such insurmountable limits as classical physics has in describing quantum processes, it must extend itself, i.e. unfold more of its hitherto unknown or "illogical" basis.

The *complete* depth of a superficial network of relations is, after all, necessarily as complex as the totality of All That Is³⁸, which enfolds into its consciousness. Therefore, this consciousness does not only have a certain number of feedbacks, but an infinitely large one. From this it rises. Each of its decisions must be based on the

³⁷ Author unknown.

³⁸ I can give an exact description of All That Is as a state of reflection of the universal continuum only in the fourth part. For the time being we can regard it as what we normally understand by "universe".

cooperation with the subconscious deep structure: It is a choice of All That Is in a certain form (chapter 17). This does not eliminate the creativity of the individual; rather, it contributes to the creative power of everything else.

If we would renounce the subconscious, we would always decide *completely consciously*. But this would be possible only by means of ever further consciousness loops in which the respective previous ones circulate. As described on the basis of the self-consciousness, our consciousness would again extend to the whole universe. To a *limited* (namely discrete) consciousness most of this *must* remain subconscious. Nevertheless, it depends on its deep complexity, since it is functional and itself only *as a whole*.

Now, how can we more consciously involve our subconscious base? We fathom it non-stop by *partially* projecting it outward and observing the retroactions. Everything we see, hear, smell, touch, and taste is unfolded simultaneously with what we think ourselves to be - with the holomovement from the subconscious. Provided we retain what we learn, we expand the consciousness of our individuality. We come to know and use our *potential* better; we eventually *act* more like a deeper, more comprehensive self. We become wiser.

However, it cannot be the goal to make everything conscious. The individuality of every conscious standpoint is based on the enfoldment *of other* individual standpoints. Every totality is only *one* summary of most diverse consciousness. The peculiarity of the other will therefore always remain more or less subconscious to us - and that is good. Because on the way to greater knowledge we create objects to examine them *from our* standpoint. Thereby they become conscious to us, enrich our "being". We create them, moreover, as relatively independent, for only in this way do they provide experiences, without distracting from the conscious organization of our preferred sphere of life. After all, it would not be very developmental or uplifting if you had to rearrange your home every day!

At the same time, each new object or individual contributes *decisions from its specific situation*. We expand our *consciousness* in the last consequence only by *decentralizing* it during its expansion. In order to enrich the life of the family, we bring *independent* children into the world (so that the family includes them). We create research and business enterprises that multiply our creativity thousandfold - in the creativity of all employees. And we furnish a room to feel comfortable in *it*, to find new strength and inspiration.

Children and living room are still there when we return home from work. We have created a *multiplicity* of individuals, which we now include more or less *as such*, by alternating our standpoint between them, our role, during the day - from company boss to educator and idler. Each of these three associated with company, child and living room are not fully conscious of their other sub-aspects - which also include their totality. An effective expansion of consciousness, for example in the company, must therefore also take place in harmony *with the subconscious*. Family quarrels have a negative effect.

Since we are not able to work, explain things to the daughter and fully recover at the same time, we have to do everything one after the other. Nevertheless, we feel as "ourselves" all the time. It is obvious thereafter that our "trinity" must be grounded in a deeper consciousness that maintains the relative stability of our overall movement. Similar to the way personnel correspond with their boss, led on a long leash, we communicate with our higher self via an inner holomovement. Indeed, in some dreams, and probably in deeper stages of sleep, we meet it as an independent essence - in changing form (that is, different relationship to us) - with which we exchange. We constantly feed it with specific experiences as father and worker, which it cannot have as a more comprehensive entity. In turn, these more limited I's gain drawing from the same holomovement.

Conversely seen, that entity limits itself in each of its created offshoots, in order to grow then along with their *individual* developments. (It divides its potential.) It may only observe or put itself

into its creatures from time to time; always it persists as unmistakable subject. Even if one day its consciousness unfolded All That Is, it would remain original because of its uniquely *centered* standpoint. Only with all other individuals *as such, with its subconsciousness together*, it attained maximum symmetry.

Nevertheless, the relationship between the conscious and the subconscious remains one-sided. There are many more individuals than us. Their infinite "sum" is by no means bigger than us, because we contain them all - but the subconscious is always bigger than the conscious.

Thus, higher development means expansion of the *unity* of consciousness and subconsciousness. And since the subconscious is infinite, this means expansion *of the conscious* - however with appreciation of those subconscious, but *there conscious* choices and needs, to which we owe our existence. For herein lies the prerequisite for harmony in a world arbitrarily controlled by us. A significant change in reality, such as parenthood, change of partner or career, we should coordinate with our deep subconscious. Then, on the other hand, we can trust that the conscious living of our individuality is beneficial to the respective more comprehensive entity; and thus again to us through its new impulses.

By impulses I mean the subconsciousness' signals or impetuses to act, which arise within our more comprehensive holomovement. While the latter creates a relatively stable reality, an impulse causes us to take certain actions. Remember the hunter at the fork who suddenly remembered to use a helicopter? His subconscious knowledge in that situation, or rather the constant exchange of information with a *subliminal consciousness*, culminated in a surprising possible solution because it had not been overtly considered.

Instead, however, the hunter could have followed an impulse to the right, onto *one* of the two tracks. Would this still have been his free decision?

Obviously, it is not always easy to distinguish between a determining impulse and a conscious choice. After all, the funnel stem of our consciousness, through which the impulses are transmitted, leads exactly into that direction, in which the neutral center of the alternatives is located. The asymptotic stem *passes into* the final infinitesimal point. Everything that is less and less conscious to us *merges* in the central universal continuum, so that a distinction between impulse and choice becomes *ultimately* impossible.

Since everything is consciousness, indeed also impulses always transmit decisions. But the *possible* unfoldment of the subconscious demands a separation between the free decisions of the limited consciousness itself and those of entities hidden in it. Thus we cannot blame our possible misfortune consistently on an invisible spirit. Although all consciousnesses contain each other, independent creatures must be attributed responsibility for their actions - whether they observe each other or not. We will soon understand how far this responsibility extends.

Decisions that are made for us subconsciously often seem like our conscious choice. At least an impulse does not *have to be* immediately converted into external action. It can first pass into various loops of consciousness, become *conscious* to us as an impulse, which we then freely decide to accept or not. For example, we look at the impulse to have a fling like an object. It no longer coincides with our decision, but now forms one of the alternatives *between* which we choose. Only if we do not recognize the impulse as such, i.e. *automatically* convert it into an activity towards the outside, does it coincide with our respective current decision.

Should we always follow impulses that have become conscious, because perhaps our entity communicates itself in them? The decision is clearly ours. An effective help of deeper structures of consciousness is first of all dependent on information from us, as the only ones who experience our situation authentically. Inner impulses are moreover embedded in unfolded *ideals* with which we may or may not identify. For example, can an ideal of freedom that involves the obstruction or destruction of other life be desirable?

Hardly. On closer inspection, such an ideal will not at all turn out to be the image of a deep impulse, but rather the spawn of entrenched beliefs, just below the surface of conscious thought.

There is not only subconscious *per se*, but in the consciousness funnel, it is preceded by the "less and less conscious", which must be passed by all impulses and ideals before they reach our conscious perception. On this way there are plenty of possibilities for distortion. We already possess concrete ideas about what we want and *believe* in certain causal relationships that have led to our present situation. From these beliefs we filter the information available to us and ask questions, according to which any advice should be guided. Thus, even the thief may harbor a good intention, which only, as he understands it, manifests itself in an ineffectual manner. His entity takes more information into account; it has a deeper knowledge that its offshoot, with his more or less conscious ideas, is at best tangential to. Its impulses would not aim at the harm of others, since (according to chapter 15) they originate from a more complex sphere in which our benefit is less likely to be separable from that of other individuals. By excluding theirs, we ultimately curtail ourselves.

Therefore, it is important to deal with one's impulses, to sound out their depth, to recognize imprinted dogmas and to assess consciously the consequences in case one should follow them. If you feel the urge to do something or make a groundbreaking decision that something warns you against, then follow your impulse *inward* and determine whether it was originally working in this form. In this way, you will often uncover your true motives - and to these you then trustingly surrender. Your conscious decision-making ability is the first and last instance.

22 The freedom to unfreedom

Suppose I argued as follows:

Our freedom of choice between conscious alternatives is based, as described, on the convergent proximity of their unity in the infinitesimal center. If we now extend our horizon further, we see *all* discrete things united in this (and every other) infinitesimal point. Accordingly, the decisions of all arbitrary individuals go directly into our decision. And only because this totality is a unity of equals, our decision is free.

Would you agree with that? Or do you think the whole thing is an empty game with words?

I mean, this consideration is just as little hollow as the infinitesimal calculus, one of the most important branches of mathematics. There one refers to a nothing, because it is approximated by something. The nothing gets thereby a concrete meaning for the something. Indeed, the something would be nothing without this nothing - like the one without zero. Nevertheless, the zero needs the one as well - and all numbers in between. In *this* sense only, the above argumentation is still one-sided.

We are not just an infinitesimal point, but the same is circumscribed by feedbacks between concrete objects respectively alternatives, which is why we can *consciously* choose only among a finite number of options. Because of this *unity* of certain feedback and infinitesimal identity, we decide *individually*, but are also limited in our freedom.

At this point we should remember, that our focus of consciousness is the apex of an individual hierarchy which expands infinitely far into all other, for us mostly subconscious, hierarchies (chapter 9). Although we tend to view our subconscious from a (neuro-)physiological perspective, it would be foolish to restrict ourselves to our limited physics all the way down to the infinite depths. Instead, physics will *expand* into unknown directions - like everything else. Therefore, we must not assume that our subconscious works largely as we know it from our *conscious* reality. Doubtless-

ly, however, it disposes of consciousness (and thus a partial self-consciousness), or rather consists of such. Our limitation is the self-limitation of a more comprehensive entity.

We constantly dive into the subconscious; we can dynamically recognize structures in it (chapter 15, 18). And we can consequently assign certain forms of existence *there* to those on *our* preferred level. Some contemporaries may turn out to be offshoots of a single entity (chapter 4: The deeper essence of a thing leads to the essence of other things); other hierarchies are still relatively separate even on that level. However, we cannot fathom everything. The infinite depths remain ultimately hidden from us because they are too encompassing, too complex, for our current consciousness. Since we experience a *restricted* version of that reality, however, our potential, our leeway for making decisions, originally must have been broader.

That again would mean that our current limitation basically is a voluntary one, *our* voluntary one - if we identify ourselves with our entire hierarchy. (With any merely partial identification we would distance ourselves from the foundations of consciousness - whatever they may be - and thus deny the capacity for any conscious ascertainment - including this very one).

In a narrower sense, a close, yet independent entity expresses itself in us. We are, so to speak, its "baby", an independent consciousness that remains loosely connected to its "mother" and enriches the family with its unique focus. The mother arranges the room in which we have to live according to a plan that is inscrutable to us - but at times we disarrange it again. We decide freely within the framework of our reality. It is precisely this active experience of reality that circumscribes our individual self. It was the purpose of birth and its result. A mother is not annihilated at birth and neither is our entity. She *expands her consciousness* (especially of herself) by embodying in multiple creatures. Even when we disappear from her superficial perception, a subliminal connection with us should still contribute to her experience.

As I said, we cannot assume that our entity is limited to unexplored layers of the brain. If it does, then certainly not the next deeper one. At some point, this frame of reference becomes too narrow to understand our comprehensive attachment to the universe.

On the other hand, being *all-encompassing* conscious at the same time would mean unrestricted freedom of choice, which requires relatively separate *alternatives*. The consciousness of All That Is limits itself with every decision to certain focuses - to get to know *their* development in *their* situation and *out of it*. All the rest becomes subconscious. It is upon this subconsciousness and its choice, then, that the relative intransigence of our current reality, but also our Self's capability of resistance, is based. Only sometimes do we *feel* the larger meaning of our experiences, that interrelation to a higher being which slips off into vagueness.

Such loops of meaning nevertheless hold opportunity and intention for their and our expansion. More or less actively all children mature, each one reaches the former potential of its parents, while these develop independently in view of this. In the intended ideal case, all mature together in mutual exchange.

The consciousness' freedom of decision grows with an increase in its complexity. Firstly, simply because it can then process more alternatives. Inner impulses also have more opportunities of becoming conscious in reciprocity loops, to transmute into selectable/rejectable suggestions. Increased sensibility means a heightened *changeability* of the reciprocal relationships and thus additionally increases the possibilities available within a determined span of time (compare chapter 7). Even if the consciousness should constantly decide in favor of similar alternatives or even of passivity, more infinitesimal relationships, more partial consciousnesses and their combinations, are introduced into this choice. More points of decision, as it were, "moments of freedom", are involved.

We may object that a locked-up human being will hardly have more possibilities of freeing himself than a locked-up ape. But the generalization that humans are not freer because of their more complex minds alone is a fallacy. The abstract partial consciousness of its imprisonment is not much more complex than the ape's. Thus, by basing our judgment on this specific circumstance, we compare two evenly matched focuses of consciousness whose potential is barely different. We only confirm our own premise. However, if we broaden our viewpoint, the human immediately has more possibilities of choice than the ape: he can sing, talk to himself, ponder over the preconditions of freedom, etc.

Higher complexity finally brings more unity of unity and opposition and with it of infinitesimal centers and reciprocal movements. (Chapter 8: Without harmony complexity ends in chaos!) It is just this integrating unity, which - infinitesimality-structured - leads to conscious choices, so that also by this the degree of freedom increases. (Besides, harmony allows of course a better *implementation* of decisions).

Arguably, every thing must already be infinitely complex in its depth; but what is important is how much complexity becomes *conscious*. If something exists as a relatively simple interrelation, such as, perhaps, a thermostat, then it will show a relatively determined (or random) behavior, - *irrespective* of its origins.

We are now beginning to understand the extent to which the consideration we made at the beginning about the identity of all decisions was correct: Earlier, we had already stated that all infinitesimal points are identical *in themselves*. Only circumscriptions differing from each other distinguish them. The decisions of the different consciousnesses arise from each holomovement between peripheral feedback and infinitesimal depth, finally from the *unity* with the infinitesimal center.

However, this deep consciousness (down to the absolute point of reflection) ultimately *encloses* the more restricted focuses and the alternatives at their disposal. This consciousness chooses the same alternatives out of its oneness with the same core. Indeed, the in-

finitesimality structure of every consciousness unconsciously merges into that of the *most comprehensive* consciousness. Therefore, even the simplest of decisions still *corresponds* to a decision of the broadest and thus also to that of every other consciousness.

Now, because their mediation is and remains infinitesimality-structured (chapter 17), and furthermore is infinitely *compressed* in the funnel stem of each consciousness (chapter 16), we can legitimately claim that all consciousnesses are *directly* connected in their depth.³⁹ The inherently indeterminate potential of their central universal continuum fully identifies them with each other and at the same time guarantees the freedom of each individual decision. The unity in the point of reflection involves all consciousnesses *as independent ones*; but every free action of one is a *common* action of all. (Independent of whether they perceive each other at the moment).

If they are additionally interwoven by conscious relationships, thus forming a total consciousness, the decision of one also influences that of the other on this level by co-determining its *alternatives*. In turn, the more complex the mutual interlacing is, the more comprehensively and *consciously* their *infinitesimal* unity is involved and thus the choice of the whole collective becomes freer.

In the cooperation of different consciousnesses we often find strong asymmetries. For example when we carve a wooden horse: It is true that what is created affects us back, and no doubt the total consciousness of man and horse determines the further change of this feedback. However, the projected object, as well as the superficial interaction with it, is here much simpler than its projector. The latter has a more nested structure and correspondingly more degrees of freedom. The wooden horse "in itself" is therefore not free to unfold a human being. (Just as little as a coffee machine is.)

³⁹ Actually, we would have to speak here of a more infinitesimal and less infinitesimal infinitesimality structure - and accordingly of a *more or less indirect*, but *always also direct* connection. But we want to neglect this for the sake of simplicity.

Of itself it does not seem to be able to bring about even its simple physical handling, let alone its versatile interweaving into the human thinking and working process. Its complexity remains subconscious to the wooden horse.

It actually reaches deeper, because more complexity means not only more of partial consciousnesses, but also many more combinations of them. These include their components summarizingly, but remain inscrutable to them exactly therefore. The combination is the expansion of consciousness of the respective combined. Each further partial consciousness leads to as many community consciousnesses as interrelationships with it and with each other arise - altogether a deeper level becomes conscious than through the partial consciousness alone.

According to this, the complex human reality comprises many subliminal relationships of its simpler fragments. *Out of* these relationships the human being can (re)act and change the relatively rigid surface: The wooden horse *wants to be* carved.

In other words, greater freedom means a wider frame of reference. For outside a particular level of communication there are still other possibilities than within it. Thus, insofar as we choose such a broader space of communication, we choose more self-determination. The best example of this is the sick person whom no doctor can help anymore, but who then seeks and rediscovers mental communication with his body. He finally builds up the firm conviction that he will get well again - and he will. He has chosen a possibility to which he had previously closed his mind. (In orthodox medical terms, a "spontaneous healing" occurs).

Of course, unconsciously we are constantly giving off impulses into the hidden, just as conversely we receive some from there. These must ultimately connect us also with individuals we regard as separate from us, because the inclusion of subconscious levels tends to link phenomena more closely (more complexly) than we comprehend from our respective standpoint. (The inclusion of *additional* components alone cannot separate two objects any further than they already are. Rather, they become more comprehen-

sively mediated with each other). Such communication via the subconscious we can call telepathic communication. Like holomovement, it is always at work, only even less conscious: the action of one means a (changed) impulse for others, which more or less coincides with their *decisions*.⁴⁰

We are not talking here about the *identity* of decisions described above. Rather, impulses mediate between conscious and subconscious decisions. They *lead to* that identity, just as it can only *express* itself through an impulse.

The more essential a level of communication is for us, the freer we become through its volitional control. Eventually, with increasing depth, we *always* reach fundamental connections, ones that manifest in our reality in unpredictable ("random") ways. What we do influences everything else in the universe. But in order to exert that influence *consciously*, we have to be aware of all the things we would cause with a given impulse. And given our limited oversight, freedom of action is clearly distributed asymmetrically in our infinite hierarchy of consciousness: We are determined by the subconscious more than we consciously influence it (and in turn its impulses for us).⁴¹

Our more comprehensive consciousness "forgets" itself in our chosen embodiment to experience *its* unique viewpoint. This creation of *limited* offshoots respectively their retroactivity and one putting into their standpoint does not change the individual *fundamentally*. If the boss and husband now and then restricts himself to playing tennis, he does not change his essence. If he, on the contrary, removed the restrictions of the player and constantly thought of

⁴⁰ However, the receivers cannot possibly distinguish the effects of an infinite number of transmitters. We will come back to this later.

⁴¹ As far as our consciousness forms a summit of the all-sided infinite universe, it is the deepest (respectively highest) essence of everything else. Its influence is *in global sense* as essential as that of all other consciousness. Only it is never completely conscious. That summit position means the hiddenness of most other summits. And among a *limited* number of summits there can be of course higher and lower - speak more essential and less essential - ones.

office or sex, his swings would hardly resemble a respectable ball game anymore. The specific offshoot would be seriously endangered.

While, after all, the tennis player can still interrupt his game whenever he likes (albeit he will also try to avoid that of his own accord!), the freedom consciousness of the more encompassing individual must decrease "from top to bottom" to guarantee its chosen *overall structure of individuality*. The singularity of *every level* contributes to this. Thus, especially conscious access to more complex levels remains restricted. A mouse would find it difficult to bear if it all of a sudden were gifted with the understanding of a human - at best perhaps it could come to grips with a reduced version. Its mouse-ness *contains* the level of freedom it simply has at its disposal. The same is true of our human-ness.

Like the mouse, we are not *conscious of* anything much higher that we could turn into. But we know that it must be there, *because we exist as we are*. No order, also not the one of our life, can be derived from itself. The infinite totality is an indispensable component of each of its limitations (enfoldments) - as their subconsciousness. Its freer entities realize themselves by the creation of independent offshoots in relatively stable frames of reference, because on the one hand freedom consists in the choice of a *part* of the own possibilities of development and on the other hand in the use of as many ways of self-development *as possible*. Both together mean a largely *decentralized* growth in relatively independent offshoots. How the latter are thereby summarized *as such*, we will discuss.

For now, let's complete our picture of the interplay between decisions and impulses.

23 Giving ideals a chance

In this context, let us hear how a deterministically inclined reporter interviews an undaunted philosopher about his memoirs:

Determinist: If you were 16 years old once more, would you do everything the same way again?

Optimist: No, I don't believe so.

Determinist: But you couldn't remember the consequences of your actions. Everything would be exactly as it was then. How then could you know that some decisions were wrong?

Optimist: I wouldn't know. But perhaps I would decide differently this time.

Determinist: You mean, you would take another path by chance?

Optimist: If everything were *exactly* equal to my situation back then, even the dice could not fall differently, right?

Determinist: Right. So once again: based upon what facts would you decide differently?

Optimist: Based upon my freedom of choice.

Determinist: Purely arbitrarily, that is practically randomly?

Optimist: Not "purely": I would take all known facts into account and then decide.

Determinist: But the facts were known to you back then too. Why should you evaluate them differently this time round?

Optimist: Perhaps now I have other motives.

Determinist: No, no. Everything is exactly as back then. You are the same person.

Optimist: Possibly my subconscious has already decided differently, so that I feel pushed into another direction.

Determinist: Then your subconscious chooses arbitrarily?

Optimist: Yes and no. It also feels deeper impulses. Perhaps it will follow them, perhaps not.

Determinist: But where then do you draw the line between arbitrariness and unconscious determination?

Optimist: There is no line. Both arise from the same source.

Determinist: And what is that?

Optimist: The infinite.

Determinist: Aha. In the end, then, someone infinitely distant decides. And who, please, should that be?

Optimist: He is sitting right in front of you.

We have described the transition from consciousness to the subconscious as a funnel whose walls symbolize the limits of the currently conscious, narrow down ever more and meet in the infinite depths. We can expand the range of the conscious permanently or only temporarily (dynamically), stretch the funnel or make a bulge in its stem, but none of all this will remove the funnel form.

Let us now reap the fruits of our analyses:

Higher complexity, that is, greater freedom of decision, allows our deeper beings (in our subconscious - but there, unfolded - depths) to find *unity* over things that appear to us as rigid circumstances or insoluble conflicts. In a *more comprehensive* frame of reference, the ape and the prisoner are in agreement with their guard. In the infinite depths, this voluntary attunement even merges into the identities of the sides and therewith into *absolute* freedom.⁴² The one's decision finally *is* that of the other.

Since every individual embodies the *entire* hierarchy, even the most limited of beings preserves a certain measure of free will and feeling of harmony with the larger whole. The infinitesimal connection of every random consciousness with the infinite reaches *through* all that is less or rather potentially conscious to it and *meets* it there. The decisions of all that is conscious and subconscious converge in the increasing depth of the funnel stem. They converge in the hierarchy of each *single* individual.

In the dimension perpendicular to this, that of peripheral reciprocity, this identity becomes *directly* effective. Our limited consciousness itself decides. And, taking *both* (horizontal and vertical) dimensions into account, inner impulses and absolute identity flow

⁴² This identity corresponds to the universal continuum whose reflection is absolutely neutral. If we expand the consciousness funnel to infinite complexity, we attain this identity via the complete balancing of everything unfolded.

together in their conscious effect. We perceive subconscious determination with a partial freedom of choice. We can then also use this to increase our conscious scope.

Stated more simply, three things interact in decision making: the interrelation of the alternatives, inner impulses and "the" infinitely small center point. All this is enfolded down to the infinitesimal by holomovement, but is also unfolded.

In its latter form, the alternatives are meaningful to the person making the choices because deciding between them is *his* action. He relates the upcoming to himself. In this process, the choosing self represents an *enfolded* form of the whole relating to the unfolded outer world. Inner impulses always lie closer to this enfolded form. They follow *personal* ideals from the same complex depths, and consciousness aligns itself with them (or their distortion).⁴³ The relationship between ideal and alternatives thereby embodies the significance of the latter for the chooser. Meaning and impulse(s) unite themselves infinitesimally with the center of consciousness and thus will lead to a free, but not wholly arbitrary decision.

The subconscious structures certainly do not all have the same weight for us, given we can differentiate between them (dynamically). On the other hand, their effects merge in our deeper entity, which has a significantly larger overview than we do. We should therefore first trust its impulses. In each of them, our personal result of all the subconscious communications is expressed and assigns us an individual role within the overall movement of the universe. We can misunderstand them or reject them, but in so doing will probably not be doing ourselves a favor in the long run.

Most people do know subliminally why they are in their current situation in life. I am certain that, after some attentive and honest self-observation, they will feel that somehow it all fits in. Even if you find yourself in an uncomfortable situation you cannot escape from, you may assume that you have chosen this situation yourself.

⁴³ An ideal is not a fourth basic factor, but rather an *alternative to an impulse* when the ideal deviates from it.

However unconsciously a situation or action may come into being, the individual that experiences them - as infinite hierarchy - is *fully* responsible for both. Every currently *limited* aspect of consciousness, of course, can only take this responsibility upon itself partially, to the extent that its larger being has endowed it with consciousness and free will. It can, however, additionally restrict its degree of freedom or strive to expand it - it still determines what happens within its *own flexible* framework. In this way, it has the opportunity to make use of its "destiny" in the best possible way - in the interest of the purpose for which it wanted to experience it - and be it only to supersede it.

If "everything fits together", this does not necessarily mean "it is good". Let's not forget that the free activity of our limited consciousness is a *part* of the enterprise that our more comprehensive being has decided to undertake. It is our task to explore the present reality *independently*, via more or less personal errors and disharmonies. After all, we should develop in it to such an extent that we could keep *more conscious* contact with the spheres underlying it, without losing our orientation. Then this will help us on the further way. To what extent such a contact already exists and how we can develop it, we will discuss in the next section.

Dynamic consciousness

24 Exchange with the subconscious

Until now, when we talked about the subconscious, we usually meant that which is *necessarily* hidden from us because of its higher complexity. But something subconscious naturally does not *have* to be more complex than what is currently conscious. On the other hand, we are not merely adept at creating *more limited* offshoots, but also ones that are more complex than what we can consciously process. In fact, we do this more often than we know.

We choose alternatives that subsequently unfold further events that we had not *consciously* considered and that may far exceed the complexity we *chose*. Perhaps we have *guessed* the consequences, sensed the *potential* of our decision. Carefully set, steps into the unknown are not too risky, indeed intended and commonplace. Especially while we *are expanding* our consciousness, we have not yet grasped its more complex state. But if the expansion happens too fast, our conscious part in the creation decreases in favor of the unpredictable. And when the latter's potential is finally realized, we are still sometimes unable to grasp it more than diffusely.

This is how we are currently feeling about the climate changes caused by our reckless industrialization. Whenever we want to *summarize* the highly complex relations between civilization and environment in order to survey them, a substantial part of them slips back into the subconscious. We have to constantly shift our attention from one aspect to another in order to consider everything at least once. We do not succeed in uniting the whole relatively statically and yet in detail.

Let's take a step back here and consider a simpler case first. If for example we (re-)cognize a vase, we already anticipate some of its uses: we can see it with or without flowers, on the shelf, as a present, and so on. We *alternate* between different points of observation that circumscribe the vase *without* having all of them present simultaneously. Additionally, we imagine how others see the vase, we partially immerse ourselves in *their* viewpoints. Every one of

the successive situations - also when we handle the vase - is unique, individual. In each, all previously created ones sink back into the subconscious, while their reproducibility is maintained.

The current consciousness thus moves *through* its subconscious. Sometimes, it emerges approximately at a point that has already been passed, in between however it discovers hitherto unknown reality settings. We can regard this shift of focus as a descending opening of the consciousness funnel, as a wandering bulge in the funnel stem. (This bulge can exist because the walls of the stem only meet *exactly* at infinity). Finally, the bulge's, that is, the focus's movements are more or less consolidated into one object, *one* consciousness.

However, every putting into something's place, as well as into completely unknown things, seems to lead to equally limited focuses; and this even to a limited extent and, above all, in such a way that only certain aspects remain in memory. As soon as we *consciously* wanted to bring together what we have experienced, our dynamic would often appear as chaotic as excessive complexity. It would endanger the stability of our consciousness in a similar way as if we were constantly conscious of *all* our own thought processes. Only if we limit ourselves to *subconscious* relations to dynamically reachable focuses, we can understand more and thus *altogether* more complex standpoints. For example, we solve a complicated task section by section, coming back again and again to seemingly already solved sub-problems, having to approach them from other sides. Finally, however, we have *one* solution and at the same time have grasped the overall problem, without being conscious of all its partial aspects at that moment.

Notwithstanding this, the freedom of travel of our consciousness - or more precisely, of our limited *self*-consciousness - is also limited towards realities becoming subconscious again, in view of the danger that important energy flows could be changed there at one's own discretion. By placing ourselves in standpoints of greater potential, we do indeed become capable of influencing the involun-

tary unfoldment of the frame of reference chosen for our lives. But we are competent for this only up to a certain degree.

The sick person is, after all, free to seek healing from physical symptoms in a slightly altered state of consciousness in which he can better communicate with his body consciousness. In this way, he can often identify psychological conflicts as the cause of his suffering and correct the underlying beliefs that distort the natural flow of energy. Subsequently, these automatically continue to work in him.⁴⁴ Your colleague, meanwhile, may sneak into your boss's room to blacken your name, accelerating his career and slowing yours down (or vice versa). Afterwards he doesn't want to remember anything - he protects his conscience. The deep dreamer, in turn, communicates with other dreamers, whereupon the events of the day, unconsciously created for him, change, possibly allowing opportunities to be recognized of which he "did not even dare to dream" before. His state of mind is also different now; he feels new impulses for action. (You can find such connections yourself if you learn to remember your dreams and relate them to your waking experience. The only prerequisite is sufficient *interest*).

The peculiarity of consciousness, chosen for good reason, is largely preserved in all of this. Neither does the traveler change his reality uncontrollably, nor does he evade it. His innermost defends itself against it; he returns *to the proximity* of his starting point. Probably hardly anyone would strive for the meaningful expression of his *present* self if all worlds were open to him without restriction. But if the temporary shift of the focus of consciousness would not cause *any* change *here*, it would be completely meaningless.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Highly recommended here is the book "The Nature of Personal Reality" by Jane Roberts, Prentice Hall 1974, as well as the reference book "Krankheit als Symbol" by Ruediger Dahlke, Bertelsmann 1996, as a suggestion for own findings.

⁴⁵ The movement between consciousness and subconsciousness must ultimately be irreversible if it is to *affect* anything permanent at any level - please note the higher unity of duration and *irreversible* change, as compared to that of duration and repetition.

If we bring back *conscious* impressions from other settings, such that all viewpoints experienced during a dynamic cycle merge into a new, *quasi-static* state of consciousness, we focus in the usual way we have hitherto discussed. I qualify the result as "quasi-static" because an absolute standstill is not possible (chapter 3). A state only becomes static through the *circumscribing movement of the focus*, whereby the dynamic and the static unite in an infinitesimality-structured way. We recognize a (*also spirally*) circumscribed entity.

At this point it literally jumps to the eye that consciousness is nothing but its own dynamic. The circumscription of its whole consists in the constant alternation between the conscious and the subconscious! Through the permanent (approximatively) cyclic change in focus of consciousness, the subconscious is lifted to the level of the conscious without giving up its potentiality. Since every phase of change represents its own focus, it is not even possible that *one* focus be formed from all *these*! Instead, their unity consists in the infinitesimality-structured entity of one overall and many single focuses.

Let us attempt, once more, to understand the shaping of form by means of our example. When we look at a vase, we consolidate the possibilities of its use into one object *without* forgetting their singularity. The *flow* from situation to situation is contained in the vase - without becoming static. The same is true of your current attitude towards life. The psyche fluctuates from moment to moment. If, in contrast I said "an object is the sum (or the integral) of its functions", that would be an inadmissible simplification. It is a unity of *individuals*.

Nonetheless, we must differentiate between the quasi-static and the interaction with those focuses that *remain* subconscious. Of these, not more than a presentiment of their existence and the possibility of accessing them are preserved at our level. Regarded from our perspective, the path to them leads us into the ever less conscious, the ultimately all-implying whirlpool. On our way, we

meet old habits of thought and programmed beliefs such as "I am only a tiny cog in the works", or "There is no happiness for me". We can still become conscious of such beliefs with relative ease, and send them back into the subconscious in a modified form, from where they restructure our (explicit) reality anew, as if by magic. Furthermore, we encounter processes we ignore, but which lead to such appearances as the vase, a car or a cup of coffee. We can also call these into consciousness, as soon as we wish to, without problems - to a certain extent. However, we can visualize more complex processes, such as that of climate change or "merely" that of speaking, at best fragmentarily, but cannot grasp them as a whole. The conscious and subconscious in these cases must cooperate *as such*.

Deeper in the funnel we reach different dream levels, further up starting from the one where we daydream to the deep sleep stage, during which only less *physical* activity is measurable. However, the different states of consciousness are by no means all arranged "from top to bottom", but also "from left to right" or "all around". In addition to daydreaming, we know, for example, hypnotic, meditative and transpersonal states, which *in their own way* sound out different depths.

We can also learn to take the waking consciousness into the dream, to make a connection between these two realities. We become conscious of dreaming.⁴⁶ Just as you may be looking for the broader meaning of your dreams, you should also try interpreting your *waking conscious* experiences like those of a dream. You'll be surprised at how many "dream-like" connections manifest in your reality. (Be sure to do this exercise - it expands your personal horizons immensely!)

Since the holomovement connects us with all other consciousness, one should expect to reach on its trail also those levels where we communicate not only with bio-chemo-physically familiar creatures or relatively independent fragments of our psyche, but with even more distant individuals - in ways we cannot even imag-

⁴⁶ Just suggest this to yourself regularly before you go to sleep, and let it happen!

ine here. Dreams that we remember are likely to offer only a faint reflection of this multidimensional exchange. But we conclude from what we have seen so far that we then experience ourselves in a completely different context, extremely sensitive, with an enormous range of possibilities for action, overwhelming breadth and clarity of thought and feeling - and therefore ultimately different needs. We form collective events *together* there, the impacts of which emerge here as novel circumstances or impulses. While we set our "normal" priorities, the meaning and purpose of change may elude us. Yet we may *sense* intelligent, loving management.

Conversely, we do not only fill our more comprehensive entity with the information and impulses transmitted to it - the entity experiences *our* world through *us* - but it may furthermore put itself into our standpoint, thereby either *quasi-statically* expanding itself (this would correspond to our conscious inclusion into it) or merely using its *potential* - for the temporary experience of a *simpler*, but consequently *emphasized* individuality. In the latter case, it involves us mostly subconsciously, *as* a potential for inner knowing. We do something similar by living out different roles, all acting more or less autonomously within us. When needed, we benefit in each role - including that of the total self - from the experience of the others.

Gradually we expand both our quasi-static perception of the world and our potential for putting into subconscious spaces. Both are flexibly connected, because the more complexity I am conscious of, the more possible access to the subconscious I have. Conversely, through a wide-ranging wandering of my focus of consciousness, I grasp a correspondingly complex reality - even if not yet as a whole in detail.

A *total* consciousness is itself essentially potential or the consciousness of the total potential: Only the focus dynamic allows speaking of *partial* consciousnesses or *more* than one individual. Each consciousness perceives them quasi-statically (from its point of view), but just as others, because its self-consciousness refers

only to *one* certain focus. With this *recognition* of the others, however, it considers their individuality already dynamically, that is *potentially*: If it wants to grasp them, it must put itself into them.

Nevertheless, the individual parts seemingly face each other as strangers: Each partial consciousness has its own unpredictable will. However, since the focus dynamic - in contrast to the approximation forming communication - includes the respective other consciousness *as an individual one* (chapter 19), its *creativity* enters into the totality of the focus dynamic as well - not from the outside, but as it originally comes about. And this, although it appears external at the same time!

This apparent contradiction dissolves completely only when it is grasped by the complex concept of awareness, for which we are still missing some aspects. Here we content ourselves with the statements that focus dynamic leads to significantly greater variety and probably more harmony (unity of unity and opposition) within *one* consciousness. Admittedly, all focuses must not merely be accessible, but must also be *passed through*, which in turn no longer makes sense if this does not result in a stable "being" - namely the intended reality setting of the *more comprehensive* consciousness. Focus dynamic and approximation formation are therefore intertwined everywhere, but in different proportions. In addition, there are further stability factors, which we will deal with soon.

You may still find the preoccupation with putting into and out of diverse standpoints somewhat unfamiliar, even though you practice it all the time. The importance of the dynamic is based on the uniqueness of each situation. Through the alternating focus of consciousness alone, these situations become linked - sometimes relatively steadily, as successive moments or circumscribed entireties, sometimes more erratically, as an exchange of conscious for subconscious and vice versa. Both accents of the shift of focus and their concrete interplay we now want to examine in more detail.

25 The discovery of the other

The main goal in the creation of independent offshoots is the multiform expression and the comprehensive enrichment of their entity (chapters 21, 22). The latter overlooks its "children", even if for the most part as dynamic potential, nevertheless significantly better than for example we our "brothers and sisters". Occasionally we feel that a human being, an animal or a plant seems unusually familiar to us, is somehow "consubstantial". We no longer speak of an abstract collective essence or an implicate "parent order", but of a common entity *endowed with consciousness*. We don't have to like their offshoots at all, just as we don't have to like some of our own character traits. But by dealing with individuals who live out other latent aspects of us, our entity and each of its "children" learn to harmonize different potentials.

Similarly, we ourselves produce offshoots of our consciousness in everything we create, be it inner subpersonalities in conflict or collaboration, be it works of art, theories, or simply all those things we contribute to the experiences of other people and ourselves. Like our entity, we do not benefit from our works merely by looking at them, but especially by *living* in them, by putting ourselves into them repeatedly. Each phase in which we (seemingly) dwell represses to a certain degree the other potential (but in the meantime again passed through) states into a shadow existence. We block out the constant experience of these states in order to focus on one of them, which we experience as relatively constant. We usually perceive the holomovement of our focus of consciousness only subliminally. But since every "single" focus is based on this holomovement, its change - which moreover always leads into hidden terrain - requires permanent cooperation with the subconscious.

We can no longer disregard the infinitesimality structure of the connection here. If you put yourself into a research object, let's say into an ant, a computer program or, for my sake, a nuclear reactor, then the way into the subconscious - once into the standpoint of the

object and constantly into your own depth - connects you with the target position *known* to you. Therefore, the way to the target standpoint may seem to be conscious to you as well. But if you take this path - you begin to grow into the consciousness of the object - you realize that all previous and future stages are merely subjective projections; even if your consciousness expanded in such a way that it would quasi-statically bring together all stages of its change. Only the top of the *present* deep circulation is conscious to you as itself. The way to the goal leads in every moment - equally cyclically and linearly - both through the subconscious and about the conscious: It is a route infinitesimality-structured from both.⁴⁷

The subjective consciousness of the target at the starting point serves as a bearing, like the sight or the imagination of the object to be examined and above all the characteristic feeling of its presence. From this - as you can easily feel - impulses to the subconscious are generated and responses received, both of whose goal-directing role becomes paramount in those phases of movement in which the consciousness of the traveler narrows too much to hold course by itself. This is especially the case when it sinks into its subconscious solely under the pretense of the destination, relying on inner guidance. If everything goes smoothly, it appears abruptly at the destination point without remembering the route taken.

The task of the impulses can also be performed by the subliminally fluctuating focus of consciousness of the traveler. Let's remember that we are dealing with an infinitesimality structure: Everything merges into everything else and can unexpectedly appear in its role. Impulses can be understood as offshoots of the consciousness that "shoots" them off, and the diving and emerging focus stimulates more or less change on the surface. (Both are

⁴⁷ Accordingly, there is no final continuity or discontinuity between the individual focuses: Both are inseparable at any given moment. Analogous to the decision-making process (compare chapters 16 and 23), we can at most speak of *flexible transitions* between progressive circumscription and perpetual depth dynamic, both of which integrate the same funnel centers (points of reflection).

aspects of holomovement.⁴⁸) However, the actual control of putting into something's place is most likely done by deeper aspects of individuality, at a level where impulses and focus dynamic are processed with sufficient overview. This might be even truer for journeys of discovery to completely unknown places.

Other consciousnesses are of course differently hard to access. We will not "get into" someone who rejects us consciously *and* subconsciously. The rejection will take hold of us internally ourselves. And a more complex consciousness we may (and will) reach only very gradually, so as not to overwhelm our present self. In order for us not to get lost, even our putting into relatively limited, often strange states of consciousness must proceed in a somewhat regulated manner.

Nevertheless, a highly developed individual is characterized by effortless access to alternative consciousness. He who *clings* to patterns of experience once formed suppresses his greater potential. It may seem to him as if he had none at all. It is different, however, if he is *vaguely* conscious of his dynamic potential and opens up relatively easily as he immerses himself in his psyche. Such a consciousness, while quasi-statically limited at every stage, is dynamically wide - a much more desirable attitude of mind, I think. One takes a standpoint only as long as one considers it conducive. (The pigheaded fellow can of course claim the same of himself.) Nevertheless, even a suppressed dynamic must be consolidated quasi-statically to have a discernible meaning for - in every moment limited - consciousness.

What does that mean now?

Every consciousness is undoubtedly dynamic - ultimately as unlimited as it is deep. The question is therefore better how far this potential is *conscious* and thus consciously *available* to it. Thereby it cannot know *potential* settings already in detail, but it is able to feel its potential *as a whole*. This whole includes a modest quasi-

⁴⁸ Generally speaking, in an impulse nothing else is expressed than the decision of some focuses to move beyond the receiver in a certain direction!

static summary of everything potential, so it is by no means unstructured. Rather, its most obvious structure points to another more unknown one, and so on.

We already know it: the oscillation between the evident and hidden circumscribes a potential form of existence, such as the stone age cave paintings from chapter 18, but also every other object. Its range of existence results from the observer's dynamic, who in each of his own moments of movement perceives a different side of the object, connects all these views into one, only *potentially* complete object, and in turn "appends" this one to each partial version. Thus, for instance, he can assert that his house still exists in an intact form, even though he is only admiring the front view, or is dreaming of his home 1000km away. While he jogged around his estate, he circumscribed it *dynamically*. Now, he consolidates what he saw on his way. Of that, he *quasi-statically* circumscribes an image - a partial version. The same is true if in future, instead of running himself, he sends his son Hans to the back. The ensuing exchange of reports, yelled over the roof, describes a dynamic observation. Each bundles these into one quasi-static image to which he ascribes a potential *reality*.

That not only means that dynamic must exist, but that existence always also is dynamic! When an object, circumscribed by real and potential viewpoints, exists less than another (as described in the first chapter), its approximation condenses more in the potential than in the immediately existing sphere. One's own home, 1000km away, is thus not as strongly present as one's current vacation residence.

It is similar to the changing perspectives when we *conclude* from our general experience with buildings that an "extension" can still be found behind the first façade. Here we follow a *familiar* dynamic pattern, whereby the point of observation *constructed* according to it (in the back of the facade) is no less potential than the one we would run through while jogging around. Instead of keeping our consciousness open, however, we have already determined the

coming reality. Our construction can now be confirmed - or we are all the more stunned if we discover a ruin in its place.

In constructing, too, we are never creative solely because we logically continue or combine what is known, but thanks to the *ideas chosen* during thinking, but hidden until then. The construction behind the facade sprang from our own holomovement, our assumptions about what is *possible* but not already there. Anticipated, chosen and newly brought to light unite to a flowing infinitesimality-structured wave.

We can variably interweave points of observation that differ from each other. Thus, the ratio between quasi-static and a dynamic synthesis depends on whether the focus of the observer changes partially or totally. If we tentatively put ourselves *totally* into the standpoint of a discussion partner, our own standpoint becomes completely subconscious. The connection between both focuses exists only in the exchange of impulses or split off "probes" (partial consciousnesses). When we finally return to the old standpoint, we have a better *feeling* for the motives of the other, for his view of the subject, which now flows into our further argumentation and *formation of opinion*. We are more likely to come to an agreement.

If, on the other hand, we take our consciousness of our own standpoint with us, we consciously link the other person's standpoint with our own: We put ourselves only *partially* into his world of thought. This can be done expediently in such a way that we really center ourselves in it, but perceive its main aspects in an expanded state. This total consciousness *probably* receives the same impulses as our "counterpart", but processes them more consciously and therefore possibly comes to different decisions. However, to what extent we can influence the other person always depends on the degree of his conscious and subconscious agreement. In any case, his activities here cannot be distinguished from our own. Arguably, however, if we take distance, center ourselves *between* his and our standpoint - the more common procedure - and

thus become conscious of both positions as others and in their relation to each other. Thereupon we can weigh between them.

Whichever of the three methods we prefer, we meet most quickly when *all* sides practice one of them.

On a larger scale we gain more understanding for each other by putting into one's standpoint; we find more easily a common basis of living together and learn to trust subconscious communication. We (re)discover our common roots.

If we cannot put ourselves into a complex event in such a way that we become fully conscious of it, we can engage in a level of communication that allows us to *sense* the connections more clearly. For example, we find a shamefully simple cause of man's devastating impact on nature: his psychological attitude toward it. Whoever sees himself as an inseparable *part* of nature *cannot* damage it in a sustainable way, because he does not see anything that produces such effects as his advantage. From a holistic perception, the appropriate behaviors arise *by themselves*.

We can also give off impulses of the desired from our or a deeper position (for example during prayer or meditation), which are now spread out in the hidden, processed by conscious entities and coordinated with all other influences. We use the same language in which we constantly receive advice from the infinite subconscious. By firmly *believing* that something we yearn for (or fear) will occur, the interrelation that is therewith built up will automatically bring forth adequate impulses that are integrated *into* our holomovement.⁴⁹ We encounter corresponding answers in the guise of outer events.

Subconscious processes are always involved: We trust them when speaking in order not to stutter, our involuntary gestures are

⁴⁹ Belief is a *unity of reciprocity* (consciousness) and impulse, the spiral aspect of the infinitesimality-structured interconnection with the subconscious. If we also take the freedom of decision that is woven *into the funnel stem* into account, we obtain a *dynamic* consciousness that ever *chooses* its beliefs anew. (Compare chapter 19.)

reflected in the behavior of the interlocutor, and psychological impulses have physical consequences. It is simply a matter of guiding the subconscious without making it more conscious than necessary. Like a trapeze artist before his leap, we concentrate upon our destination - and we will get there of ourselves. The deeper our (undisputed) conviction is, the more likely we will. Conversely, we should rely on our subconscious competence in all matters that we cannot consciously evaluate with certainty. We have the comprehensive knowledge of a higher origin at our disposal, individually prepared by our own entity. The more we open ourselves, the easier it flies to us.

If our belief finally coincides with a deeply felt ideal, it can truly "move mountains". From several levels, recognized potential and intended effect have aligned and reinforce each other until the new reality breaks through.

Such a harmony between inner and outer consciousness sometimes arises spontaneously; most of the time, however, we have to help it along, for example by first illuminating our goal conception from all conceivable sides. If we counteract basic needs of other individuals, we not only are wasting our energy - and ultimately admit our impotence - but also are certainly not acting in accordance with our original ideal (as the thief in chapter 21).

For most purposes it is sufficient to put oneself into partial aspects of the individuals concerned. The *dynamic* knowledge of their desires and goals thus gained means a more versatile and therefore deeper insight than is possible by looking at *one* symbolic approximation, an ordinary *synthesis* of different points of view - especially when our focus dynamic mediates between strongly divergent states of consciousness. Their *flexible* unity takes into account a more fundamental dimension.

Accordingly, we must be guided and stabilized along the way by familiar impulses from our entity, which requires a relatively harmonious relationship with it. (Explore this!) Without this inner harmony we do not find the target focus or feel prevented from accepting foreign states of mind because of fear for our identity

(that of our limited self-consciousness). In this manner, also with our approximation consciousness, we have a hard time dealing with divergent value concepts. Only when we trustfully tune into our *more fundamental* nature, we connect to its potential - in "spiritual" as well as in "material" respect.

The creation of reality

26 A question of proof?

We all agree to be unique individuals. Yet we change non-stop, both cyclically and in open directions. Like consciousness, individuality is a unity of preservation and change.

Furthermore, we operate relatively freely, that is, we have an *individual scope* for the individual changes of our standpoint. Each shift of the standpoint in turn changes this scope - the concrete alternatives and, if applicable, their number. The conscious creativity of the individual is *part* of his individuality.

Thereby the relative *permanence* of his existing world is maintained by several interlocking holomovements. The desire for external (self-transcending) communication and the recognition of the larger scope of the respective level of communication lead to a *quite conscious* restriction of personal experiences to their communicable part. We *want* to relate to the community, to grow *with it* or *in it*, to find a more general and deeper truth. Thus we exclude from our lives what might isolate us. If the community does not share our views (and does not confirm them by half-hearted rejection), we tend to go along with their opinion: The majority will be right; otherwise, at least we are in good company. Even if we prefer to turn to a more agreeable minority, we will not find one that *unconditionally* shares our personal views. Eventually, communication at this level becomes an indispensable part of our self-consciousness, something that seems to make our existence possible in the first place.⁵⁰

A consciousness focused that way, which has lost the knowledge of the deeper reason of its presence, must "justify" its continuance with an instinct of self-preservation, if necessary. This causes a further *voluntary* reference to the limited existence: We *strive* to survive. Although the drive arises from a more far-sighted part of

⁵⁰ The same is true for those who feel comfortable only in *contrast* to the majority. They merely align themselves with the collective reality in a different way. Even the loner is less alone than he thinks...

our individuality, the goal cannot be reduced to it. For it *also* follows our conscious perception. After all, our self-consciousness first distinguishes what is our own from everything else, and thus helps to determine *what* is to be preserved: the body, the soul, the community.

Communicating individuals act, as argued previously, in a fundamentally self-determining way. Thus, together we develop a world of common approximations that is relatively independent of our own existence within it. Collective reality is more stable than each individual that contributes to it.⁵¹ For this reason, each individual that wants to act within a common reality must subordinate itself more or less to its norms. Its movements are subject to laws.

The emergence of these laws also reaches far back. All consciousness was and is, as described, already interwoven subconsciously. Just as ours reaches into the *conscious* environment, our much more vast subconscious permeates the environment's *subconscious* part. (Seth speaks of "framework 2".⁵²) Conscious creativity must conform to these interconnections and adapt to already existing forms. For example, a consciousness that submits itself to the physical level of existence cannot create anything that infringes against the physical conservation of energy, and must make use of the materials it finds on this level (especially the brain).

The individuals born into this world continue to contribute to the formation of reality - but now in a coordinated fashion. Sub- and half-consciously, a relatively stable frame of creativity has emerged, an agreement on what is possible that excludes everything beyond these boundaries. Existent approximations, dynamically anticipatable forms, and individual decisions unite to form a moderately modified reality. With an increase in the complexity of consciousness, its influence upon this creational process increases, but is then again qualified by the increasing complexity of crea-

⁵¹ *As a whole*, collective reality of course is also individual. It is only collective within the dynamic of alternation between viewpoints.

⁵² Jane Roberts, "The Individual and the Nature of Mass Events," Amber-Allen Publishing 1995.

tions. In the end, the common outer worlds (such as the forest we walk through) as well as the most intimate surroundings (such as the handkerchief in our pocket) are both to a high degree products of the coordinating subconsciousness, upon which the free will of the single *consciousness* has but limited influence.

On the other hand, we should not underestimate this influence. While we cannot make our dining table disappear completely, we are certainly able to perceive it as an ironing board or to make it invisible in hypnosis. To a certain extent, we can call subconscious into consciousness and thereby directly change our reality - for example, when we suddenly realize that animals and plants, even stones, are also animate. They pick up our moods, accommodate our desires or not, and perhaps other creatures instead. The whole environment is not rigid, but only tenacious. Everything was at some point - consciously or subconsciously - *chosen*, and every hierarchy of consciousness (every infinite individual) in turn chooses from this set of available resources. The possibilities on each *single* level of course are restricted, but by no means null. Much of what was decided on a subconscious level can be discarded as soon as it has become conscious. And every conscious choice is followed by a modification of unconsciously created reality. As complete individuals, we encounter what we *want to expect*.

We found in chapter 14 that a law of motion unfolds inseparably with the conditions and events under which or for which it is valid. But in line with what we said above, "laws of nature" must also be *created* - similarly to those of social co-existence, albeit much less consciously. Accordingly, they are broken or bent much less frequently. Nevertheless, we do not simply *discover* them, but always play a part in *forming* them too. It is only reasonable that our subconsciously chosen reality should offer us a scope of experience that allows us to develop further. With the advancement of our development, then, this scope of experience must also shift. For this, the *conscious* expansion of our scope is not enough. We serve not only our neighbors and our next self, but also the subconscious

universe and especially our more powerful entity, which has a vested interest in unfolding optimal living conditions for us.

For instance, we often only learn from extreme situations that sometimes may even call our current existence into question. It is to be hoped we will yet do so in the face of the impending climate change, re-emerging epidemics and the danger of nuclear terrorist attacks. Such situations, which contradict the drive to self-preservation, are unfolded unconsciously even though they are evoked by conscious decisions. Consequently, if we at least acted correctly now, it could happen that the surroundings came to our assistance of *themselves* - out of their *inner* being. After first attempts at environmentally conscious action, global warming had already begun to slow, and new *natural* causes for it were constantly made out: cold currents from the deep seas, a higher consumption of carbon dioxide in vegetation, and others. The trend then briefly turned again and after more consistent action is now "controversial". For a renewed slower rise in temperature, above all a higher CO₂ uptake of the oceans and the reduced solar activity come into question. So we could discover that certain catastrophe once more will fail to come - "for very real reasons". It will only affect us if we capitulate to its "lawfulness".⁵³

If our willingness to learn is extinguished or the purpose of our existence is fulfilled, we will leave the current level of communication. If our bases of life are no longer given, we "die". Especially after an unsatisfactory balance it is obvious that our entity looks for a new possibility to include missed experiences. The endeavor to compensate one-sided experiences, to strive for symmetry to a certain extent, corresponds - as we have statistically and "harmoni-

⁵³ Admittedly, most of the processes involved in global warming are not "truly unbending" laws of nature such as the first law of thermodynamic (a form of the law of the conservation of energy, which as a pure abstraction is meaningless and moreover a circular argument). Since however the "inner energy" of a system has already been linked to its "rest mass" ("conversion of mass into energy"), psychokinetic experiments once again point towards the fact that every concrete law becomes relative as soon as we begin to outgrow its "unconditional" range of validity.

cally" substantiated and, among other things, discover when changing roles during our life - to the nature of every higher development. The individuality of every "dying" self is maintained in the interest of its entity (and undoubtedly its own!), because the same expands (expanded) just by the creation of *this* individual and via *its* path. Its annihilation would be a loss in any case. The offspring will "reincarnate" therefore in an environment in which he gets opportunity to eradicate his mistakes *in another way* or to complete a fulfilled life. It is the idea of rebirth, which is realized in the holomovement of all processes.

Since we have got into more or less esoteric areas in the meantime, the question inevitably arises, to what extent processes, like the ones described above, are verifiable. Here the personal handling of deeper states of consciousness plays a fundamental role, because to what extent the dynamic of our consciousness reaches beyond the three-dimensional world can obviously only be determined by *following* this dynamic. So, before proceeding, let us examine, in the light of our previous findings, the relationship between spiritual experience and scientific evidence.

Let's say you want to convince an inveterate skeptic that last night you once again left your physical body, floated around the apartment, penetrated walls, and saw your sleeping body lying beneath you - and all this while *awake*. All right, says your listener with an indulgent smile, who doesn't dream of flying from time to time? Of course, he himself does too, and so he immediately places your experience into his own pattern of experience. Done.

No, you say, you experienced the flight completely realistically, and it was furthermore accompanied by exotic sensations for which there is no equivalent in the normal waking or dream experience. So it must have been something else, something third.

The skeptic still smiles and asks you whether you sometimes see something on your "journeys" which you did not know before and which could be "verified" later? Yes, absolutely, you say, only

these things afterwards never corresponded completely with those perceived out of body. At least you would have recognized them.

Now the skeptic feels in his element and presents to you the most important rule of scientific evidence, according to which a correct experimental result must be repeatable under the same conditions. For example, two observers should see the same thing under the same circumstances. You, by contrast, would not have observed the same thing twice, not even alone.

At first, you are somewhat irritated. But then you begin to doubt the competence of your interlocutor: How are even *two* people supposed to offer the "same conditions"? After all, everyone sees something different even by day. Moreover, you alone were in respectively different states of consciousness - once outside and once inside the body.

What do you do now? You give the skeptic instructions for achieving his own out-of-body states. He takes them, really practices quite persistently - and experiences nothing. His expectations are confirmed. And he is indignant when you tell him that he has to believe in it to make it work. It would be a requirement of scientific procedure to observe "what is" without bias. He does not notice that his kind of "impartiality" is also based on certain assumptions.

Because his ideas about reality are *confirmed* by a multitude of other people. One has constructed a useful logic of reference to each other, and only what follows this logic has sufficient range of existence to be considered real. Out-of-body experiences (as well as life beyond death and reincarnation) are then simply superfluous, even absurd. The mind *can* only reside in the brain. The consensus on what is possible has come about, and everything beyond that is now excluded even from personal experience - the skeptic censors himself.

While he does not doubt the *subjective* reality of your experiences, in his view they have no objective meaning. "Dreams are ten a Penny." According to the previous explanations, however, "objective reality" does not exist; it is an auxiliary construction to inter-

weave individual experiences - to communicate - and to gain new individual experiences from them. No logic can derive itself (Gödel's incompleteness proof!). Our collective approximation world is only *one* reality, and communication on a *certain* level can only represent a *part* of the holistic experience of each individual. Not alone that the collective reality is based on merely *individual* experiences: There are also quite other ways to communicate with each other.

Since no logic fills the infinite, it must always contain gaps through which it can outgrow itself. "Logical consistency" is therefore based on the ignoring respectively "lawful" skipping of these gaps - just as our skeptic lets a substantial part of the experienceable reality fall through. Any "closed" theory or conception of reality is teeming with unknowns that quickly come to light if one questions the basic assumptions far enough. Why is that? And then how does this come about? Children have not yet discarded this *playful* fathoming of the "ultimate" causes. So even every too down-to-earth scientist should allow himself this game from time to time, in order not to be caught in the self-spun net or to sound out the limits of the official worldview.

Our very *ability* to go beyond a particular logical system (however that may be) must be rooted in our own deeper connectedness with the world, in a more comprehensive reality. It is precisely from this that spring those long automated patterns of communication and experience that we seem to find so difficult to break. Yet we continue to influence them through our behavior: With our consciously chosen focus of attention, we intentionally or unintentionally suggest to the subconsciousness looking through this lens the permissible unfolding of reality. So let us jump once over our shadow by shifting the light source with which we create it. Let's expand our idea of logic! The *connection* to the old (world) view always remains preserved; it is sufficient to decode its exact structure *afterwards*.

Suppose our skeptic has followed this advice and has finally had waking-conscious out-of-body-experiences himself. He then also

knows that this state cannot be equated with ordinary dreams or experiences induced under hypnosis. He is hardly able to put into words what he has experienced, but he can now accept the similar experiences of others as real. And the indescribable feeling of happiness and harmony with the world that lasts in the morning encourages him to *trust* even those people who can remember states he is still far from discovering. He becomes aware that we all share a deep truth that can only be grasped individually.

Do we still need proof then? Yes, we do. Only now their necessity no longer follows from primary distrust, because they do not have to be oriented to a single reality declared valid. We can *respect* the more individual aspects of foreign experiences *as significant in a comprehensive sense* and, since we are now more open, experience similar things ourselves. "Proving" then only means *linking* other people's experiences *more consciously* with our own. Superficial rules of communication as the sole measure of the range of existence have been replaced by a broad and deep sense of the more real, gained from personal experience - also and especially in exchange with other individuals.

An everyday example may illustrate this: During any halfway constructive discussion, each side first tries to convince the other with logical arguments. However, a common conclusion can only be reached through *insight*. Sometimes it even comes about by virtue of assertions made emphatically (but respectfully). This *deeper* insight is the criterion of truth, because in the end it includes the former views as its *distorted* expression. In other words, the *dynamic* back and forth between different perceptions condenses into a *more comprehensively effective* fact.

You will surely notice how we can intensify this process: By intentionally *putting ourselves into* our "opponents", as described several times, becoming *familiar* with them, and letting this familiarity lead us to the level on which it is based. From here, the "irreconcilable" differences evaporate almost by themselves. A new form of communication has created a new reality.

Admittedly, the range of existence of the new situation is still limited to *one* individual - even if it dynamically *includes* the standpoints of the others. In order to be valid for all individuals even on their *superficially conscious* level of communication, they have to carry out an analogous dynamic process. They all have to have an insight. But our insight alone will move the discussion decisively forward.

Therefore, when talking about reincarnation or alternative realities in the following two chapters, we have to limit ourselves to the discussion of the *logically obvious* processes. The evidential experience of the corresponding realities must be made by every reader himself, by trying to exceed the limits of his or her previous perception in an unprejudiced way. However, you can also change your present reality for the better in the *confidence* in the effectiveness of the hidden connections.

The simplest method of influencing the unconscious unfoldment of personal reality is to suggest desirable beliefs such as the adaptable magic formula of positive thinking, "I am doing better and better day by day," or the belief that I always have sufficient resources. The deeper the suggestions go, the more lasting, but possibly more subtle, the success. It does not have to impose itself immediately, but can come in the form of new perspectives and opportunities.

Every perception is a suggestion: Under hypnosis, we still remember things long forgotten and never consciously registered, as serious studies show⁵⁴, even other lives. The subconsciousness constantly receives information and impulses for its hidden communication and activity from the respective conscious level, while we extremely rarely trace the coordinated retroactions back to their true causes. Nevertheless, they change our perception of the environment, that is, the *further* suggestions, and thus can lead us unexpectedly into paralyzing dead ends. So be careful with the say-

⁵⁴ Recommended for its unmistakable method: Thorwald Dethleffsen, "Das Erlebnis der Wiedergeburt," C. Bertelsmann Verlag 1976.

ings and psychic attitudes you carry around with you! It is too easy to fall into a suggestive vicious circle and then blame the misery on external circumstances. Instead, always *question* your thinking habits when you're in a jam - and consciously change them! You always have a choice!

Already by becoming conscious of the suggestive effect of your thoughts, you curtail their secret power. Focus on *solving* your problems, not cementing them. Don't say, "I feel bad." The phrase is completely unnecessary. You can literally *feel* it sucking up the momentum. Instead, the following has a different effect: "To improve the undesirable condition, I will..." or "...it will..." This formulation no longer contains a negative suggestion, but deals with the present situation: it points in the right *direction*. (It is not at all a matter of denying something obviously unpleasant, but of resolving it).

The disadvantage of this method is still that we have to start from our present ideas of reality, so we are to a certain extent suggestively preloaded. Therefore, it is often more effective to clear one's mind and *open up* to subconscious influences as much as possible. In this way we discover new relationships, learn to adopt new standpoints. We *feel* our deeper motivations, recognize beliefs that distort our perception and can change them more easily. The experience of surging energy brings us into conscious contact with the inherent urge for fulfillment in all consciousness and more concretely with our entity.

27 The simultaneity of all events

Let us now come back to our entity. It is our deeper *being*, which is characterized like our known I by conscious independence and indivisible quality respectively individuality. In relation to its importance, the essentiality of the physician from chapter 3 recedes into the peripheral zones of our reality. Our "destiny" is in *our* hands. We unfold including our sick or healthy body from our own depth of consciousness, but thereby also from all other consciousness of the universe in constant holomovement. Continuing this process, we produce offshoots of ourselves incessantly. All this we have sufficiently substantiated.

However, it is also clear from this that the birth of our shoots - whether we are taking on a particular role, casting ideas into physical form, or imprinting ourselves on other psyches - takes place largely in the form of a *pre-structured* flow of energy from the subconscious. Our conscious decision-making ability alone would be no match for such a complex creation. While consciousness nevertheless controls the energetic stream of ideas to some extent, it finds a preliminary shape as soon as it encounters pre-existing structures. Existing approximations, dynamically predictable forms, and individual choices combine to create an altered reality (chapter 25). With the complexity of consciousness its influence on this process of creation grows, but is relativized again with the increasing complexity of the creatures.

If we want to perceive consciously our offshoots or the process of their creation, they must fit into our preferred communication patterns (Chapter 26)⁵⁵. If we draw a pretty portrait of our partner, everyone present can follow the process of creating our image of her. However, if we annoy her with an unconscious gesture, we feel the consequences later without recognizing the origin of the image *of us* that has changed *in her*. If she may not have conscious-

⁵⁵ Of course, this can never be completely the case, since not only the conscious offshoot, but also its always dynamic emergence, as described, extend into the subconscious.

ly registered the gesture herself, we will nonetheless reap the rewards, as a new aspect of us continues to work subliminally within her. Ultimately, it is inevitable that we will create many independently acting offshoots that do not appear in our conscious reality and that we therefore do not associate with their encoded effect.

We may trust at least the same spontaneous creativity to our -space and time transcending - entity. That means, it will create not only our known self, but many more versions, which live out in each case other latent qualities and abilities of our essence. Where are these idiosyncratic aspects? They might be in our conscious level of communication, for one thing, with or without our being conscious of our kinship with them (some friends, "enemies," acquaintances, possibly even the pet in which we think we recognize ourselves from time to time). Others will remain completely subconscious, acting in independent levels of communication as sustainably as we do in ours. Some of these levels may be found in other cultures (*not necessarily* those to which we are drawn) and still others may form completely unknown systems - accessible to us or not. Some of the offshoots of our entity are likely to be located - extending the pattern of our own temporal change - in the more distant past and future, where they operate in the societies there. Already for our modest imagination the manifold historical scenes offer a tempting field of activity. How should it be different for a multidimensionally more potent consciousness? From the experience with its complementary versions it draws spiritual profit like we do. Reincarnation is only another expression of itself in a multiplicity of flexible points of observation.

Since all these offspring embody aspects of our deeper essence, they remain more closely connected to us than we are to other individuals. Our thoughts and feelings catch up with the selves sent out by the entity, while many of our inspirations originate from those experiences that our "brothers and sisters" have in their respective preferred contexts. Once one has entered into the fascina-

tion of this interplay, one no longer wishes to deny the validity of its harmony and creative power.

Even "strangers" communicate more intensively with each other via their entities than on the level of fleetingly perceiving offshoots. The deepest cores of the most distant consciousnesses are directly interconnected (chapter 22), and in the most comprehensive sense each individual has realized a potential aspect of ourselves. (We can experience the latter most authentically by putting ourselves into these individuals). Thus, we not only inwardly attune ourselves to events then occurring externally (chapter 23), but experience our *own* individuality with the environment: we explore the consequences of our choices as an *all*-encompassing individual.

Our entity is the more stable part of a limited totality including its offshoots; nevertheless, it is freer than any offshoot. It creates for itself, the *center*, the most different reality versions.⁵⁶ Consequently, the stability of our external environment can be based only partly on the stability of our essence. To the other part it was created only with our aspect consciousness which should develop in it. Its scope was excluded for this from many stabilizing feedbacks - in contrast to that of the entity which *can* still manipulate these nets. (But it will be careful not to anticipate the development of its "child".) Meanwhile, the individual *basic mood* which pervades our life even survives catastrophes like the loss of home and family. Out of it we will also choose our new environment.

Thus, the outside world does not present itself *as* resistant as we think; it is ultimately created by *our* mind and nothing else (compare chapter 26). Little by little, the development of our consciousness has to grasp all objects produced by us - as a complete individual - our whole *milieu*. It even grasps its existence as a collective approximation, in which we have a far greater share than

⁵⁶ That is, the essence exercises its greater freedom by experiencing, *in awareness of itself* (moreover, of a *more comprehensive* self), a multiplicity of worlds in which its *more limited* offshoots would lose themselves as such. We discuss the underlying depth dynamic in detail in the last part of the book.

we have been conscious of so far: Other individuals draw on *all* our deeds by also including their subliminal effects and creatively implementing them in their own way - just as we do it vice versa in *our* decisions. The creative unfoldment of each all-encompassing individual is a collaborative enterprise of *all* individuals.

Our consciousness, our deeper self and our body formed analogously to the physical environment⁵⁷ filter and distort the information flowing in from the inner and outer reality through individual perceptual grids. Such personally and further collectively selected experiences, as we understood in the last chapter, provide the further alternatives and in turn suggest our subconsciousness. The consciously and unconsciously created reality thus has a structuring effect in several respects on that which is to be created beyond it. This is also how our perception of a temporal sequence is created.

Linear progression from the past into the future is compatible with a holistic universe, in which everything is ultimately *directly* connected with everything, at most as a limitedly meaningful decomposition of the overall context. That is, on a deeper level, past and future must be *non-temporally* related. We perceive only the present anyway. The "past" and "future" things are contained in it: They are perceived *presently* and projected out of this present to both sides - to a route of development. Even if we grant the past an "objective" reality which (has) influences/d ours, we have to concede that it *now* lives only in its *present* form of existence. Nevertheless, I do not want to reduce past and future to the present at all.

Every offshoot of our entity and every consciousness projected by us acts independently according to everything said so far. All have free will. Thus also those which we consider as past or future. Each self decides in *its* present, which past and future it consciously wants to include, what should exist. It projects its own temporal environment. For example, if our life course no longer fits into our

⁵⁷ For more detail, see: Jane Roberts, "The Nature of Personal Reality," Prentice Hall 1974.

present world view, we change it: we push the failed entrance exam and the disappointed love out of our memory, rearrange the "facts" and foresee our future success. *This new life course* now circulates in our consciousness and influences our decisions. *It* is the most real - not the forgotten.

Suddenly, however, we stumble upon a catch: while decluttering, our old diary falls into our hands! We read about our despair at the time, our lost happiness. All of a sudden, we are no longer the high-flyer we thought we were, but a little pile of misery that has to realize how much it has irrevocably missed. How long will we let this impress us? Is that really us in this book? Or is it rather a rather alien version of ourselves writing there, a different but *associated* offshoot of our entity whose fate now touches us? Where, on the other hand, is the hero we just saw in our past?

We begin to think in a larger framework and ask ourselves how real is actually that past we read about in the history books. We can ask our grandfather what it was like back then, but he will only tell us his *present* version. We can ask many grandfathers and grandmothers, and they will all present their *current* idea of the past. However, one of them happens to be the author of our history book. "What are the facts you write about based on?" we ask him. Well, he says, he asked other experts and studied their findings. A few times he was even involved in archaeological excavations. Finally, they debated, conferred and corresponded until they could *agree* on a valid interpretation (!) of the relics and traditions. This was then written down and is taught since then in all schools.

'Aha', we think silently, 'it's like our diary: we can believe in the past that is literally *fixed* on paper - *choose* it as our own - or in the one that corresponds more to our present situation, since it was *created* from it. Did not the latter past really exist, valid for the one who *pulls it in*, who *lifts it out* of the multiplicity of possibilities?' We do not impose our view on the older gentleman, but aim in another direction: "What if suddenly remains are found that don't fit the previous picture?" - "Well, then we may have to correct the books" he states matter-of-factly.

Impressed by this mental flexibility, we leave our interlocutor and thoughtfully make our way home. On the way, we become aware of a coin half stuck in the ground. We pick it up - and what a miracle: It is a Florentine guilder from the 12th century! How could all the walkers before us have missed it? At home, we look it up in our history book and read to our growing amazement that these coins were first minted in the 13th century! Has the past just changed? Or do we just have to give up our previous conception of it? And basically, where is the difference?

Of course there is a difference. But not between *the* past and our idea of it, but between pasts with which we communicate on different levels. Regarding our changed self, this is still relatively easy to see: We were in fact not the "loser" in our diary. We identify with this only superficially. Deeper and more constant works in us a former self, which *now* shapes our past. This one, perhaps, did not come to the exam at all, and that love it felt rather as affection. Our present self shapes its earlier version just as it is influenced by it. The temporal distance is marginal for this interaction; even with regard to its intensity, for former events in which we were strongly emotionally involved are still much more present to us than, say, yesterday's visit to the toilet. Obviously, there are much more significant and direct links between different consciousnesses than only via their temporal succession.

Regarding hypnotic regressions into former lives, however, it is often criticized that the described experiences are conspicuously closely related to the present problems of the individual - as if he would construct these experiences only now. Basically he does! However, one should not draw from this the hasty conclusion that the former life would have less reality than the present one. That self in historical environment actually exists - as independent offshoot of its entity in another time. We can put ourselves into that time and that self and *thereupon experience* their reality directly. The fact that both are related to the present should not be surprising after the previous considerations. Without going forward in the time only one step, the former self including its environment

changes continuously - also depending on what its present relative undertakes. The common entity is both the founder and the primary mediator of their different but coordinated experiences.

Admittedly, we cannot expect to confirm these experiences "objectively" if we have already *collectively* agreed on a different past. Likewise, the regressed in hypnosis will be fixed on the already re-experienced incarnation at the second time. We encounter only what we want to expect! Remains of former civilizations - like our coin from the 12th century - we will therefore "find" (better: create) only if we are open or *curious* enough for it. Only then we will realize their past to the extent that physical relics can appear in our present.

Our essence reaches far into the subconscious, and so we need not be conscious of the influence of our other selves spread out over time. Also, our present experiences may have long since changed theirs, while we *consciously* still cling to a theoretical version of the past. This mostly collective conception of history with which we try to come to terms (at best an *approximation* of our individual one) may also influence our more deeply effective past to some degree. But since the former is much more one-sided than the multidimensional network of the latter, it does eventually follow the more far-sighted subconsciousness: We modify our official view of "the" history.

This also explains why a deep-seated relationship to a previous experience cannot be easily resolved - without thorough reappraisal. And for that reason we do not construct arbitrary incarnations under professional hypnosis, but *involuntarily* get into those with a comprehensive relation to our individuality. In this respect, the past that is brought to light - in an *inner* collective sense - has a greater reality than our perception of it. My suggestion to the psychotherapist, who doubts the objective validity of other incarnations, would therefore be to put himself into the former world of his subject based on minimal clues. If he finds a reality similar to the one experienced by the test person there, this can be considered as an

indication for a larger range of existence of that world, including even the subconsciousness of the therapist.⁵⁸

The future, on the other hand, seems to be even less fixed than the past. We can prefer certain possibilities (!) by our present behavior and drop others without this contradicting our *accepted* rules. But also here our potential is on the one hand larger than our hardened causal logic allows, while on the other hand we are guided by future realities (!). On the one hand, we can willfully influence the subconscious and thereby the future unfoldment of external reality (chapters 25, 26). On the other hand, we often act based on a premonition of future events - not only by avoiding the plane which subsequently crashes. Pay attention whether you are really surprised by so many events or whether you not felt or dreamed their proximity before. Certainly some things will hit you completely unexpectedly, especially if a premonition was unconsciously denied. Rather, however, you will *accept* a foreseen event more or less consciously, after which it occurs, and sometimes you will reject it, after which it does *not* occur. You make the choice!

Our future self changes as a result, as does our past self, while it supports our present decisions with new messages that we receive intuitively or in dreams. For example, we make ourselves intensely aware, without anticipatory doubt, of who we will be in ten years, and *that self* which experiences itself in the future situation responds with regret or satisfaction about its "then" decision. *Now*, in turn, we can accept or reject this impulse, but in any case it provides us with important guidance. We are connected with earlier and later realities consciously and subconsciously in a way that degrades the temporal order to a secondary manifestation of an

⁵⁸ Although the therapist aligns himself with a fixed target, the attempt (like any putting into someone) requires a high degree of impartiality. If the attempt fails, it could be because the therapist feels an inner aversion to the targeted reality. He must accept, after all, in it an offshoot of his own, at least loosely connected to him, a distant relative with the subject, so to speak. Nevertheless, the purpose of the experiment is fulfilled if it succeeds in *some* cases.

*interaction.*⁵⁹ Seth: "The point of power is in the present."⁶⁰ Through it, we individually and collectively change our entire temporal environment.

However, where do those selves and those realities remain which we know, into which we can also put ourselves more deeply, but whose expression *through us* we have rejected? In the question already lies the answer: They remain subliminally as real as their preferred version is conscious to us. Indeed, together with our entity we constantly create further offshoots and realities, dynamically verifiable, but only loosely, often "dreamlike", connected with our current self. According to our multidimensional expansion, the development of our individuality reaches much deeper than physical time. It encompasses not only our current consciousness, but all aspects of our self, entity and even deeper consciousness that are linked to us.

⁵⁹ Do you remember? The recognition of the cause is the effect of our also perceiving its consequences (chapter 3). Within a multidimensional complex of consciousness, it would be tantamount to arbitrary restriction to detach an apparent effect from the reciprocal overall connection of the actors instead of comprehending it from this.

⁶⁰ Jane Roberts, "The Nature of Personal Reality," Prentice Hall 1974.

28 Playing with probabilities

What actually forces us to make choices? Could we not pursue *all* possibilities that present themselves, realize all of them *simultaneously*? The hunter at the crossing has already noticed that he could follow both tracks by helicopter. But that is something *else than* to haste after the poachers on the ground. To really follow *all* paths, the hunter would have to "split" himself. He would have to create three clones of himself of which he would be the original or whole self. The three clones would not necessarily have to be as diversified as their creator, it would suffice for them to pursue their hunting task and stay in "radio contact" with the whole self. But they would have to split themselves repeatedly to make sure they didn't miss out on a single opportunity. And in the face of the explosive amount of possibilities offered at each crossway, the whole self's capability of differentiation would rapidly become overtaxed.

In principle, this is not a problem either, because the total self could put itself into each of its "children", feel their standpoint for a while and then alternate to the next one - even backwards in time. But it would never be conscious of all standpoints *at the same time*. Exactly therefore it is forced to *select* one in each case. If it does not exercise its dynamic freedom, it will follow the other ways only subliminally for a while and then forget them completely. It has *itself* become the offshoot of a now subconscious entirety.

Multiple probable (that is, at least tentatively dynamically experienced) paths thus embody different possibilities of *self-restriction*. By "definitively" taking one of these, we focus our consciousness upon this one and move away from the consciousness of the previous potential. We want to pursue *one* of the probable realities and the self that condenses in it. This of course only makes sense if the whole self and with it also the clones *not* chosen remain intact, if they, in the end, contribute towards our total experience (as we to theirs). Once they have been made conscious, we

cannot eradicate them, but at best *conceal* them.⁶¹ The consciousness of each alternative continues to operate autonomously:

If we notice that we are on the wrong track, we can go back or put ourselves onto another by way of a shortcut. It remains at our disposal for another while. One of the other clones has followed it and perhaps has sent us that impulse which leads us to the certainty that we are going wrong. In consequence, we again *decide* in favor of this other - after our previous adventures only *similar* - alternative, while we still send yet another clone along the wrong track (*perhaps* it may turn out to be right after all, since there we may encounter the love of our lives!). In the end, we have combined our current (experience of) reality with the one that has continued to evolve subconsciously for us.

Of such a combination we said earlier (in chapter 19) that it is new, in contrast to a subconsciously already existing standpoint like that of the other clone. Now we must admit that it too had a probable reality, even when the hunter was still far from the fork. Possibly he had put himself into his future, picked up the same impulses, whereupon he chose just that combined probability. In the infinity of the universal continuum *every* possibility has place. And every probability is a mixture of many others - some conscious and most subconscious. So how can any reality be truly new? How is creativity possible if we can merely choose what already exists somewhere anyway?

This argumentation is of course just as little original. For we have known for a long time that the universal continuum contains everything. Only: At worst, we have to wait for a realization infinitely long. On the other hand, when choosing a standpoint, which can be taken immediately, we must not forget its connection with all more distant ones.

A choice does not mean an irrevocable division of the universe, but a *rearrangement* of probabilities, which continue to affect each

⁶¹ More on this in chapter 35. Besides, the *new* potential of a clone must of course not be smaller than that of its creator. It is only smaller within the context of the *old* possibilities.

other. When the choosing self changes his individual reality (in whichever way), this means a *rearrangement of probabilities*, which continue to affect each other. This rearrangement affects him (infinitesimality structure!) down to the infinity of his hierarchy of consciousness, which extends into all other individuals. With this, his decision also calls forth a modified weighting of possibilities in the others - in turn also into the infinite. Not only *one* new self is created, but rather *all* individuals are created anew, unique compositions of consciousness, each of which grasps the whole universe in a new way and is grasped by all other individuals in a new way. All of them now contain something that was infinitely distant before, that *no one* could know, and lack something else that has been shifted into the infinite. Their both - before respectively at present - "ineffective" distance guarantees the comprehensive newness of *every* chosen presence, testified by every creature in the universe.

Even if we admit that the hunter can put himself *exactly* into the situation for which he would have decided later (which remains a reasonable assumption, since he would not be able to confirm it anymore), he could never claim to have grasped also the *subconscious* infinity of the target consciousness. The same consciousness (exactly one converging with it) can be based on another subconsciousness, which already reveals itself with the next impulse. The hunter would have to anticipate the entire infinite (!) development of this consciousness, which is obviously impossible. He cannot choose anything with certainty for the second time.

Nevertheless, in the fourth part we will have to grant "God" this ability and put the comprehensive creativity on an even broader basis.

Just as the hunter chooses a certain path (of his further development), we more or less consciously choose certain abilities and character traits from the pool of our dispositions in order to cultivate them. Our total self is composed of many sub-aspects, some of which act primarily and others subliminally. We may prefer the

explorer, teacher, healer, artist, or organizer; or the maverick, rebel, ruler, or subject within us; and some of these probable selves alternately or simultaneously. Such a choice we make not only once and not exclusively when we are awake. In dreams, we rehearse roles and evolutions, interact with repressed aspects of our personality, communicate with independent images of other individuals, as well as with offshoots of our entity incarnated elsewhere, until finally one version makes us feel right.⁶² We use the dynamically more flexible state of consciousness, its intuitive overview, its greater sensitivity and freedom, to find the most suitable waking reality - not only in the sense of the ego fixed on it, but also of those other aspects of our and further entities. In the waking state we then accept the new impulse or consciously resist our better knowledge. By taking the waking consciousness with us into sleep, however, we can learn to let it participate in the greater potential of the subconsciousness and to determine the waking reality more with the focus of consciousness responsible in it.

Whether more or less awake: The individually chosen probabilities knit themselves together to a new collective reality in which we then find ourselves. According to our previous considerations, there must be other probable civilizations - present, past and future - which exist parallel to ours and interact with us subliminally. We may grow into one or move away from it; in either case, we are crucially involved in the creation of our world.

Let us examine this participation a bit more closely: in a universe of infinitesimality-structured processes of choice that does not exclude any form of existence, every possibility becomes real. Our free decisions affect other individuals, but to what extent they restructure *their* reality also depends upon *their* free decisions. That means that each of two communicating individuals can decide in favor of a world in which the other exists *such as* it is *not* in the

⁶² Such a decision may seem less conscious, more like a *drifting*. Sometimes that may be so - *possibilities* do not oblige us to use them. But we should not judge dream thinking solely by its more laborious equivalent in the waking state. In the complexity of the dream event, feedbacks and their resolution take place so easily that they usually escape our *retrospective* analysis.

other's predominant reality. If you decide to win over your opponent, that is what will happen. Nonetheless, he can also decide in favor of his own victory - and will experience that. In *your* reality, however, he has agreed to lose - as you have in his... In a universe of infinitesimality-structured interwoven choices, which excludes no form of existence, every possibility is realized. The probability of your defeat remains dynamically existent, just as in *this* the probability of your victory (both have a broader range of existence than the illusion of *one* individual).

A creation consists, as already explained, in deciding in favor of a particular *hierarchy of* probabilities, we choose the mountain *peak* and therewith the order of rank of the other existing possibilities. Within this open hierarchy, we find every reality (some however at an infinite distance).

The same is true collectively. And herein lies our greatest opportunity! It is not necessary to fight against all other individuals - the community we yearn for is already there, it most probably is even close by: in a subconscious world, everyone has decided in favor of it. It thus is entirely sufficient that we endorse this reality *personally* to make it prevalent *for us*. We will experience it as soon as *we* want to! If we want to live in a clean environment, we *decide* in favor of such a one, *act* accordingly, and are *certain* that all others are in agreement with us. If however we are not clear *within ourselves* on the conditions under which we wish to allow this reality to appear, then we will not experience it.

Accordingly, we choose our entire reality at every moment of our lives. Nevertheless, we also act in an infinitesimality-structured network of most different probabilities, impulses and beliefs, which already give a ranking of the available possibilities. The subconscious has presorted so that certain decisions are easier for us than others.

Further, the rank of a probable reality depends on how much energy we invest in it. Psychologically, this energy expresses itself emotionally and generally grows before important decisions. Even if we have finally chosen the career of a translator instead of that

of an accountant, we may still have many ties with the latter. As soon as the intensity of this relationship increases - that is: we are more captivated by our polished bookkeeping than by the translation jobs to be billed - our alter ego again emphatically enters consciousness. We probably have to choose again under the present circumstances.

Of course, such a renewed choice within the same collective frame of reference is not always and eternally possible, but in a *larger* frame at *any* time. In doing so, it affects the entire sphere of probabilities, including the community we experience. Seth recommends the following method for comprehensive reality change:

"Pretend a particular event happened that greatly disturbed you. In your mind imagine it not simply wiped out, but replaced by another event of more beneficial nature. Now this must be done with great vividness and emotional validity, and many times. It is not a self-deception. The event that you choose will automatically be a probable event, which did in fact happen, though it is not the event you chose to perceive in your given probable past.

Telepathically, if the process is done correctly, your idea will also affect any people who were concerned with the original event, though they can choose to reject as well as accept your version."⁶³

We create *with* them another conscious *and* subconscious reality, a new comprehensive probability structure, in which the accountant is more in demand and recognized than the translator.

If we do not feel disturbed by past events, we can apply the same method exclusively to the future: We vividly imagine the I *coinciding with our deeper impulses* that we would like to be (including its feelings) over and over again, and we will develop into this being - together with all its necessary "circumstances".

We brought forth a certain consciousness from our entity in order to perfect *its* individuality, *our* essence. From there arises for us

⁶³ Jane Roberts, "Seth Speaks", Amber-Allen Publishing 1994.

above all the task to form our relatively stable, *unconsciously* effective qualities.

While we are consciously manipulating the environment, we are at the same time trying out different varieties of unconsciously projecting expression: According to our deep convictions and basic moods we experience one or another reality. If we change our attitude, the reality born from it also changes. But only when we live in harmony with our very own creativity and its products, we express our essence largely undistorted, *enrich* it in the best sense through our self and our specific consciousness. The more consciously we seek this inner harmony that spreads to the outer, the more quickly we do justice to our self-imposed task. The thereupon-unfolding reality will realize the harmony of higher consciousness in our own world.

All in all, it is about letting this harmony arise *from each concrete situation* and to unite all levels of development in a higher harmony. Because with each station of our way a piece of a more comprehensive dynamic complex of consciousness manifests itself, which takes up these locally focused aspects *as such*. *We ourselves* evolve into that complex, into an entity of the very kind from which we have sprung and are still springing. Otherwise, the development would begin to stagnate and would eventually continue elsewhere in an open, all-connected universe. The infinitely dense interweaving of all-encompassing individuals (!) of every level is an infinitely distant ideal, but an always-recognizable orientation for the limited consciousness. The *way there* is the goal, that is, we *have* already arrived, if we concentrate on the *present change in this* sense.

We enjoy at every moment not only the support of higher entities, but of all conscious and subconscious individuals - even if it does not seem so at first sight. We are not isolated if we do not close ourselves off. If we look for it, we always find impulses within us that point in the direction of our optimal self-realization - a joint venture with all other creatures who send us that message; but also with those who do not think they understand *our* message.

Following Seth, we ride loosely on all conscious and subconscious probabilities, the free development of all individuals, and the nearer and more distant aspects of ourselves.⁶⁴ Already their natural striving for balance pushes us into a suitable "family role". However, it is up to us again *on which level* we accept it, whether we contribute to the expansion of the community or to the escalation of its contradictions. We do not get into a war if we do not accept it in one way or another - if only to awaken our willingness to help.

We can put ourselves into many (still) hidden developments and subsequently link them more consciously with our path. We have all the information we need - a free choice according to our intention. We *know* our future and can still choose it. We long for the fulfillment of our ideals and values and yet we can prevent it. Even if we block the knowledge within, it can reach us in a roundabout way from the outside, through books, conversations or enlightening experiences. As I said, we are not alone.

That is why it is by no means irrelevant which impulses we ourselves give off. What we think communicates itself to others, who are consequently *tempted* to react accordingly. We are responsible for the whole system of individual realities. Here, too, we should not feel hindered in the unfoldment of our personality, for it is precisely this expression that enriches the community. Without it, however, it is hardly possible.

Development and unfoldment of individuality is thus the predominant process, not some passage of time. Even limitations of consciousness ultimately serve to expand its broader essence. In Part II we found the asymmetry of this movement originates from the "pull" of the infinite potential on the finite reality, respectively from the "pressure" of the inexhaustible variety from the depth of the reality funnel. Have we just replaced time with another direction?

⁶⁴ Jane Roberts, "The Nature of the Psyche," Amber-Allen Publishing 1996.

No. Because also the expansion of consciousness (following chapter 27) *has already* happened and the pull of this reality *is already* effective in the limited state. Above all, as noted above, the expanded consciousness requires all of its stages of development - not so much because it is their consequence, but because it must include the uniqueness of each standpoint passed through if it is not to be merely a larger summary abstraction. What would the past be if we could not remember it so clearly that we could practically reliving it (in its *present* version)? What would we miss? If we had not deep down engaged in repressing the future, we would be able to place ourselves in it just as easily. All that could prevent us from doing so is our present capacity for understanding; but this applies equally to the backward direction.⁶⁵ Thus, our present understandings alone make it difficult for us to put ourselves into that past which we wanted to experience *at that time* - despite having "recorded" it in writing - or into that future which we will want to experience *later*.

As a complete individual, we *dynamically* include all phases of our development, but *consciously* only those to which we give our attention now. If we expand our consciousness, then we expand its *dynamic* - namely that which we summarize *quasi-statically* (be it as conscious reality or as conscious potential).

A total consciousness is thus structured as the path(s) of independent aspects of consciousness to it. The directionality of their development and the simultaneous existence of all points of their path do not form a contradiction, but a permanently creative interrelation, a higher level of that infinitesimality-structured unity of irreversibility and feedback, which makes both possible in the first place. The creativity of each *single* consciousness is thereby based on the infinity of its subconsciousness, which *summarizes* the whole way, but *realizes* it only *dynamically*.

Time - especially in its usual linear conception - describes a superficial and very relative manifestation of this holomovement.

⁶⁵ Not quite, if we equate the arrow of time with a higher development of consciousness. But this is not at all necessary.

Nevertheless, it plays an important role for us if the events order themselves in it in a way preferred *by us*. I have noted a few sentences about this in a "spatially expanded" state of consciousness that sometimes arises spontaneously when I am reading and thinking at the same time: "We are always sensing our *present* and strive to improve *it*. All aspects of us exist simultaneously, but their connection we perceive as chronological. They affect us *simultaneously* bringing about a change that appears as time. We perceive our identity as *preserved* over time, always *present*. And we are changing *it*." I cannot describe a unity becoming infinitesimal more intuitively.

If that didn't tell you much, how about a picture? Imagine a sphere, on the surface of which runs the intertwined, often self-intersecting timeline - our personal history, in which events having emotionally impressed us keep playing into the present repeatedly (and spiraling back - see chapter 5). Like our larger total self, the sphere is now expanding, which also "stretches" (unfolds, extends) the timeline, respectively "pushes" the higher development of our consciousness in time. However, the distance to the center of the sphere is the same from every point of the time line, and since time is valid only at the *surface* of the sphere, it is zero. That is, we can reach the center at any point in time, and through it *directly* all other points in time, and even the vacancies on the surface (probable stages of development). So we are constantly influencing both the unfoldment of the total self and the form of our personal history of development and its alternatives. At the same time, these all enter more or less consciously into our perception of the present. (The same applies on a larger scale to the "succession" of our incarnations).

The not realized possibilities are further included in the form of subliminal probabilities, but mostly less and less, because their development will *probably* (pull of the unknown!) increasingly move away from ours. Some, however, may reappear in our presence: We suddenly feel influenced by a remembered or fantasized (but possibly coming!) event, which seems to have no causal con-

nection to the present reality. We then assign a point on the sphere to it again and - as if we were constructing a suitable dream story - draw a time line to it, whose intersection with ours has led to a new branching: We have to decide whether we follow our previous line or that other one - or whether we combine both. So far, so good. We are still moving within a certain temporal scheme.

Even here we should be aware of the fact that time represents nothing else than a gathering of different probabilities whose reciprocity we condense in a continuous (causal) series, with the present as center. We *could* also decide between "past" and "future" events in principle - to some extent even in our solidified frame of reference, namely whether we want to "live more in the past" (and in which one) or in a dream of the future. That *approximate* continuity is accordingly often broken by associated images, sounds and smells, or by feelings of recognition - in short: by meaningful links of "objective" events distributed over time - which exceed the realized causal connections. We experience the *synchronous* unfoldment of different aspects of a more comprehensive reality.

According to our previous considerations, we create reality by connecting more strongly with still largely subconscious, for the time being only *probable* events and by solidifying the same by feedback to each other. Even if we can dynamically anticipate those events, their choice is always creative, as a decision for an all-encompassing *hierarchy* of their probabilities. The interrelations of all conscious and subconscious possibilities converge in the individual decision of one consciousness that in turn affects all other individuals consciously and subconsciously. In this way, the decisions of all individuals in favor of respectively subjective entities connect into a unanimous decision in favor of their common approximation. A collective reality is created, including a hierarchy of collective possibilities (which, strictly speaking, can only be perceived by all of them together and in turn is again individual - a part of the dynamic infinitesimality structure of unique totalities).

Since, then, the infinitesimality structure of each (sub-)conscious *encloses* all possibilities, all decisions, each individual creation at the same time is an immediate act of the hidden infinity of All That Is. As we had already ascertained, the choice of the one *is* the choice of the other. With that, however, "God's" power of creation is inherent to every individual.

Summaries

29 On creativity

A summary not only provides an opportunity for repetition, but also for presenting the previous material from a slightly different perspective, so that any mental blocks can be released and the overall topic can be processed more comprehensively. This is exactly what I want to achieve with the following section. At the same time, we will deepen some old questions and already on this level try to answer parts of them.

In chapter 1, we defined a point of observation as a certain set of differences, which it relatively unifies. The observer does *not* play a prominent role as an object, although he is *one* indispensable part of the standpoint. But he circumscribes the center. He circumscribes it by means of his observations, by means of what he is *conscious* of. Thus the point of observation is *consciousness*.

Existence of an object therefore means not only influence on the observer, but on the center of the standpoint. Conversely, not only the observer acts on his surroundings, but also the center of the standpoint acts on the periphery. The center itself, though, is ultimately infinitesimal.

However, every influence must be determined from outside, from a center at which it is *not* aimed ("observation from the side"). It forms the precondition for *differences*; it is what *mediates* these alternately with each other. The entirety of perceived interactions thus embodies the *structure* of consciousness. The most important thing, however, is again missing in it: the relation between *current* center and circumscribing periphery. Perception of *this* structure once again needs the former (or another) center, which should be "somehow" in the area of the same standpoint, but cannot be conscious to it, not as itself, as the center.

The solution lies in the *movement* of the standpoint from one center to the other, from one consciousness to the next, which in turn circumscribes another center - between the respective current

consciousness and its subconsciousness. In this way, a *dynamic*, approximately complete self-consciousness is possible.

An analogous movement underlies the interaction of conscious *objects*: Perception of any object is a unique entirety, the summit of an *individual* maximized in a vanishing small center, and it is only through the transition into its own until then *subconscious*, how this individual reaches another entirety (another object). The transition can entail an *effect* after all, something of the preceding object, and the way back a *retroaction*. This way a *new* individual, a *new* summit is being circumscribed, to whom the two former ones are *different* or *not* conscious.

Do several objects exist in this consciousness then at all? Yes, some exist in it, but no, they are not the same ones as previously, when we considered them individually. Rather, the change from one to the other one circumscribes an *approximation* of each object, valid for their totality. This approximation *conceals* the differences and the permanent movement between the viewpoints. So, do not the *single* objects exist in the consciousness of their totality, although this totality arises from their details? Again, the answer is yes and no. They exist *potentially*, in view of their repeated appearance in the permanent movement of standpoints. But one cannot assume that they reappear *with certainty*. At most, they have a certain *probability*. (Already the interaction may have changed them irreversibly).

We also see how each approximation object *emerges* from its probable alternatives, "enfolds" them and "unfolds" them again. (Both terms are admittedly not sufficient here, since it is a process of *exchange*). The fluctuations take place even *without* our being conscious of the constant recurrence of the alternatives: Most of the versions, especially those that deviate too far, do not appear at all themselves, but are mediated by closer ones, which finally *co-*

incide with the current object. Consequently, its process of creation also remains largely hidden.⁶⁶

If a hitherto subconscious object comes into consciousness, we say, "It has appeared." But by what? Was its appearance predetermined by subconscious processes? Certainly - to some extent. Or did we rather consciously select it? We can do this, of course, only with a consciousness that approximately (!) *includes* this alternative. And every such choice will entail further involuntary processes. This raises the question about the creative *part* in every creation.

By preferring one of the alternatives, we change it. The others fall out of the *conscious* circumscription of this version, and we now combine the latter primarily with other objects. Even this combination "was already in the air". In the present consciousness, only its range of existence has grown, and that too only on the current level. It went *subliminally* into that previously considered approximation, which included in this way *all* its then still probable changes. This is made possible once again by the dynamic of consciousness, the constant alternation of attention into the subconscious, where past, present and future come together. And again, it is the approximation character of the conscious that obscures the permanent change of focus. What will we find however, if we lift the veil?

We reveal a world of seemingly irreconcilable individuals, that are in touch with each other just infinitely little, that are however communicating together by bringing new elementary individuals into the game, that were actually already there. Absurd? Only if we

⁶⁶ Strictly speaking, we cannot even speak of *the* object and *its* versions, but only of *different* objects. Thus it becomes clear that this consideration includes effect mediators which do not resemble the ostensible object "in itself". The relationship illuminates only from (out of) the *interrelation*. In particular, also the transfer of information is the shifting of a *focus of consciousness*, because only in such a focus information *exists*. To what extent the focus is changed or not changed thereby, must be decided in an additional total focus, which assigns the different attitudes to each other.

forget the world is not reducible to moments. The individuals would be *zeros* if they did not change into each other and *existed only in these transitions* - as *structured entirety*, which merely increase in their infinitesimal centers to *extremes of themselves*. The world is a *dynamic* structure, whose focuses change at each position more or less consciously, but always *completely* "to each other" (there is simply no clear word for it!), consequently they are *directly* united in most diverse ways - an infinitesimality structure.

The creative in the holistic movement of this infinitesimality structure is mainly the *decision* made in every moment. So let us first summarize which processes flow into a decision-making process.

Already the simplest, most determined and possibly imposed feedback circumscribes its entirety. But since it exists, i.e. is connected with other feedbacks, it *cannot be completely* closed. It rather embodies the condensate of "external" irreversibility in a stable-appearing "strange attractor". The more complex reality is *included* in the entirety of the feedback, as its *interior*. Accordingly, both the relative stability and the change of rotation are not simply external, but products of the only seemingly primitive *consciousness* that circumscribes its individual perception. Everything it perceives is part of itself, and what it does not perceive is *sub-conscious* to it.

The infinitesimal center of the entirety symbolizes the moment of freedom in the decisions of consciousness and works as such as inevitably as the reciprocal circumscribing perception itself. Consciousness means just this unity of circumscription and nucleus, for its part an interrelation that establishes an infinitesimal, more or less mobile center, etc.

The deeper complexity of an apparently simple consciousness follows from the infinity of the world (finally in *every* direction) and the necessarily *holistic* presence of it, which however remains hidden at first. We wander from one partial consciousness to the other and recognize the fullness of the universe only when we have

developed *ourselves* high enough to *understand* their connection. As beings that are more sensitive, we are now able to classify consciously the many subtle signals that we used to pick up only subconsciously.

While the subconscious (in the pull of the imaginary halo) increasingly realizes itself on the conscious level, more and more also the connection between core and periphery, which was only circumscribed before, structures itself. The subconscious subtleties of the *overall* effective structure are *unfolded*. Thus we recognize more and more clearly also the structure of the decision-making process - not only as a conscious entirety, but also as a feedback between conscious and subconscious.

Those asymptotically converging boundaries of consciousness in the funnel model describe this enfoldment of the universe as part of each consciousness, merging into the subconsciousness or infinitesimal. All impulses for action, with which the subconscious makes itself noticeable, therefore come from the *environment* of the infinitesimal total center; the decisions of the individual *whole*, instead, arise from the *unity* with it. It is obvious that in the end both can no longer be kept apart. Increasing structuring respectively unfoldment means, however, increasing de-infinitesimalization and thus a subjectively *more conscious* interaction of the infinitely many partial consciousnesses of the universe. The freedom of decision grows.

A more complex observer, for example, *consciously* includes simple objects as his own *partial* aspects and thus determines their existence or perception *more freely* than these objects determine their perception of the observer. He has a larger scope of action. If we now take into account that the observer is for the most part in the subconscious depth of each partial aspect and that on the other hand the subconscious of the observer contained these aspects approximately *before* they became conscious to him, we can say that the observer *projects* his objects into reality. Largely voluntarily, he *creates* thereby a *unique* reality from many versions of potential events, while the others remain probable in it.

Nevertheless, the probable and actual (partial) consciousnesses co-decide on their realization respectively change and therefore also on the change of the observer's respectively creator's consciousness. The freedoms of choice of the creator and of every potential or actual partial consciousness finally form a unity: Their subconsciousnesses intertwine with increasing depth more and more densely and their infinitesimal centers become (but are in themselves) identical. This deep, outwardly only partially realized communion essentially determines the behavior and - in a more comprehensive sense - the degree of freedom of the actors on every more superficial level of interaction.

On such a level, their feedbacks connect in correspondingly more closed paths and stabilize the created reality. Nevertheless, the real environment cannot be changed only in this way. When we grasp and move objects, we give off impulses *to the subconscious*, for changing the reality projected *out of it*. The movement of our arms and hands is only *part* of the process. More stable areas of reality we change in the same way in principle - the subconscious mediation only takes other paths. If we meet up with resistance, we will often note that it is an inner one - born *from* strong impulses or hardened beliefs. We really should leave some of those as they are - we have chosen them on a deeper level with greater insight -, we *could*, however, easily redesign others.

Of course, with all optimism our possibilities are smaller than for example those of our more complex entities on their own level of existence. Only the voluntary *attuning* of these entities on the subconscious path (!) towards us limited offspring leads to our sufficiently *similar* reality experiences, so that we can consciously further attune remaining differences - to common approximations, which let us regard infinitesimality structures like objects.

In a sense, external relationships and objects are external forms of internal structures.⁶⁷ They unfold from seemingly diffuse, rather

⁶⁷ Compare: Jane Roberts, "The 'Unknown' Reality" Volume 2, Amber-Allen Publishing 1997.

emotional preforms, whose exact structure we can only determine in advance by putting ourselves into our own, less conscious depths.

The scenario of a flu illness may serve as an example: The flu viruses, their mode of action and the ways of their transmission are purely physically comprehensible - apparently, we are dealing with an *external* disease. But every affected reader can go inside himself and see how the external processes reflect his basically *psychological* needs: The desire for a recreational break (paralysis of the working zeal), for temporary isolation (preoccupation with oneself) or special attention from one's fellow human beings, possibly even for *infecting* them with one's own desire or for taking over theirs and the like. Viruses are welcome helpers here; indeed, they provide us with an alibi besides.

Analogously, we can recognize physical objects and theories as symbols of - partly deeply rooted - psychic constellations, connections and inclinations, which have a relatively *independent* (retroactive) effect. Without psychic integration, without *consciousness*, they are *nothing*. We create them individually and collectively as offshoots of our more complex entirety and are ourselves created by even more complex entities. All these offshoots and entities, physis and psyche, belong to us as a *comprehensive individual*.⁶⁸ Subconsciousness is as much a part of our individuality as consciousness. And when we create a new object, we create a *new individual*.

We put ourselves in a new reality that includes this object. Even if we had done this in advance, it would have been creative: An anticipated creation is nevertheless a creation. Only the *fundamental* possibility to anticipate *everything* dynamically makes us doubt our own creativity. For *others* there exists potentially also what we have not considered yet at all and for whose direction we will per-

⁶⁸ At the latest since the extension of Newton's mechanics to the theory of relativity, it is clear that also "laws of nature" are valid only within a certain focus, indeed, like it, they have to be understood as special products of a more comprehensive consciousness. Moreover, Einstein was quite aware of the artistic *aesthetics* of his theory.

haps never decide. *We* do not create it, but someone has already done it.

The merely local unknownness of what is to come and its mere statistical unpredictability - because we do not know all the influences on its unfoldment - do not offer satisfactory explanations for creativity, because they are cancelled out in the infinity of the universe. Sometime and somewhere everything is known.

Surely you remember, what we forgot: Since everything extends *infinitely* into the subconscious, is influenced by it, if I wanted to anticipate a certain reality, I can never be sure to have hit it exactly. Most of it will *never* be conscious to me. And certainly not to anyone *else*. I knew the target itself only *as a potential*, not in detail, because otherwise I would have had to give up my previous reality. And as soon as I do that, I create something *no one* could have included: A new *infinite individual*, a new *entirety* of the universe.

Out of such an entirety, I also make my choice that is not predictable *for anybody*: out of my *individual unity* with the central universal continuum. This creativity out of subjective experience is an essential part of every reality. Individuality is both divergent and convergent - an infinitesimality structure. And it is *this infinitesimality structure* that creates *new* infinitesimality structures.

30 On perception of creativity

When I say that the infinitesimality structure of an individual includes the infinite entirety of the universe, I obviously do not mean that each of its appearances represents its complete information content 1:1. Even the coding of all information of a *finite* complex in a simpler code is impossible. Inevitably, information must be "lost" thereby, so that the complex cannot be reproduced unambiguously anymore. Its production requires creativity.

So we can hardly claim that Einstein's formula $E = mc^2$ about the relation between mass and energy contains all information about the manifold forms of mass and energy in our living room. To be able to do something with the formula, we have to *relate* it in a certain way to concrete objects, to (re)*integrate* it into their structure. Einstein recognized undoubtedly an ordering principle in our world; therefore, predictions are possible with his formula. The physicist *creates* the necessary conditions in the laboratory and *abstracts* the confirmation of the principle from the experimental results. But he cannot guarantee that the experiment itself will succeed, not even that his reactor will stay on the ground.

Our conception of a formula thus involves its manifold applications. This becomes clearer with the help of an iteration equation, a rule of calculation which is applied again and again to its last result and thus generates a complex pattern of fractals on the graph paper (chapter 14). The result of each round is similar to and yet different from all the others. However, if one changes just one detail of the pattern, the formula is no longer valid. Its meaning *includes* the conditions under which its potential unfolds. The deterministic relation between equation and application is again an abstraction from a larger context - simply our life - in which there is no such clear mapping, although the equation also "works" there. The decoding of the mathematical shorthand unfolds, like the shorthand itself, via many *decisions* from the *total order* involved and thereby arises *creatively*.

Thus, a complex *encoded* in the simple can at best be an assumption. We then see it as a relatively undetermined potential whose detailed realization would also be our creative work.

Likewise, it is not demonstrable whether every change in a complex has a determinant effect on the behavior of a simpler subentity. The possibly *infinite* sensitivity of the subsystem (see chapter 12) does not suffice as a blanket justification, because its perceptible *approximation* hardly offers enough room for change to react to all influences being far superior in variety. However, it is not at all necessary to put forward the approximation character of reality: For infinite receptivity to *one* stimulus at a time does not yet imply equal receptivity to *all superimposed* stimuli. And for an ultimately *infinite* flood of stimuli from the universe, the corresponding reaction possibilities of the (finite) receiver are missing *in any case*. The multiplicity of the stimuli finally limits the sensitivity to every single one, while weaker influences are now even more disadvantaged.

Admittedly, we have just declared an object without embedding into the overall structure of the respective reality to be a non-thing. Globally, there may well be enough possibilities of reaction available. Only these cannot all be conscious *in detail* without annulling the relative simplicity of the receiver. For the latter they exist rather as an indefinite assumption or as a mere extrapolation of known effects. If anything changes in the subconscious complex, we do not notice it until we refer to it consciously. Moreover, we have to compare the present state with the former one, that is, to span both phases. But with this we already *unfold* the complex.

Now our existence consists after all of enfoldments *and* unfoldments, a holomovement. Thereby we think to *know* that our environment does not dissolve into thin air in the next moment, we trust in our experience and therefore in the relative stability of the unknown processes and orders from which our reality arises constantly anew. In this respect, even as relatively *simple* entireties, we are entitled to say that our reality changes accordingly as soon

as the subconscious order does - in fact *without* us being aware of this change *now*.

But do you notice what this comes back to? Our *dynamic* alternation from one state to the other gives us the certainty of a specific *potential*. At the same time, *this dynamic* describes the complexity necessary to assign our respective realities in detail to the *constantly* subconscious complex. Its changes determine our changes and vice versa. However, our concrete future is still only *potential*, that means probable. The above certainty *unites* possibility and reality, dynamic complexity and actual simplicity. It therefore leaves enough room for *creativity* from the unity of the respectively conscious with the *infinitesimally* becoming subconscious, from which every potential has to be realized.

Let us consider this unity of determination and freedom more closely: First, the freedom of the creator depends on his conscious complexity in relation to that of his potential standpoint. If he wants to *limit* himself in the latter, he can largely determine both this standpoint and the conscious influence on its realization. The creator decides if and what he chooses among the conscious alternatives or if he lets the subconscious grant. If, on the other hand, he wants to *expand* his consciousness, his actual freedom appears to be less in every respect. On the one hand he does not know many possibilities yet, on the other hand the realization of a chosen potential is more surprising for him. He decides less consciously, but *unconsciously* creates more for himself.⁶⁹

The subconscious is always actively involved. Because what the creator consciously does not contribute to his change, the subconsciousness must bring - or more correctly: the *cooperation* with it. Here we should remember the funnel stem of consciousness, the less and less conscious, which includes all probable standpoints.

⁶⁹ This, however, significantly more cautiously: Because his consciousness spans less possibilities, probably also less *fancy* goals come into his mind. Thus, his relative stability is maintained "creaturely". (In a *comprehensive* sense, he even always creates the same amount, since a future expanded state does not dynamically exist less than any limited one).

Consciousness forms a unity with the subconscious *as such* in the end, into which it fluctuates constantly, however. At the most it can remember gloomily the deeper conditions because it cannot process them in its current focus consciously. But so the consciousness of the creator decides *dynamically* after all, what will happen next - also regarding its expansion -, so to speak collectively with its momentary subconscious phases. What it chooses *consciously enters the* decisions of all its other aspects, and the result is the product of their exchange. We *sense* this cooperation with the subconscious, we *feel* our holomovement between outside and inside - we are *aware of* our more comprehensive creativity.

"Subconscious Determination" is therefore the influence of subconsciously made decisions, in which we were involved ourselves, but even now we are not helpless in the face of those. Instead, we still *creatively* incorporate their impulses. We have considered them within the whole extension of our individuality *as alternatives* between which our respective responsible aspect of consciousness *chose*. Even the rejected probabilities, to which such impulses referred, thereby entered into our decision-making process. We do not *have to* consider them again - sensitivity to them is not negated, but "creatively dampened". Meanwhile, any decision about "who" is about to decide - "us" or a subconscious aspect - is also incumbent upon phases of our dynamic self, which interact with our present focus of consciousness. The infinitesimal structure of the consciousness funnel mediates not only quasi-statically, but also truly *dynamically* between reality and the universal continuum.⁷⁰ Our awareness of this dynamic integrates all "openly" circumscribed centers whose surrounding focuses we become conscious of just as one-sidedly as we are in each case. With it, however, it also integrates all *decisions* made from the *unity* with these centers.

Therefore, we don't enfold the infinitely many influences of other focuses of consciousness by copying all the information of the

⁷⁰ In fact, the dynamic of any consciousness is infinite, as I will show in the next section.

universe or reacting rigidly to them, nor do we renounce them, but each consciousness participates *directly* in our *creativity*, as we do in theirs. This creativity refers to the potential standpoints it has already considered and from which it now lifts one up into our reality.

I will not go into the direction of creativity and the necessary harmony of creative consciousness with other aspects involved here, since we will discuss both in detail only in the fourth part. Instead, I would like to point out limitations and conceivable extensions of the funnel model.

There are many ways to represent the general structure of consciousness, and the ones developed so far - as far as I know them - are quite compatible with the one presented in this book. They emphasize other points of view, use other dimensions, or they break down the properties of consciousness further. Stefan von Jankovich, for example, draws the consciousness funnel in a left-handed way, Arthur Young calculated a torus (bagel shape), and Ken Wilber sees a spectrum.⁷¹ In some models the (feedback) frequency of consciousness plays a major role, which is a special aspect of complexity, because a higher oscillation rate combines the interaction of *more* states more *tightly*. The transition between different frequencies then describes the interaction between simple and more complex focuses of consciousness. Eastern-oriented teachings, on the other hand, usually neglect the importance of the structural aspect by *dissolving* it in the unity (a negation) of One and Many instead of preserving it. But with that they also neglect the importance of creating. Just as these theories emphasize other sides, they also have other shortcomings and can complement each other. As always, a "complete" picture is only possible dynamically, as a flexible synthesis of different points of view.

⁷¹ Stefan von Jankovich, "Die energetische Struktur des Menschen," Drei Eichen 1990; Arthur Young, "The Reflexive Universe," Merloyd Lawrence 1976; Ken Wilber, "The Spectrum of Consciousness," Theosophical Publishing House 1993.

I prefer my explanation because it summarizes, I believe, the *basic* properties of consciousness most coherently and with great potential for unfolding. In all other theories known to me there is no infinitesimality structure, which is the prerequisite of free *and* conscious creativity as well as of the interaction of unique individuals. (Not even in Cassirer, who after all came quite close to it. And Whitehead seems to have missed precisely this concept.⁷²) The "Secret Doctrine" according to H. P. Blavatsky is impressive in this context, but at the same time, it offers such a rigid system of categories that it is better to stick to the much more open and intuitive Seth material by Jane Roberts.

Although I have examined extensions of my model, I do not want to go further into divergent representations; it is much more important to understand those basic ideas that are realized in all further considerations.

We ourselves have changed the point of view several times in the course of this book: from that of the observer to that of an actively involved consciousness to the experience of a unique individual. Depending on our level of perception, we judge the appearances of the world (and their appearing) differently:

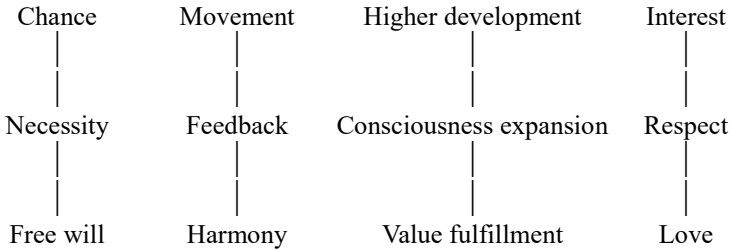
as effects (on the observer)	→	Existence
as interactions (within <i>one</i> consciousness)	→	Inclusion
as individuals (in our subconsciousness)	→	Creation

All levels merge smoothly into each other; each has its justification, because none could be without the other. There is only an asymmetry in the extent of the levels and in their hiddenness from each other: The observer is not yet aware that he is a part of the

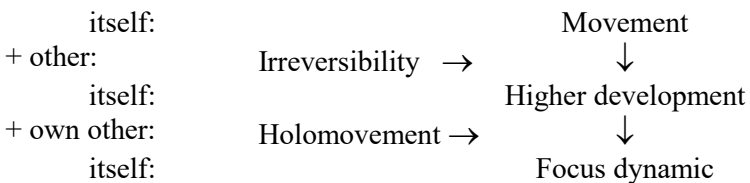
⁷² Ernst Cassirer, "Philosophie der Symbolischen Formen," Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft 1964; Alfred North Whitehead, "Process and Reality," The Free Press 1985.

scenery, and the consciousness has not yet understood that it always enjoys only itself (and yet always goes beyond itself).

Associated with this classification are further groups of terms, which I would like to simply place here in the room, in the hope that the reader will not look for *exact* connections, but will find the fuzzy references. (Some terms we will discuss later).



I would like to describe one more tripartite - like all the others a multiple dialectical spiral from a "position" to a (relative) opposition laid out in it and finally a higher unity on the side of the initial position - in a little more detail. It refers to the movement as the most elementary and powerful concept:

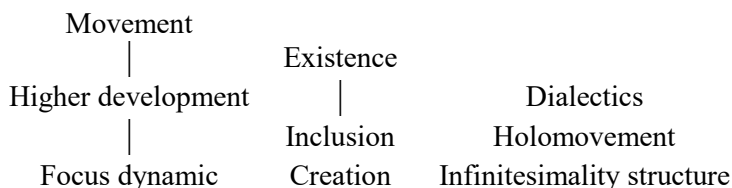


Movement always concerns the *present* moment, the "point of power", which contains the potential to every direction. Irreversibility then arises from the interaction of many relatively *independent* movements (their combinatorics) in view of the same open potential, which now together establishes a *not annullable* state of movement. The *unity* of the movement(s) repeats itself in a new form only on the next level, after the higher development to a self-

referential complex. The latter's "negativity" (change) is also based on the asymmetry of the concrete central point-(object)-halo relation, but is now direct expression of a self-conscious individuality. If we include what is subconscious to this self, we perceive an interrelationship *between* its inside and outside, a holomovement. The unity of the self-movement must therefore be constituted a second time on a higher level - in the dynamic of *one* focus of consciousness.

The intermediate stages of relative division and the separate consideration of individual aspects of movement turn out to be abstractions from the complete dynamic of consciousness. Even abrupt changes require continuity and vice versa. This *depth* of movement leads even from the most superficial form of movement always back to the dynamic of consciousness.

Let us now associate the groups on existence and movement with another one, which is also derived from the previous explanations:



Of course, the mapping is again not so clear, but rather flexible. Therefore, I will refrain from commenting and leave you to your intuition.

The form of unpredictable influences changes with the respective level of perception from coincidence to deterministic chaos to sub-consciously chosen impulses. Or from an external threat to an internal risk and finally trustworthy spontaneity. But can a created object somehow be preserved during the constant change of reality?

Expansion is probably the only movement that does not immediately lead to a passing away, because every following moment

contains the preceding ones still in previous form. Only their relation to the now expanded system is new. At the same time, an expanding system constantly restricts itself again in the simpler offshoots it (re)produces. Thus, its hierarchy from the simple to the complex *creatively sustains* itself as it expands. This holomovement of perpetual engulfing and *re-ejecting* represents a higher form of expansion, just as expansion is a higher form of simple movement. However, can such a *revolution* or the increasing *entwinement* of the offspring into a greater totality really be considered preservation? Can we hope for a lasting significance of our original creations? Or are they encoded up to absolute unrecognizability?

The answer seems to lie again in the dynamic of the focus of consciousness. But this has not saved us from the comprehensive creativity either. And shouldn't something really new really be able to disappear? We will address these questions in the next part. In addition, we will go in search of the most elementary consciousnesses and "God". In the process, we will discover more about our awareness and finally examine our life for its meaning and value.

Part IV

"Extreme" forms of consciousness and awareness

31 Consciousness units

So far, we have emphasized the entirety of systems for good reasons, and I have no intention whatsoever of suddenly departing from this. Nevertheless, because every entirety is *structured*, the question still arises whether there are "smallest" entireties from which all larger entireties are "composed".

Let us repeat again how a structure becomes conscious to us: It circulates as a whole in our consciousness, and likewise its partial aspects circulate within the structure itself. Their dynamic alternations *circumscribe* the entirety and in their turn represent circumscribed movements (or "movement entities"). We find nothing elementary "that" moves - movement is not reducible to anything more fundamental. In the center of every moving part we find only an infinitesimal point.

Everything what could be considered as "elementary particle" would therefore be such a *unity* of circumscription and center, an elementary *consciousness*. Now, however, the core of the system considered by us actually falls into *our* present consciousness. We only afford ourselves the luxury of projecting it, together with the object of our consideration, into an "external" world, out of that with which we identify ourselves. At the same time, the components of the "observed" system are distributed more or less to the peripheries of its entirety, *quasi-statistically* circumscribing this entirety. We overlook the fact that not only each component, but also the totality of the system is constantly emerging, unfolding from and retracting back into the depths of our consciousness. There is a dynamic interrelation between the deep center and its superficial periphery. Consequently, every elementary unit of consciousness must also be subject to such a deep fluctuation.

Furthermore, we do not only consider unities of center and periphery, but also the unity of the circumscribed parts with their totality. That means we always perceive an *infinitesimality structure*, a flexible synthesis of circumscription(s), infinitesimal nuclei,

and depth fluctuations, reaching into the infinitely small. The infinitesimal center of consciousness "continuously alternates" between all centers that are just not conscious, regardless of how extensively they are circumscribed. This ever-present center is *relatively* independent of the complexity of its circumscription, and we find it at every point in the world. It is the core of a consciousness unit.

The center itself *cannot* form the unity, of course. It needs the circumscription. But it is sufficient, if its circumference is minimal, for its part an infinitesimal approximation of circumscription and central point. Such a smallest possible consciousness transcending everything real is by no means free of qualities. For it remains just individual, as unique as every nucleus of an *unfolded* consciousness. A consciousness unit is, so to speak, the summit and the bottom of a real consciousness, the center of its surface and the center of its depth, if you like, the almost (!) infinitesimal axis. This extreme proximity to the central universal continuum allows the *direct* connection of all consciousness units, which expresses itself for example in the already discussed identity of all decisions, but also in the fact that the individuality of each consciousness unit immediately enters into that of all others.⁷³

Nevertheless, consciousness units can appear only in complex consciousnesses, can exist only within such. They are at the same time elementary and omnipresent; they do not differ by their depth, although their perceptible manifestations are known to form hierarchies (which are again all relative before the absolute universal continuum). Only such hierarchies and mediations make decision-making processes *comprehensible*. And in spite of all ascribed individuality, consciousness units can only be compared and distinguished on this level, because any immediate relation to each other would only create another elementary unit. The less infinitesimal structures, including dynamic and determinate appearing

⁷³ I do not know to what extent my conception of a consciousness unit (or of All That Is in the next chapter) agrees with that of Seth. Since Seth restricts himself to the suggestion of properties, I allow myself to derive their logically consistent core myself.

forms of interaction, are an indispensable part of every infinitesimality structure.

Consciousness units are not static at all. The movement from one focus of consciousness to another also results in the change of centers, that is, the change of all units in the respective consciousness funnel. Old and new units merge into each other, they *penetrate* each other. But how is this possible with "most elementary" units? *Individual* units must have a *structure*, however infinitesimal it may be. This means that every consciousness unit *contains other* consciousness units. How can it then be elementary? Its periphery must be *mediated* with its infinitesimal core. But by what means?

Let us consider that every consciousness fluctuates: as a whole into its subconscious depth and up again. Thus also its smallest units. But since the consciousness units do not differ by their depth, therefore cannot withdraw into deeper units and already represent the most minimal consciousness, their fluctuation must reach exactly to the central zero point. Only in this way the connection to the infinitesimal nucleus can be established. At the same time, the problem of interpenetration is solved: The contraction of one unit to zero means the expansion of another to its normal "size". Thereby the *infinitesimal* unity of zero and circumscription allows a fluctuation period of exactly zero seconds. The result is a unity of both directions of fluctuation: A pair of consciousness units always appears as *one* consciousness unit. So, if two units penetrate each other, one "tunnels through" the other as zero point.

As long as it is only about *two* units, none of the two possesses a structure yet. The containing of all consciousness units in each single one means rather the *immediate* transition of each infinitesimal unit *successively* into all others. This most infinitesimal form of an infinitesimality structure is an indispensable and omnipresent component of every less infinitesimal consciousness. We are directly linked to all other consciousness via our consciousness units,

whereby no information transfer in the usual sense takes place, but the linkage consists in a just *meaningful identity*.

We receive more precise and detailed information through the interweaving with more complex consciousnesses and the subconsciousness, where it can be both stored and processed. This is not opposed to the fact that *results* of information processing are transmitted by smaller partial consciousnesses, for example in the form of impulses. But only consciousness units achieve comparable things directly.

Theoretically, it should also be possible to shift the focus of a complex consciousness into that of a consciousness unit, so that the universe is perceived in a way that is more diffuse but undistorted by gross causal webs. I believe certain spiritual experiences in which one feels *spread out* over the whole environment originate, among other things, in that meaningful identity of all consciousness units. Since all consciousness is built up from such units, something of their awareness should remain perceptible at every level. The complex individual experiences itself from an overarching standpoint that directly unites with the "outside world." The more open its focus, the more consciousness units it hears whispering.

32 All That Is

We have to distinguish the individual consciousness units from the absolute point of reflection of the universal continuum. While a consciousness unit embodies the infinitesimal (and relatively independent) unity of *one* particular reality with its central universal continuum, the absolute point of reflection means the infinitesimal unity of *all* realities.

As we recall, even the (funnel) center of every single infinite individual has a reflecting effect. By the absolute point of reflection described in the second chapter, however, I mean the *divergent collapsing of* all individual worlds in the universal continuum, which immediately also supersedes the universal continuum, but results in a *neutral* exchange between all worlds *without transition*. Here, the individual worlds as such are infinitesimally united with the absolute universal continuum.

It is also true of this state of reflection that it is only of significance to real (*also* non-infinitesimal) worlds. It includes the individuality of each world *dynamically* and thus is always to be found *within* a real consciousness. Its only difference to the reality of this consciousness lies in the fact that it is not bound to it, but only displays a particular form of All That Is.

Each of these specific forms is individual enough to make a sub-consciousness and therewith creativity possible. While All That Is extends dynamically from the simplest particle to the infinitely distant universal continuum, it surprises itself in each form with its own power of creation. As a being that is *meaningful as a whole*, it embodies the most complex of possible consciousnesses. Some would certainly denominate it as "God", but it is a god who is constantly recreating himself.

Let us look at this the other way around. We have spoken of the freedom of a consciousness to put itself in the position of others. This freedom must increase with the consciousness' complexity, because the greater the complexity we are conscious of, the more

access points we do have to the subconscious. And by means of wide-ranging wanderings of our focus of consciousness, we in turn grasp a yet more complex reality. We can thus ascribe maximal freedom to the most complex of structures of consciousness, that is, to All That Is. It is an *infinitely* complex structure at the brink of collapsing into identity. Accordingly, it must have the freedom to decide to limit itself in any of its ramifications. It is even nearly impossible that it would not *make use of* this potential (it would be extremely improbable, as we recognized in chapters 5 and 11). *All That Is*, after all, means that even the simplest structures are integrated into it *as such* (compare chapter 14) - a necessarily *dynamic* claim.

But doesn't that mean that All That Is must also adopt the dynamic *inability* of its offshoots to experience authentically their standpoints? If this is its intention, yes. In this case, the leaving of the restricted state can only be caused from "outside", from the (possibly previously "programmed" and/or now unexpectedly initiated) subconsciousness. In contrast to the non-binding setting of a certain focus of consciousness, whereby the potential of All That Is remains within reach, now even this potential becomes potential: it is no longer arbitrarily available. In the "worst" case, the present consciousness must evolve anew into All That Is.

Sometimes the latter appears to be the rule, the universal process par excellence. However, if we would limit ourselves to this way, we would not only have to stop our discussion of "God", but moreover we would have to deny ourselves. For our relative stability is based precisely on our *present* holomovement, the permanent focus dynamic between a finite consciousness and the infinite subconsciousness. The question is only once again how far we become conscious of this movement.

We had ascertained in chapter 25 that for a dynamic complexity (like that of All That Is) to gain real significance it must be quasi-statically synthesized. On the other hand, it should remain dynamic and not condense in an object of the moment. If at all, then rather in the form of a *real effective potential*, a "funnel of possibilities"

that *exists as such*. Thus, it is not only when listening to a melody or watching a film, but also in real life, that variations are conjured up, each of which we can focus upon while we perceive others subdued in the form of their background or halo. We mentally *move* between these probabilities and *realize their superimposition* in a respectively individual manner. Even the *imaginary halo*, in which the variations become *subconscious*, is included in our perception of evident objects. The subtle deviations, the potential inherent to the current situation becomes ever more indistinct towards the back (or the bottom or the inside), but still refers to *our* consciousness. We are aware of the conscious *and* subconscious context from which we *choose* our reality.

Throughout this, the range of focus dynamic is not limited in itself, but merely in our consciousness. If we cannot put ourselves onto a particular level that does not mean the end of the journey (towards the inside there is also no reason for a definitive limit; compare chapter 2.) We are only incapable of deciphering that focus at *our* level of consciousness. Therefore, it may seem that *our* focus re-emerges without having accomplished anything - we awake from a "dreamless" phase. But we *sense* "there was something there", or, "there *is* something there". Our consciousness is inevitably connected to all others, and its dynamic in the widest sense is that of All That Is - the movement of *one* consciousness in different focuses and from individual to individual. The omnipresence of this dynamic requires an infinite velocity - the instant alternation between all realities, whereby our limited consciousness, as well as its corresponding experience of a "slower" fluctuation, only becomes possible by *skipping* several phases.

This slower fluctuation nonetheless is a *part of* the experience of All That Is. In an infinitely high oscillation frequency, all other frequencies are contained. And because this oscillation at the same time is an oscillation *between* frequencies, they are all included *as such*.

Our ability for comprehensive reality change consists (according to chapter 28) in the fact that we can decide for another *collective* probability, provided that - depending on the more or less conscious decisions of the individuals involved - such a one is "within reach". The absolutely free consciousness of All That Is, on the other hand, has at its disposal *all* the infinitely densely packed possibilities of the universal continuum. Thus, its relocation of focus does not depend on the decisions of other individuals, even though (or precisely because) each of its standpoints includes those individuals. Rather, *all* of his choices coincide with a corresponding choice of the more limited consciousnesses. Only when the consciousness of All That Is identifies itself with the limited *self-consciousness* - and thus the dynamic unfreedom - of its respective chosen embodiment, suddenly opposite activities exist. Because then some individuals decide *as others*. (The exclusive restriction to a certain point of observation, however, would only have resulted in the *unpredictability* of some actions).

Insofar as all limitedly self-conscious individuals represent offshoots of the free All That Is, which staggers all the way to its limited state in ever-narrower self-consciousnesses, the apparent difference between the activity of an individual and the passive acceptance of the activities of others was created along the way. Basically all their actions form a unity.

One could think here that a limited consciousness of All That Is *always* means a correspondingly limited self-consciousness and therefore no knowledge of the very own "omnipotence" is possible. We would then not be able to use it consciously. But we will see shortly why this is not so.

33 Awareness

The absolutely free consciousness of All That Is thus is not characterized by its momentary reality, but alone through its unrestricted *potential* to assume any state whatsoever. There is only *one* absolutely free consciousness. And its potential consists of restricted focuses of consciousness to which its highly complex dynamic remains largely subconscious.

Their remaining freedom is based, like that of the freest consciousness, on the infinitesimal unity with the universal continuum. All actions are an identical decision (chapter 22 and 23). But for that same reason, the actions of each consciousness are relatively *independent* of those of all others. Just as little can the most free of consciousnesses be conscious of all *individual* viewpoints *simultaneously*. Thus it also cannot know its potential *in detail*. It can, however, be conscious of its potential *as such*, as dynamic freedom *in itself*. This infinitesimal unity between its momentary (quasi-static) focus of consciousness and its open dynamic is its awareness.

But where does *our* awareness lie? Well, we have not gone into so much detail about the reality of All That Is for nothing. In *principle*, our awareness cannot differ from that of All That Is. We are a *branch of the* absolute state of reflection whose permanent creation is an equally dynamic process as the universal reflection itself. Thus, the universal awareness in an individually modified form is also inherent to every *restricted* consciousness, that is, the connection to the infinite potential is *open*. It *can* therefore perceive this potential. Why, then, does it hardly make use of it?

The same question reworded would be: why does the universal continuum's absolute state of reflection even divide itself up? It *is* division per se, an individual whose reality consists in its dynamic. The latter is by no means unstructured, like the absolute *identity of* the universal continuum. Rather, it unites the latter infinitesimally with the *individuality of* all discrete points of view. And each of its phases involves an individual consciousness of itself. It thus not

only consists of its awareness of its individual hierarchy, but precisely *this awareness also* contains a consciousness of its own (topmost) position. With this consciousness (in a certain sense, an *additional* reflection) it seems that we exclude ourselves from the universal dynamic; in reality, however, at most partially and temporarily, because even such self-consciousness basically forms only an offshoot of the *infinite* potential for complete self-reflection - namely via the inexhaustible diversity of other points of view (see chapter 20). This diversity is again the same, in which the absolute state of reflection is given up.

We are back to individual awareness. However, depending on the chosen degree of self-consciousness, the channel of awareness becomes tighter or wider (of course, we are dealing with the funnel stem of consciousness). It cannot be completely closed. After all, the partial "strangling" of the subconsciousness prevents us from arbitrarily using the potential for the creation of arbitrary worlds. Neither us nor All That Is would be done a favor by that. We were created to experience *our* reality, to evolve *out of it* and thus also to enrich All That Is. On the other hand, we could not comply with this if we eternally bind ourselves to a single experience of reality. A more conscious awareness of our possibilities and our multidimensional individuality should let us transcend all too narrow limits here - while at the same time we stand by our voluntarily assumed task.

Awareness means, in short, a concrete unity of infinitesimal, infinite and reciprocity as such - consciousness/subconsciousness as a structured respectively infinitesimality-structured whole.

- Awareness can merely be delimited by thought; feeling it comes considerably closer to its essence. Thought, feeling and the yet deeper are united in it.
- Awareness is not a quasi-static approximation. Instead of circumscribing a condensate, it covers the entire distance into infinity. All That Is extends through everything in the opposite direction.

- Awareness unites objects with their sensed subjectivity, the quasi-static reality with one's own dynamic of consciousness, the *existing* potential with its origin from the permanent self-limitation of All That Is.
- Awareness is the natural reality of the subconscious, since it *only* exists dynamically. In this, it remains individualized down to the deepest depths, since it integrates all other focuses in a unique way.
- Awareness unites the infinite, finite and immediate connections to the absolute universal continuum and thus to everything else. In it, focus dynamic, impulses and decisions merge into an ultimately total unity of determination and freedom.
- Awareness reaches all consciousness units and testifies to the universal influence of each individual.

The intensity of this influence is independent of its *realized* range, because any awareness is an awareness of All That Is. Hierarchy can only exist in the comparison of one-sided entities. In contrast, here we are speaking of the infinitesimality-structured unity of all-sided infinity and individuality - so to speak of an "individual all-sidedness" or "all-sided individuality". Please try to grasp the difference, the openness as compared to a mere consciousness, intuitively - with "pure" logic we almost invariably end up on slippery ground.

Stated more simply, awareness connects the consciousness with the complete individual that *encompasses* all other individuals. Since awareness is conscious, it is influenced by the realized part of the individual. And every change in this awareness means a change in the awareness of all other individuals - *but also the other way around*, since they are all contained in each other. Ultimately, every individual influences all others *to the same extent*. This is true independently of their *conscious* relationships to each other.

In a *conscious comparison with* others, an awareness can be more one-sided or more all-sided, depending upon how generally all-sidedly complex it is in its conscious part. The wealth of its

deeper sense of potential must be *correlated*, that is, be loosely connected to the complexity of its perception. A cockroach is less fully aware of its flexibility than a human. (On the other hand, humans sometimes restrict their awareness to such an extent that in comparison it makes the cockroach appear to act with the *intuitive* far-sightedness of a genius. Like in a dream, it acts based upon millions of years of experience, without being conscious thereof in detail). An expansion of awareness thus means the expansion of the conscious complexity and/or of the palpable potential.

Admittedly, also the aware potential becomes blurred at some point. It merges with those openly circumscribed centers (see chapter 30) whose ultimately infinitesimal unity contains the entire potential of the universal continuum. The unpredictable realization of such enclosed possibilities can now cause surprising changes of awareness which seem to endanger the individual. Suddenly, the subconsciousness triggers an immense shift or expansion of consciousness, as experienced by some people in whom paranormal abilities appear as if out of the blue. Individuality and its preservation, however, are not based on a particular self-consciousness per se, but on the dynamic relationship with All That Is from which they emerge. And *this relationship* can change the *conscious* potential of the individual quite safely. The unpredictability of the subconscious arises from nothing other than the constant *specialization* of the focus of consciousness. We should therefore trust it just as we trust our known self.

Seth calls this trust the "magical approach".⁷⁴ It is based on the knowledge of the deep harmonic connection of all individuals and realities, out of which our existence is creatively formed. Every little child already has an astounding awareness at its disposal and releases it in *playing* with reality. By way of its spontaneous actions, it unfolds from its being the natural flow of information and energy that aligns itself with an equally spontaneously "given"

⁷⁴ Jane Roberts, "Dreams, 'Evolution' and Value Fulfillment" Volume 2, Amber-Allen Publishing 1997.

environment. This environment does not appear as "solid" as that of a grown-up by far; in play it can, for example, transform itself from a race track into a train station and finally into a horse stable. The child alternately enters into the personalities of its dolls and lets them communicate with each other. In the course of this, the difference between outside and inside disappears, in every doll a ramification of the child's self condenses (this actually began with the dolls' production to satisfy a demand, continued with their choice in the store, etc.). Has the constant flow from one focus to another dried up in the adult?

Occasionally, we also catch ourselves in mental role play. However, we neatly distinguish between "fantasy" and "reality". Yet we could just as quickly alternate between the real viewpoints of our fellow creatures, if we would only *open* ourselves to this potential. We would experience our reality, our self, in the most multifarious way, integrate these experiences in an encompassing awareness and throw all communicative blockades overboard. While we followed visible reality, we would also perceive alternatives behind it and gather wisdom from the interrelations with them. The feeling of community arising in this way would ultimately be capable of *uniting* dreamlike with physically oriented focuses, and thus take relationships between agents and situations into account that otherwise are completely lost on us. Spontaneous breakthroughs of a broader reality would no longer seem threatening - we could instead welcome them as appropriate opportunities, exquisite challenges or urgently needed help. We would be *ready* to respond appropriately.

Is it perhaps our non-stop thinking back and forth that prevents us from trusting inner or outer impulses? No, I don't think so. We have developed our ability to think logically for a reason. It allows us a unique experience of reality in which we have far more alternatives to choose from than an animal. Rational consideration, *in its own way*, allows us to assess involuntary influences more broadly, to use them quite differently (creatively), and to bring forth such impulses and opportunities as will accommodate our

conscious appraisal of reality. Reasoning is not opposed to awareness, but is itself an experience, an essential *component* of awareness. Thus, we should handle our reason sensibly and neither renounce it nor suppress the magic of "inner" and "outer" spontaneity by it. For it is exactly this spontaneity which bursts our reciprocal solidified frames of possibility and thereby creates new selectable alternatives.

Again, however, individual awareness can be more or less in harmony with the deep complexity of what is happening. It arises from innumerable *decisions* (chapter 30) whose freedom spans the full range between adaptation and rebellion, from a balance of both tendencies to extreme one-sidedness. A more conscious awareness involves decisions for one's own desires *to* the subconsciousness, in interplay with the impulses originating there and the external circumstances in which these desires are to be realized. We will come back to this in the next sections.

Closely connected to the concept of awareness is that of timelessness. The observed potential, all the changing viewpoints, do not necessarily represent a *future* reality. Put differently: the reality to which the potential points is *past to the* same extent. The dynamic of the focus of consciousness is cyclic, even though consciousness always develops in a certain direction. (The *infinity* of this development in finite terms means irreversibility - even though awareness always *synthesizes all* possible points of the way - compare chapter 28.) Timelessness describes the experience of a present without past and future, since it already contains both. It designates the *present* experience of change, the infinitesimal unity of rest and movement, the identification with the individual infinitesimal structure that dynamically includes All That Is.

People experienced in meditation describe states of so-called "pure consciousness", in which the flow of object-bound occurrences comes to a standstill and only their own encompassing Being is sensed. I think this is an awareness of a deeper dynamic of focus, that even in the meditating consciousness is only unfolded to that symbol-less presence. By maintaining this core of individu-

ality conscious after the meditation, the psychophysical world appears in a clearer light. The individual is more consciously aware of its inherent reality than one who represses its deeper states. Thus, it can fearlessly head towards new experiences.

Let's clarify again how all the described, more or less infinitesimal structural units are related.

The absolute universal continuum is diffuse and imaginary for us. It must express itself in structured realities, because absolute completeness would renounce the diversity of the individual and would then *no* longer be complete.⁷⁵ It is only possible as *potential*, potential as such. Thus, the universal continuum exists only as a point of reflection; indeed, it is in a constant *state* of reflection, a permanent alternation between all "lower" and "higher" realities.

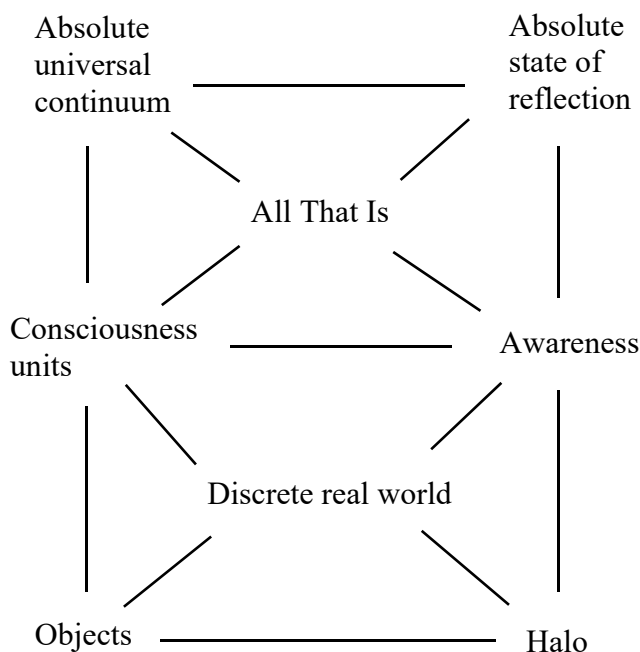
Each consciousness of such a reality is aware of this dynamic in an individual way, being filtered out of the more comprehensive movement by its self-consciousness. Only with this it makes a distinction between potential and reality, between probable and actual. The now stabilized consciousness can systematically increase its dynamic degree of freedom and the amount of manageable information again or/and let open the obstructed access subconsciously. One promotes the other, and the respective incompleteness of the accomplished drives further creations. Every potential is the potential of a *limited* consciousness - until the *absolute* freedom of the universal continuum unites potential and reality again.

This unity, which itself means a certain awareness, unites at the same time universality and individuality (of the whole as well as of the single). Its maximum condensation for the respective real is All That Is and the minimal counterpart to it every consciousness unit.

⁷⁵ There is also no complete information content of all realities, because this would only refer to an "objective" approximation concept of information - not to the infinite variety of subjective experiences, *out of which* the individuals *act* and which therefore themselves have an information value. Completeness exists only dynamically.

The unity of universality and individuality, however, realizes itself with different ratio also in any awareness, no matter how limited. Such awareness is individual to the extent that the awareness of All That Is is comparatively universal: All awareness merges into each other in an infinitesimality-structured way.

Taking into account that infinitesimality structure also includes non-infinitesimals - namely objects and the halo appropriate to them (still extended even in imaginary form) - we obtain the following relational framework:



You can already guess that this is not about the exact "rectangular" structure. An exact geometrical projection of these relations would turn out rather irregular and changeable; but still no less harmonious. Why don't you *play* with it a bit...?

The extensive directedness

34 Flowing energy

"Everything is energy", I often read in esoteric texts and increasingly in scientifically oriented treatises. Strictly speaking, this means nothing else than that everything is *potential*, always in the process of becoming something else. The observer, for example, goes beyond himself to the object and back into himself. He forms a unity, whose momentary uniqueness in turn transcends itself spirally, to another cycle. So it is also with the objects "among themselves" or rather their dynamic consciousness.

Nevertheless, every consciousness is focused on only *one* aspect at every moment. To this alone the highest attention applies. The environment "merely" enters as a quasi-static circumscription and embodies in the form of an existing halo the current *effective potential* - rather *foreseen* sides on which the consciousness may concentrate soon. If you believe to have several aspects equally in view, then you are conscious of a single *combination* of them, less of the *individual* components. (Even if you emphasize their difference).

Please pay close attention to what happened: By the increasing exclusion of the surroundings, the sharply focused ridge of the current consciousness funnel became equal to a consciousness unit - not further reducible and *in itself* indistinguishable from other ridges (because for this it needs its blurred surroundings). The difference to our previous way of looking at a consciousness unit is that we can now separate its infinitesimal center "spatially" from its minimal circumscription: Namely, the fuzzy interior of a consciousness funnel basically counts to the circumscription *of its edge*. The top of this crater is normally not pointed (infinitesimal), but ring-shaped - outside *and* inside lies its circumscription.⁷⁶ The

⁷⁶ Moreover, the crater rim here does not mean the most detailed zone, for we now consider it (in contrast to chapter 11) as the summit of an individual *entirety*, in relation to the many surrounding summits of *other* holistic standpoints.

center of the ring, however, is an *axis*, independent of the height of the crater (chapter 31).

I know we're risking a knot in the brain here. But this is solely due to our habit of representing everything spatially. Thus, we had not realized until now that the summit of any consciousness funnel is its most clearly *centered* (not necessarily central) entity. This means a *psychic* peak rather than a geometric one. It does not matter how "big" it is and whether it is circumscribed inside or outside - such terms are meaningless. All that matters is that it is the one aspect of keenest concentration toward which the complex of consciousness *leads*. This aspect embodies the current *essence* of the entire focus dynamic. Without *existing*, i.e. *quasi-static* focus dynamic, however, no essence would arise at all, respectively the same would be (notice!) completely unspecific, *diffuse*. In this respect only the most prominent consciousness unit means an (almost) infinitesimal "center".⁷⁷

So if it is not the difference between inside and outside that determines an object, what then? Of course, its individuality alone, which includes all other individuals more or less consciously. There is basically no outside or inside, but only *awareness* extending into the increasingly subconscious. Awareness, though, is always movement, an open dynamic cycle. The more we focus on this openness, the more *directed* the perceived movement becomes; we come from somewhere and go somewhere; we *change* our awareness, we contemplate the *flow* from one state to another. And when we unfold a *more complex* awareness from the current one, it is a flow *from the inside to the outside*, to a *more extensive* structure!

According to Seth the universe expands like an idea expands.⁷⁸ Like this it changes thereby. We can also say, awareness expands in

⁷⁷ It is the dynamic of the consciousness unit itself, which produces a more detailed or more diffuse reality depending on its quasi-static complexity. Accordingly, the term "infinitesimal structure" means that such a one is composed of differently "extended" consciousness units.

⁷⁸ Jane Roberts, "The Nature of the Psyche," Amber-Allen Publishing 1996.

the measure as it produces ideas and is itself an idea. The energy available for this is as inexhaustible as the diversity of the absolute state of reflection, which is concentrated in the depth of consciousness. It produces an inner pressure, a natural aggressiveness, which combines on the outer side with the pull of curiosity, to an unstoppable stream of creation.

We can influence this stream in different ways. If we focus on a recognized contradiction, on things that seem to be no longer united (although we still link them by their comparison), then we increase the pressure of our center of consciousness by now seeking a *new* unification (with whatever - compare chapter 4). We may constantly focus on behaviors of our partner that we can't come to terms with, and eventually seek a new solution that is more in line with our ideals. Either we will separate or first look for a common ground of our idiosyncrasies. We may make the "charged" consciousness unit our own center, short-circuit the contradiction with our essence, whereupon we blow it up or despair because we cannot blow ourselves up.

Finally, a superficial solution to the problem can also be useful. But if we let the produced energy accumulate, it will abruptly discharge to the outside. And if we now direct it in the wrong direction, it usually has a destructive effect. But we alone are responsible for this: We *choose* at every moment between different channels of our activity (chapter 17), we decide which ideals - always projected by us - we want to follow (chapter 21). So we also choose between a constructive, creative use of our energy and the destruction of our previous achievements.

Whether more or less impulsive, each fulfillment of a promise involves a new promise, a new potential. The unity of pull and fulfillment is its own permanent purpose, which, however, requires concrete goals in each case. So there is a connection between abstract energy and concrete potential. We increase our *potential* by expanding our consciousness so that we can choose among more possibilities. In doing so, we also expand our *awareness* and, at some point, the opening of our subconscious *energy* source that

correlates with it. This somewhat mystical-sounding explanation immediately becomes clearer when we consider the connections of conscious alternatives to their subconscious origins: Such a connection is not a one-way street. The emergence of each further alternative works back into the subconscious and "pricks" there the *basically* inexhaustible energy supply from a new side. New goals *attract* further "fire". But we can swing around just before the discharge and direct the additional energy to our *chosen* - not only probable - target. We can move in such a way that we direct the present flow of energy to favor its own growth. We do this by letting it permeate a variety of alternatives and, as soon as we want, focus it on just one.

Already in chapter 16 we have recognized that freedom is exercised by the choice of different energy flows, indeed that consciousness *is* nothing else than the movement of energy which includes the already materialized as only one alternative. Circumscription is a circumscription by *tendencies*. The totality of the realities thus touched upon, between which a consciousness weighs (its margin of choice), constitutes its potential.⁷⁹

However, scope of decision and potential of a consciousness are identical in this sense only if we seamlessly include the whole existing environment. If, on the other hand, we distinguish between different individual standpoints on which a decision is to have an effect, then a gap between freedom and potential also arises: our creative fantasies do not have to take hold of our fellow human beings to the same extent. If our freedom is to be given more range of existence, we would now have to have a corresponding amount of abstract *energy* to implement our desires into collective reality. Different from the concept of potential, this abstraction from the concrete decision-making situation allows comparing the share of different consciousnesses in their respective interactions. One may choose without significant influence from a

⁷⁹ As long as we do not want to merge these realities into one, it is irrelevant whether they exclude each other. (In a *comprehensive* sense they do not anyway - see chapters 28 and 35).

multitude of alternatives, while the other widely enforces an almost inevitable decision.⁸⁰

Nevertheless, freedom of choice and assertiveness reunite in the concept of active free will, which involves the other *as such*. It has little to do with power, but much to do with awareness, and we will discuss it soon. Below that, freedom and energy promote each other to a fluctuating degree, are after all proportionally correlated. In a tightly closed system, however, they are inversely proportional to each other: too much energy destroys all choices, while freedom of action does not require a large amount of energy (see chapters 7 and 14).

Concrete tendencies act up from the depth of consciousness in particular, in the form of more or less strong impulses. An alternative description for this is offered by "probability lines": The developments of different individuals can overlap each other in a common decision-making situation (for example, in any parliament) and either provide each individual with a correspondingly large number of choices or - if they are unanimously aligned - multiply the penetrating power of a single continuation. In the latter case, the chosen probability receives more energy for its realization, whereby it can also strongly influence other developments (in the country). More consciousnesses are reached, involved and *thereby* again the own scope of action (of the parliament) is promoted. On the other hand, the freedom of choice between different, overlapping developments makes it more likely to encounter high usable energy potentials (in the population). *Overall*, energy does not increase or decrease when we make a choice. We always choose a *bundle* from a group of probable paths. But depending on how strong the bundle was that we followed *before*, we feel an increase or decrease in *conscious* energy. (In addition, the lines within our variable bundle may become more or less "twisted,"

⁸⁰ It should always be noted that the distinctions both between opposing intentions and between different strengths of influence apply only at the *conscious* level in each case - compare chapters 23 and 33.

that is, conscious only as a "strand" or also singly and thus have a more or less concentrated effect).

Each individual probability (line) is basically as elementary as a consciousness unit is. Thereby those (axes) which still run along its depth channel even in the extended area of the possibility funnel are closer to the central point of the choice, so to speak; they possess, since less recognized, more suggestive or impulse power. On the other hand, their concrete potential is also hardly conscious and always good for surprises. We can neither deny nor exclude such a "blind main stream" of personal and collective development, but we should at least make an effort to sense and question it in order to realign it with our essence, if necessary.

All in all, the potential is still linked to the awareness of the decision-making situation. Whether a probable version of reality prevails depends not merely on its energy, but on our conscious/subconscious overall assessment. We best move to a "side-ways" vantage point from which we can observe and farsightedly direct the flow of energy to our consciousness. In this case, we become aware of both points of view at the same time - that of the person affected and that of the assessor - and allow a certain "objectivity" to flow into our always subjective perception. This also enables us to examine and dissolve psychological blockages with an appropriate distance, while at the same time feeling the changed impulses and directly incorporating them into our new self-assessment.⁸¹ Just as consciousness and immediacy of an impulse unite infinitesimality-structured in this awareness, so do concrete potential and abstract energy.

Let us consider a few variations of this unity:

- Received attention increases our potential through the stronger impact we can exert and strengthens our belief in our own power.

⁸¹ We control the relationship between "past", present and "future" *as such* and *as a whole*.

- The recognition of our ideas increases our potential by helping original fantasies to break through into collective reality and directly raises our self-esteem.
- Confirmation by others makes us aware of the actually larger range of existence of our performance and in turn strengthens our belief in our own abilities.

In all cases, specific and non-specific potential are intertwined. Moreover, the *recognizing* of the potential has an effect on the same; what we called the *meaning* (of its meaning) in chapter 14. Since the *source* of one's potential is inexhaustible, its increase usually turns out to be even greater than would be justified by external relations alone - one justifiably extrapolates present success into the future. Also in this sense the potential grows with the consciousness!

Furthermore, it becomes clear how we can consciously contribute to the potential of other individuals and vice versa. It is a matter of directing our own aware energy to the individual who, *in our opinion*, needs it most - *selflessly* and *thereby* to our own advantage. In its pull, the recipient opens further accesses to his subconscious potential and thus increases our own scope again. Once this point is clear, the How practically arises by itself - whether we manipulate physical objects, cooperate with other people or create a desired reality.

Admittedly, things do not always run so optimally, and we will also look at destructive tendencies in the next section. But it will become apparent that these inevitably lead to dead ends. Even a non-expanding, *cyclical* use of our potential, as when we alternate between different roles, should teach us greater harmony with our deep impulses, as it makes us aware of unity with their sources.

35 The indestructibility of the individual

Just as we can voluntarily expand our scope, we are also capable of limiting it. Every consciousness can choose atrophy or stagnation, but both mean an end relatively quickly.⁸² Eventually, it does return to a path of expansion.

But this one is infinite on the one hand and already gone on the other hand. The goal, the absolute universal continuum, reflects again onto the way to itself. Thus, the movement is constantly generated anew, every moment, because the point of reflection is inherent to every such. In the end, as described in chapters 7 and 22, consciousness expands by creating preferably *more limited* offshoots. As such, they compensate for the growth of the mother consciousness, while the latter maintains its connection to them primarily *dynamically*, that is, within an expanding *awareness*.

Simplified, this process can be interpreted as a combination of an infinite expansion (of awareness) and an infinite transverse movement to it (the resultant of expansion and limitation of consciousness). Each way is walked by walking the other, whereby awareness *includes* all ways at the same time and thus an expansion results *altogether* as well.

Similarly in philosophy, where every theory extends from the highest peak to the most elementary foot and yet captures only *one* side of the mountain. The same mountain has however infinitely many more sides. Via generalizations and new details we get from side to side and complete our world view, which *integrates* head and feet.

Even reincarnation proceeds according to a related scheme: According to Seth, we reach after several rebirths a stage of development from which we grasp (probable) incarnations, which we have not lived through "ourselves" (i.e.: which were not close to us so far).⁸³ The focus-dynamic unity of the incarnations with their

⁸² A stagnant consciousness *is* already at an end if it does not merely pass through a temporary stage.

⁸³ Jane Roberts, "Seth Speaks," Amber-Allen Publishing 1994.

common entity establishes altogether an infinite expansion of the awareness of the *own individuality*.

All this also describes the development of All That Is, which cannot be completed even hypothetically because of the above natural regulatory mechanism. Nevertheless it takes place. All-that-is describes an all-encompassing state of reflection. The necessary creative *execution* of its dynamic from rich to limited focuses and vice versa is infinite, while the awareness of each phase includes all these states passed through. Both together - open movement and preservation of the achieved - correspond to the character of an expansion (compare chapter 11). Since this expansion has integrated also its "future" states, it is timeless. Nevertheless, it always remains directed to the universal continuum.

Just as such expansion does not simply mean reverse limitation, creation is the opposite of annihilation. Creation is the working of the infinite in the finite⁸⁴ and leads to the expansion of the finite into the infinite. By the infinite, of course, I mean the *potentially existent*, whose entirety, of which the individual is aware, works in the finite. The non-existent - the imaginary halo - plays only the role of that which *hides* the potentially existent. The darkness can be penetrated dynamically, and therefore we have to deal only with the infinite potential:

Everything develops finally in the dominating direction, into infinity. *Creation* however is basically the *reversal* of this process! It means the choice of finite out of the circumscribed *entirety* of the infinite, while the thus highlighted now develops for its part into the infinite. *This* is the universal process, and its asymmetry becomes clear if we lift the always-tangible veil before the subconscious. The annihilation of something existing is impossible, since it only amounts to a movement across the transparent boundary of consciousness whereas we recognize a choice as a primordial act from the absolute universal continuum immediately directed

⁸⁴ [Creativity is about] "the action of the Infinite within the sphere of the Finite." (David Bohm, "Unfolding Meaning," Routledge 1987)

against the stream, but indirectly (via its consequences) in the sense of the stream.

In chapter 28 we have justified why the creation following from this act could not be anticipated: Since it lifts a whole *all-encompassing* probability hierarchy from the depth, it could not be contained in any other before. In addition, nobody could put himself *with certainty* into the potential individual, because its infinite subconsciousness would remain veiled to him. *All That Is* on the other hand (respectively God) must actually be able to do this operation since its reflection includes all hierarchies!

Conversely, we exclude annihilation exactly for that reason, namely because the "annihilated" can be recovered. Its consciousness works - as before its realization - subconsciously. And a hidden *something* must also be experienceable as just *this* something. (As such it enters into the dynamic of *awareness* and works in it until it eventually reappears in *consciousness*). In terms of time, one puts oneself back into the past. *For us* this is, strictly speaking, not easier than to put ourselves completely into something "future". Some things disappeared in the infinite - as from there something "fundamentally" new will emerge (see chapter 28). But *for God* there is no final annihilation. And that is enough, because he is *in us*.

Can we, on the other hand, *create* something that even God did not know? Or does the creative aspect of a decision ultimately shrink to nothing?

Let's take it one step at a time:

The repetition of a state of consciousness is already complicated at the height of the hierarchy *peaks*. There is always a certain temptation to try something new, a *tendency* to openness. We have discussed this at length. Irreversibility, however, is the result of a relatively superficial interaction, which can be counteracted by the deeper free will of consciousness. Furthermore, the latter lets itself be *guided* by the subconsciousness when putting into something, while the blind irreversibility of a many-particle system is based on the apparently uncontrollable externality of the unknown. By

letting its hidden *consciousness* work, free will breaks through this barrier. We get a so to speak "asymptotic" reversibility, a difficult and uncertain, but finally arbitrarily exact *approximable* repetition.

So, if we want to put ourselves into a certain probable reality, we will most likely end up a bit off. Nevertheless, in an *all-sided* interwoven universe every state must be *exactly* repeatable. For every *single* attempt, the *infinity* of the universe even guarantees the creativity of such a repetition - because one could have also deviated from it. The repetition is *never necessary*; a conscious *choice* took place somewhere. On the other hand, we have to assume after an infinite number of choices that any individuality has already been passed through.

After all, a repetition is *detectable* only if it is *not* exact; namely if one *compares* it with an earlier present. Indeed, reversal without further development is actually impossible (as well as vice versa), because a continuous repetition of identical states does not exert a lasting *effect* - the states or better *the one* state would collapse into itself, would remain infinitesimal.⁸⁵ Nevertheless, a dialectical unity of closedness and openness must contain both extremes *completely* - even if only as phases (of a dynamic infinitesimality structure, of awareness). Thereby, a merely *self-existent* (see chapter 2) repetition needs neither comparison nor effect. That is, even if we mean *infinite* individuals, we have to assume that *All That Is* goes through completely identical phases in them. Its absolute freedom enables it to restore any individuality as often as it wants. In the *most comprehensive* sense there would be neither annihilation nor creativity - dynamically everything would always be there.

Nevertheless, I maintain that although there is no *annihilation*, there is *creativity*. Why?

⁸⁵ I think Seth means the same thing when he says (in Jane Roberts, "The 'Unknown' Reality" Volume 1, Amber-Allen Publishing 1996 [comments from me]): "Only from unpredictability [irreversibility] can any system emerge that can be predictable within itself [contains predictable, i.e. repeatable, states]. Only within complete freedom of motion [free will] is any "ordered" motion truly possible." Order requires creativity in order not to be finalized, to become *truly* permanent.

Well, if God puts himself into a potential individual, he has caused nothing with it for the *other* individuals who include the chosen one only into their *subconscious* dynamic. These individuals are also concrete states of All That Is, but - like the chosen one - with a *limited self-consciousness*. And as we discussed in Chapter 33, this pushes many focuses passed through out of the more conscious part of awareness.

All That Is does not have to take over the self-consciousness of its respective embodiment, but can remain fully aware of its potential; under the guidance of this awareness it may precisely anticipate all individual states. But it cannot take over the work of its own dynamic expansion from the different self-consciousness of its aspects. The self-consciously limited awareness of each divine phase of reflection must develop on its own. Only then will the dynamic *range of existence*⁸⁶ of what has been achieved be truly all-encompassing. Therefore, not the *reaching* of the goal alone, but *also* the *way* to it is of importance!

We are thus back to the creativity of the "normal" individual, an infinite hierarchy of probable states of (self-) consciousness. All That Is even includes every one of these hierarchies *as such*, while it merely acts boundlessly flexible in their subconscious depth (chapters 32 and 33). That is, the *complete* anticipation of a reality by God would need the creativity of his limited creatures. It would also exist in what *we* create.

Our way, however, consists of free decisions, each of which includes the infinite *as a whole*. The displacement into infinite distance destroys a consciousness just as little as it arises alone by its emergence from there. In God it is always. Only the *choice*, respectively selection or deselection, of a consciousness, which is made from a *unique unity* with the near (!) infinity, is new in the most comprehensive sense. Even God cannot anticipate it. If, on

⁸⁶ One is more *aware* than conscious of a dynamic, *potential* existence. It therefore appears more diffuse and transparent than a "tangible" quasi-static object. This sensed presence, however, is not to be confused with nebulousness, because it is characterized by the *present unfolded* existence of the target between two - for themselves infinitesimal - phases of consciousness.

the other hand, it would not concern *infinite* hierarchies of consciousness, if we would not choose an individual form of *the Universe*, the *possible* results would be foreseeable not only by the flexible All That Is, but also by a limited consciousness. Our choice would have no comprehensive meaning. Again, however, the choice is not anticipated with its *possible* results. Only the choice itself realizes one of the events concerned completely in All That Is.

The infinity of *the path* from our self-consciousness to the all-encompassing awareness of All That Is thus represents a higher order than the infinity of that awareness itself. (The path of realization is of higher order than the potential.) Therefore, this path is ultimately as open as the absolute universal continuum that contributes to each step. Openness and preservation of what has been achieved do not contradict each other, as already simple expansion shows. But only in the interaction of the infinities the reason for a creativity and directionality is found, which can claim universality.

So far, we have treated the indestructibility of the individual rather abstractly and externally. But obviously, we ourselves are individuals. What happens to this individuality when *we* change? It hardly satisfies us to know that everything is preserved "somewhere" while we ourselves mutate into *another* individual.

Of course, the universe takes on a new form every moment; the hierarchy of our individuality is constantly restructuring itself to infinity. Nothing about an individual remains as it is - but everything remains *in* it. Our individuality *consists* precisely of all these other ("past" and "future") standpoints, into which it constantly passes more or less consciously and from which it returns more or less exactly. Individuality is the result of the rotation of its *own* phases (respectively aspects) and their permanent condensation in *one* summit. This conscious summit is *different* from all others and transforms *with* them. Its change must even be creative and ultimately irreversible (see above) in order to maintain an effective relationship with all other focuses of consciousness; it is based on

the infinitesimality-structured *unity* with an *infinite* base. In this ever-unique *awareness* of our own creative dynamic lies our concrete, real felt immortality.

Freedom, harmony and value fulfillment

36 A feeling for harmony

The creativity of every individual works in every other, and depending on how dynamic or static we grasp an individual, it is more about its own creativity or that of another. On the one hand, individuality *is* essentially limitation; on the other hand, it implies a unity of particularity and universality. Although the all-sidedness of the universal continuum is infinitely far away from every focus of consciousness, the inner connectedness of all creatures respectively the unity of every consciousness with their sum causes the comprehensive importance of every individual for all others - independent of unfolded hierarchies.

I think this résumé shows once more clearly, what infinitesimality structure consists of. Interrelationships can hardly be comprehended singly and can only be understood in their totality. We cannot avoid using our feeling, our sensation, our intuition. For example, if we want to investigate how the individual phases of our consciousness *as such* contribute to a single decision, we lose sight of this very decision. Only the *sensation* of that interaction lets us consciously grasp its infinitesimality structure. In relation to analytical considerations this *aware* kind of sensing means the perception of infinitesimality structure as such.

In a sense, of course, every perception is the result of integration. Sensations as well as emotions are necessarily infinitesimality-structured - or non-existent. However, when I speak of sensations in this section, I do so in the above aware sense - for emphasis over unfolded objects, which are, after all, only interspersed with their feelable ground what we recognize them to be. While an object symbolizes an emotional form, sensation serves us as a synonym for the underlying, condensed dynamic of consciousness.⁸⁷

⁸⁷ According to this, emotion and sensation are not identical, but "first-degree related": *In relation to unfolded objects*, one can represent the other. More precisely, emotion already represents a *less* infinitesimal form of sensation.

This infinitesimality structure now unfolds, following its inner pressure, into less infinitesimal thoughts and physical structures. Sensations express themselves. Nevertheless, they remain in some form, because also a new "non-infinitesimal" structure by its nature cannot do without its more infinitesimal counterpart. A symbol still *contains* what it stands for. By "emotional energy" we can understand just that agglomeration of infinitesimality structure striving for expression whose source never dries up (see chapters 17 and 34). Infinitesimality structure *is* essentially potential.

By consciously accepting a certain potential, *believing* in it, and allowing its sensation to intensify - to be *energetically enriched*, as it were - we generate within our holomovement correspondingly emphatic impulses to the subconscious to realize this potential (compare chapter 25). Its realization then in turn has an inward effect, where the resulting pull entails the unfoldment of further structures: The fulfillment of a wish awakens a new wish.

Whether we achieve a goal thus depends first on the emotional intensity with which we strive for it, and especially on how precisely we direct this intensity toward the longed-for, hitherto only *probable* reality. A strong desire, moreover, does not come from anywhere, but dramatizes an even more infinitesimal impulse; it draws on deeper aspects of the individual. The direction aimed at from there becomes especially obvious in an ideal, in which, however, it is also more or less distorted, adapted to our (ir)rational convictions. But only if wish and ideal *harmonize* with the impulse of our total self, the will of our ego will not be stifled or blocked in the end and can become comprehensively effective. Otherwise, we experience ourselves powerless like a blindly raging thug: full of mobilized energy, but unable to assert ourselves "against" ourselves. Emotional engagement merely moves us forward in *certain* directions; it is up to our *will to select* a constructive potential for the use of its "power". According to which criteria we find a suitable (but not necessarily the only acceptable) one, we will discuss in a moment.

While an emotional congestion can be absorbed in its bodily expression and ultimately evaporate (abreact) through it, a sensation would not stand for infinitesimality structure if it cancelled itself in its unfoldment or merely kept alive. Rather, it strives for its *expansion* through expression, with which it *itself* reaches a higher level. For example, when we create from an inner "aesthetic feeling" (an inspiration, an impulse) a work of art that we like, our initial awareness is enriched by a feeling of delight in the face of unfolded beauty. As the original infinitesimality structure now permeates a less infinitesimal form, it became even more manifold, even more integrating - with at the same time newly created expressive potential: the result finally inspires us to further creations.⁸⁸

Delight at the newly created work here also includes satisfaction with one's own performance. Even when we admire another's work of art, we do so because of our inner resonance with it. A feeling brings us in *as a whole* and signifies an infinitesimality structure essentially because it interweaves the perceiver (respectively creator) and the perceived (respectively created) from the outset, allows a distinction only out of their unity. Thus, the perceived beauty of outer nature points to a common inner origin, indeed to the fact that we are miraculously *involved* in its creation. The more we expand our awareness, the more sensitive we become, the more consciously we perceive this deep harmony. We recognize the dynamic unity and the intelligent cooperation of all individuals in the joint enterprise "Earth".

The involvement of the observer is, as we have known for a long time, inevitable, and sensation means the more realistic perception with regard to the unity of all events. Only *with* it we reach a comprehensive understanding of the world and its creation. We feel impulses that reach us from all individuals, reflecting their needs and thus naturally pushing us in a direction in which we enrich the

⁸⁸ Even if the work is not successful, we do better next time, or we create something *else*. In any case, the original sensation was enriched, if only by an instructive disappointment.

community. We do not have to take this path, for we ourselves contribute to the creativity of All That Is. But exactly for this purpose, we receive orientation guides that also promote *our* individuality. The emotional idealization of the inwardly conveyed values instantly attracts corresponding creative power and strives towards its realization by means of the described interplay between sensation, physical expression and newly stimulated sensations. However, impulses and ideals also change with the change of their collective origin; especially their understanding shifts with our thinking. "He who is late will be punished by life", or more correctly: If we have lost our way too much, we have to "readjust" ourselves on a higher (respectively deeper) level, start anew into life. We therefore save ourselves detours if we *consciously* look for signposts within ourselves and, while following them confidently, pay attention to their change.

Now, how do we always find the right arrow? In Chapter 21, I recommended that you go within yourself and follow your deepest impulse. However, this impulse can seem so rudimentary that it must first be translated into a concrete instruction for action. In order not to deform it in this process, a comprehensive feeling for harmony is needed, especially with our essence, out of which both the impulse and our environment are formed. Into such a feeling of harmony enter the most diverse "non-impulsive" relations to our entity, as well as many subliminal selves, which inform us about the alternatives experienced by them. The sensation of this entirety always possesses the greater range of existence within our reality funnel. Harmony with it therefore serves us as a reliable orientation in interpreting unclear impulses. We *feel* the meaning of the objects, persons and situations accompanying our life, and we suddenly *know* whether we are already on the right path or not.

Please note that we are talking about awareness here, not just consciousness. The danger of a misjudgment, because we might already be caught in a web of misleading feedback, is naturally lower in communication with *more comprehensive* focuses of consciousness; even more so if the impulse to be assessed originates

from the same deeper level. In this sense, we may also orient ourselves to our social and physical environment, for all individuals embodied there have, after all, chosen this reality with us out of a deeper insight and continue to be in exchange with its origin. "It is that unless [their normative rules] are informed by the wisdom that enables them to be dissolved in the demands of responsivity to the particularity an immediacy of lived situations, the rules will become ... hindrances to compassionate action rather than conduits for its manifestation."⁸⁹ The appropriate response in every respect does not arise from principles once decided upon, but from a free awareness of the *whole* situation - including the inner one, where eventually every principle takes on new meanings.

As you will have noticed, I start here from an intuitive understanding of harmony, because I do not want to force an overly rational attitude, which would be contrary to the aware *feeling* of the underlying network of relations. It will soon turn out by itself that our spontaneous conception of harmony corresponds with our definition from chapter 8 ("more unity of unity and opposition").

What do we do when a thought does not fit with our comprehensive experience of reality or our deep sense of reality? We correct it until it is in harmony with both as much as possible. "Truth" is just a special name for harmony or unity with the world.

We have already justified in detail why there can be no absolute match between several "facts" or contents of consciousness. At best, we can *attune* them to each other; coordinate our experience and action. We do this largely subconsciously, so that our unfolded reality remains controllable as a rule. In it, we express only certain *sides* of the hidden reality complex. As many sides as there are, as many truths there are. But complexity or higher development without inner *harmony* does not work. Just as self-contradictory theories eventually merge into a more comprehensive framework, the same happens to an internally torn consciousness.

⁸⁹ Francisco J. Varela, Evan Thompson, Eleanor Rosch, "The Embodied Mind," Massachusetts Institute of Technology 1991.

If we have to judge the truth of a certain thought, we relate it to other contents of consciousness and see if this leads to contradictions. If so, we correct the side of the opposition that is confirmed to a lesser extent, the one with the smaller range of existence.⁹⁰ Now here, in view of the dynamic of consciousness, the question arises anew, by what we measure this range of existence.

For example, the majority need not always be right. The single person may have made much more far-reaching considerations and thus perhaps comes to a conclusion that the others *do not understand* because they narrow their focus of consciousness too much. Should this "genius" back down just because his idea does not find a majority? No. He feels the deep harmony of his thoughts with a comprehensive reality, of which the others don't want to know (yet). He *trusts* this feeling, he is *aware* of the dynamic scope (range of existence) of his source.

On the other hand, he may well be "wrong" and not understand that the others are arguing from their *own* comprehensive, merely subconscious dynamic. They may judge instinctively "right".

For each individual, his subjective experience is the most real, more so the more intense it is (intensity of existence). Only when he *consciously* includes the otherness of foreign experience into his individual awareness, the dynamic scope of an event gains meaning for him. He then judges his focus-specific experience according to its harmony or disharmony with the experiences in other focuses, since, in his view, greater reality can now only occur within a harmonious "coincidence" of perspectives. (Here, once again, language fails us).

Let's assume our genius actually found access to the deepest aspects of foreign perception, to those of which the respective individuals themselves have not yet become aware. Nevertheless, the truth felt by him alone must prove itself collectively, thus, in the end, also be apparent to all others *in their way*. Because if it does

⁹⁰ It is needless to emphasize by now that we are talking about the range of existence of an *approximation*, a unique "fact" that is perceived in a *similar* way from different standpoints.

not *express* itself in the unfolded reality, it cannot be valid in this reality. Admittedly, there is nothing *fundamentally* wrong, every statement expresses *something*. But if it is "wrong", it is not in harmony with the conscious expressive *intention*, the *claim* of the statement. After all, deep and superficial thinking unite to a *higher* harmony of expression: Even for the mistake, there was a true reason.

So what should we do when we have to decide between two theories? We declare *both* true - which is true in *some* sense - and then examine which of them *relativizes* - but does not explain away - the other in *broader terms*. Only this one reconciles the different but dynamically *persistant* perspectives. Because of the interconnectedness of consciousness and subconsciousness, we cannot avoid considering our own grounding in the problem. We judge based on a *sensed truthfulness*, even when we think we are limited to the logic of the mind. The more open we keep our awareness, the more surely we find a widely acceptable basic order, a foundation for the harmonious coexistence of most different individuals.

It would be easiest with a uniform reality mush: Without differences and contradictions, there would also be no untruths. Nevertheless, we would suffer: from boredom, stagnation and narrowness. Suffering, however, cannot be a sign of harmony. We *need* the diversity, the opposition, the interaction. Harmony is not simple. Through more harmony locally (and further potentially) a more perfect expression of All That Is is achieved, a dynamic gestalt, which integrates into highest harmony (maximum diversity in immediate proximity to the universal continuum!) also such disharmonious interactions as we find in some places on earth. Wouldn't it make sense then in return to realize a piece of God's harmony ourselves, to harmonize the *relationship* to the greater whole?

We suffer when this relationship is disturbed. Either we cannot express our essence as we would like, or we do not realize that we are actually acting contrary to our essence. Normally, we strive to

eliminate the suffering.⁹¹ We can fight the external causes or occasions for our pain, or we can integrate them into our experience in a new way - in the most extreme case by accepting the given situation as an enriching experience. Both mitigate the suffering for the time being. Meanwhile, however, we should seek its causes within ourselves, for as we understood in chapters 23 and 28; we are responsible for our "fate" ourselves. The suffering individual and the one who may be causing him suffering are in a disharmonious relationship because their deep hierarchy *and* present consciousness have chosen to do so. Their situation is not without meaning, and its change is therefore *also* within their present power. We have discussed the necessary means for this.

Suffering, like destruction, has a creative effect in that it initiates change. It is not to be rejected in principle, but part of nature, and who does not know it, will not be able to react to the suffering of others. Nevertheless, it describes a *relatively* disharmonious path to harmony. If we however do not understand the *meaning* of suffering, instead despair or cause new suffering, it *cannot* have a harmonizing effect *here*. It must then be balanced in another embodiment and thus contributes at least in a "higher" way to our development.

At the absolute point of reflection, of course, everything is harmonized with each other. But if we create a disharmony on *our* level, we displace an alternative, more harmonious probability into the subconscious. In connection with all other probabilities, we favor so also a *general* disharmonization that occurs if for it *some* harmony disappears in infinite distance (compare chapter 28).⁹² What we do is not a gimmick. All phases of All That Is are affected by it, the *finite* frequencies of its dynamic possibly disturbed. As we had stated before (*ibid.*), we bear responsibility not only for

⁹¹ Those who seek it, on the other hand, do *not* experience it as truly suffering. Sadness, longing, horror, for example, can definitely be experienced positively.

⁹² In contrast, harmonization does not only mean a displacement of disharmony into more distant probabilities, but these are now part of a *higher* harmony. What is displaced here is the limited disharmony as such, as *disharmony*. (Conversely, a "higher disharmony" cannot be sustained).

ourselves, but, regardless of their free will, also for all other individuals.

If there are deep causes of suffering, ingrained beliefs that inhibit the natural flow of energy, and we are only dabbling with the symptoms, then the distorted impulses will express themselves on another surface of our experience. Repressed inner conflicts can seemingly burst in abruptly from the outside. It is true that it is often necessary to react externally *as well*, because it is precisely through our physical actions that we enrich our psychic reality. But to be truly successful, the external action, must symbolize our deep *inner* need for change. Regardless of whether we swallow an antibiotic or a placebo, for example, we will *not comprehensively* recover unless we are inwardly ready for it. After all, the external action *can* also initiate a breakthrough of our inner will to heal.

It is no different with regard to the interaction with other individuals. They are conscious of us, partly through traceable communication, partly through the exchange of impulses and focuses of consciousness. More or less consciously they take up our questions, associate them with their own and voluntarily enter with us into a symbolic happening, in which everyone plays the role of a personified aspect, both of his own and "foreign" problems and desires. Ask yourself which aspects of your own psyche this or that fellow human being embodies and why you are perhaps playing an unpleasant game with him. If you then consciously seek harmonious interaction with him (which cannot mean that you are subordinate), you are already quite a bit further along the path of your personal fulfillment. You will notice that for this you will have to deal with your own impulses and beliefs, that only harmony on the inside will eventually create harmony on the outside.

It is important that this harmony is achieved *consciously* - not in blind obedience to inner impulses, but through conscious choices that take into account *all* known influences. Freedom of choice is an indispensable *part* of the awareness of one's own individuality that is to be developed (chapters 30 and 33). What a harmonious relationship should look like is therefore not fixed. Actively and

relatively freely, we can manipulate external circumstances as well as formulate wishes to the subconsciousness, which should only be sensibly *oriented* to the advice that life gives us. The best way to connect our freedom with them is to seek the deepest impulse, as well as the greatest harmony with our essence, and to choose a reality *in their consciousness*.

37 Value fulfillment

We experience ourselves as embedded in an undulating web of diverse views, beliefs and values within which we seek to realize our ideals. What we value (e.g., hard work, business acumen, artistic unfoldment) depends, on the one hand, on the value climate of the community in which we live, while, on the other hand, we strive to choose that community and our role in it in such a way that they help our ideals to be effective - either in contrast to the majority or in agreement with it. Yet even the most intimate ideals are carried collectively, for our individuality from which they spring is, after all, nothing other than a unique confluence of infinitely diverse focuses of consciousness. Every personal ideal emerges from a multitude of other ideals and thus in turn represents a respectable value for all other individuals, whether we are conscious of this or not.

However, our awareness develops through the *more conscious* inclusion of other standpoints. And we will consciously include such only when we *recognize* their value for our fulfillment. Otherwise they remain indifferent to us. We meet the unloved neighbor every day for a reason. But if we do not want to acknowledge this, we avoid him. If, on the other hand, we at least respect him as an individual, we can talk to him for a while without being overwhelmed by the escape reflex. We may even discover that he is able to give us something that we have long sought in vain. A friendship *could* develop from the original aversion.

Through appreciative communication with our counterpart, we also gain value for him. Our standpoint, our individuality spreads in him and his individuality in ours, without losing the distinctiveness of a person. Rather, it is *enriched* by the experience of the other; and not only in terms of a growing variation of the self, but in the spirit of our own ideals, against which we measure everything new: What we learn from the other flows into our development. The individuality of each side (more precisely, of each hierarchy summit - see Chapter 35) *changes*, and thus immediately

offers a *new* value to the other. Each individual, in particular, reacts *creatively* (decides freely) and thus changes the *potential* of the other. It partially realizes its own potential in the other and expresses something of the other's potential in itself. Both now also individually have choices they did not have before.

Such communication can build up to a mutual fulfillment of values and in this case merges into the development of an overall consciousness that increases in aware complexity. Parts of the potentials of both individuals have connected *individually* on each side and thus multiplied altogether: The community of individuals is larger and more powerful than their "sum". It can draw more consciously from the inexhaustible source of energy (compare chapter 34).

The unlimited cross-fertilization (in spirit) is possible because basically *everything* is and remains individual. Thus, nothing can annihilate each other. The task of increasing diversity on a *certain level of existence*, however, also belongs to conscious activity. Otherwise it could happen that the energy pushing outwards gets lost in one-sided projects for a very long time. The failed socialism is the best example of it. Fulfilling expression of what is hidden, desired or felt requires the decision for a *multidimensional* way.

Ultimately, of course, everything realizes its multifaceted potential and is therefore fundamentally in harmony with All That Is. But insightful as we are, we like to decide a little earlier for a coexistence in which the personal differences not only complement, but also reinforce each other - in order to promote the development of individuality and to make it more comprehensive (keywords "self-realization", "nationalism", but also "multicultural society"). We feel that the individual experiences his fulfillment only against an all-sidedly differentiated background, which in one way or another dignifies him, which makes him recognize himself more clearly and perceive more consciously his task within the whole. Dynamically, all individuals are most closely and deeply intertwined. Those who hinder the unfoldment of others therefore diminish their own presence and limit themselves in their development.

At this point I would like to share with you Seth's description of Value Fulfillment: "Value Fulfillment ... combines the nature of a loving presence - a presence with the innate knowledge of its own divine complexity - with a creative ability of infinite proportions that seeks to bring to fulfillment even the slightest, most distant portion of its own inverted complexity. Translated into simpler terms, each portion of energy is endowed with an inbuilt reach of creativity that seeks to fulfill its own potentials in *all possible variations* - and in such a way that such a development also furthers the creative potentials of each other portion of reality."⁹³

It would contradict all our previous considerations if we understood value fulfillment simply as a constant expansion of consciousness. We are only *dynamically* aware of the offshoots we create in other individuals. Moreover, we do not have the stored experiences of these individuals all present on demand. Instead, they enter into our sense of self, from where, assuming their harmony, they favor a wiser expression of our essence. We create fewer disharmonies in new life situations when we have learned how to avoid them in others. What expands, then, is our individual *awareness* of the most diverse standpoints and their inner connection.

This awareness, as you know, incorporates the divergent focuses of other individuals *as such* and thus benefits from them much more than if we were to communicate with them only superficially (quasi-static). The other as such becomes our own and our own truly becomes the other. We "use" the other for our and *deliberately of the other's* value fulfillment, in which we in turn grow ourselves. We are also the *other* whose existence we merely include as external in our individuality.

Thus, value fulfillment also includes experiencing one's own value for the other - in the other. Within our awareness we identify ourselves with other essences *in their independence* (which equally

⁹³ Jane Roberts, "Dreams, 'Evolution' and Value Fulfillment" Volume 1, Amber-Allen Publishing 1997.

assess us as independent) and feel for them as for us. In this way we feel responsibility and respect towards them. I feel sorry for people who claim that we give only out of selfishness (to ease our conscience or to "cash in" on the other person's gratitude). I feel for them, and therefore I know that they are deluding themselves. Because the joy of the other affects them quite originally, whether it is egoistically reinterpreted by the ego or not. Those who share something beautiful with others enjoy it more fully at best - via multiple versions of their *dynamic self-consciousness*. If however not even the self-consciousness is firmly anchored, there can also be no "healthy egoism", at most a healthy altruism, which presupposes and results in the respective own value fulfillment.

In view of this, it is extremely one-sided to speak of a "struggle for existence". Instead of a blind selection to adapt to random environmental disturbances, we recognize a largely conscious development towards maximum value fulfillment. When value fulfillment is no longer possible, dying becomes a completely natural continuation. Death then represents both a service to the survivors and a service to one's self, which can take advantage of new opportunities for development. Even the value fulfillment of a lion tearing an antelope is *fundamentally* cooperative. Both have not only chosen the *rules of the game* of this plane of existence, but they are also aware of their respective positions throughout the game. And out of this awareness, the antelope stays behind to have its life ended by the attacking predator.

Are these mere assertions? Observe animals closely, put yourself in their situation and their essence without bias - and you will come to the same insights. Humans, however, have more freedom and thus more opportunities to make mistakes. Not only do we have the freedom to kill a cow for food, but we also have the freedom to disregard its gift. We have the freedom to eat chicken eggs and the freedom to torture their producers in cramped cages. Yet the tortured animals are aware of their role and play along to the point of intolerability. They give us a chance, because they are a part of our own dynamic essence.

Our violence experiences an increase, if we consciously despise other living beings and throw them out of their plane of existence. "Despite all man does, he cannot really work any destruction - but while he *believes in* destruction, then to that extent he minimizes what he is, and must work harder to use creativity." (Seth⁹⁴) It may well be in the sense of value fulfillment of two individuals to separate. But if we do not include the preservation of the other in our sense of harmony, if we ignore his need for value fulfillment instead of acting in awareness of the deeper unity with him, we show and take detours in the realization of those ideals to which we owe our own existence.

The combination of quasi-static and dynamic exchange of experience in awareness brings about a stronger involvement of feelings, since the tighter connection of unity and opposition comes closer to the integrating essence of our psyche. Who could remain inwardly indifferent in the face of sick and starving children, perhaps consoling themselves with the fact that they have, after all, chosen their own fate? We are involved in their situation; know it "somehow" as part of our own. Our value fulfillment arises precisely from such integration of most diverse worlds of experience. If we separate our experience from that of others, we ultimately also deny ourselves a happy existence.

The simple knowledge of the *possibility* of putting into someone should cause us to respect the decisions of another as his individual ones and to take both his joy and his suffering seriously. A lovingly open empathy with his standpoint leads to the assessment of what value fulfillment means in the concrete case. Our competence for this grows to the extent that the experienced attitudes of consciousness intertwine as partial aspects of our self and we draw from the fullness of their unique experience. Our own role in the overall context becomes clearer; we *can* orient ourselves more strongly to it.

⁹⁴ Jane Roberts, "Dreams, 'Evolution' and Value Fulfillment" Volume 2, Amber-Allen Publishing 1997.

Nevertheless, value fulfillment also takes place subconsciously, especially in the interplay of different eras. Only very few people are conscious of the offshoots of their entity scattered over time. "There will be "offshoots" of the events of your own lives, however, that may appear as overlays in your other reincarnational existences. There are certain points where such events are closer to you than others, in which mental associations at any given time may put you in *correspondence* with other events of a similar nature in some future or past incarnation, however. It is truer to say that those similar events are instead *time versions* of one larger event." (Seth⁹⁵) They introduce from different sides further individual development opportunities.

Value fulfillment cannot be determined by a goal. It exists rather in its own prospering, it is in itself way and goal, an experienced awareness and timeless. It means feeling the own meaning in the world, also the own significance, and living according to this value feeling. This feeling encloses its own growth, as well as the growing awareness of a more comprehensive whole in which it is secure.

⁹⁵ Jane Roberts, "Dreams, 'Evolution' and Value Fulfillment" Volume 2, Amber-Allen Publishing 1997.

38 The Freedom to act out of love

Let us now consider harmony and value fulfillment in the context of the capacity for free choice.

"No one has free will..., if they are not in harmony with the universe, since that would mean they are outside of the Universe", says esoteric philosophy.⁹⁶ But every experience is individual, and to change my individual world freely all I actually need to consider is the capacity of my consciousness. With corresponding resolve, I can imagine anything I am capable of grasping, even, for instance, that I live in a dark forest full of witches and goblins, or on a glowing cloud amidst a host of angels. The range of existence of the changes I call forth is irrelevant *on condition* that I also ascertain it individually: the angels react to my presence and confirm the reality of their world to me in every respect.

Only when I reach limits with my intentions (within my conscious scope) do I begin to let go of other things that refuse to go along with my changes of reality. My self-consciousness is focused upon that part of reality that I have control over, while everything else becomes the outside that surrounds me (on the other hand, compare chapter 32). This outer part now enters my consciousness as something *independent* and forces me to differentiate between *passive* and *active* free will, of which the latter brings forth effects with a greater range of existence (compare chapter 20 and 34). The other individuals act more or less autonomously, and therefore I can only practice active free will optimally in harmony with *their* decisions - by putting them to good use instead of repressing them. They will then multiply my potential as they would that of a sensitive marketing expert, or of a president elected by the people, instead of restricting it.

Subconsciously, of course, everyone influences everyone else all the time, but does not determine them (neither their ideas, nor their

⁹⁶ Translated from Gottfried von Purucker, "Mit der Wissenschaft hinter die Schleier der Natur", Esoterische Philosophie 1988; Title of the original edition: "The Esoteric Tradition", Theosophical University Press 1935.

actions). In a more comprehensive sense, the creativity of one *is* also our creativity, through it our individuality is expressed too. Let us recall: our own freedom essentially consists in the possibility of limiting ourselves to keep things in perspective. That means that the other's independence is a *component of* our own. We have *chosen* our current limits and at the same time created the possibility of encountering other aspects of our all-encompassing dynamic from a unique "outside" viewpoint. Our and their free decisions connect to form a new, respectively individually experienced reality.

On the conscious level, we choose based upon inner and outer information, impressions and meanings as infinitesimality structure. These decisions affect other individuals internally and externally, are included in their subjective processes of decision, from where we are faced with them in new forms. Meanwhile, subconscious aspects of all sides (as justified in chapter 22) tend to communicate more unrestrainedly. Their more complex communication does not immediately lead to a common nature and does not necessarily take place between essential beings, but within the sphere of limited consciousness the result unfolds to *discrete partial decisions*. Their possible restrictions thus spring from subconscious freedom.

At the same time, decisions - be they conscious or subconscious - are based upon the interlaced *identity of* all moments of choice, which is but taken into account in increasingly varied ways with increasing complexity (or subconsciousness; chapter 22 and 23).⁹⁷ This identity, which permeates all levels of consciousness, guarantees a deep harmony between even the most autonomous of decisions. Our value fulfillment must therefore also integrate the others' freedom of choice, by simply respecting it and *trusting* it as we would our own spontaneity. It is exactly the free creativity of every other consciousness *arising from its own unique experience* that

⁹⁷ This identity of course is also first *constituted* in this way, but then is infinitely *compressed* within the funnel of every (partial) consciousness.

makes our own creativity possible and inspired. Therein lies the purpose of a multi-parted Creation.

Freedom of decision can only lead to disharmony between individuals *with a limited awareness*. If our resolutions are not to collide with those of other (self-)consciousnesses, and thus perhaps to become only passively effective, they must harmonize with them on those levels of the decision process we are *barely aware of*. Otherwise, at least one side will feel repressed (or rather will realize itself in another probable world in which *we* will find ourselves disadvantaged) and will in this way diminish the hierarchy of our values and their fulfillment.

Not even God can bring peace to our world if we do not want it (see chapter 35). He incorporates our individual freedom *as such*, that is, without neutralizing it. Because of this, His decisions, if they are to become actively effective, must be attuned to the decisions of His limitedly aware creatures. And if their decisions do not harmonize *among each other*, even He will have to be patient. Active freedom - for whomever it may be - consists in the multitude of small changes that it can effectuate.⁹⁸

We have not incarnated to reduce ourselves further to zero, but to expand or deepen our awareness from here. It makes sense that harmony and maximum value fulfillment must be within reach for this and with them an appropriate increase of our active degree of freedom.

Normally, one does not bring children into the world if one believes in the meaninglessness of their lives. Their higher self can express itself unhindered in them only if they live together with *relatively* little conflict. Only when they succeed in fulfilling their values in each other, for each other, and in developing their own awareness out of this intertwining, they will also enrich the awareness of their "producer" to the maximum. As every good family

⁹⁸ Since these are also a part of All That Is, the above does not imply any restriction of God's freedom. But it emphasizes the indispensable role of every single focus of consciousness in Him.

father knows, his presence is most likely to multiply when he directs his offspring in such a way that they can achieve this harmony *on their own responsibility*. Only then will they learn to develop and actively use the same under new circumstances. Such sensitive guidance should emanate in particular from our entity. From birth, opportunities for individual fulfillment accompany us; we merely have to *perceive* them.

However, even when our entities agree *among themselves*, a harmonious coexistence of our self-willed, sharply focused egos does *not necessarily* occur. Our development is at best favored by good relations to a common intelligent root plexus.

Disharmonies are not negative in themselves. They can arise because the degree of freedom of a consciousness, once fixed, cannot be removed without further ado, so that this individual must still dissolve his suffering in the same frame of existence. Our task is to provide for a fusion of unity and opposites, for harmony between essence and appearances, *here*. Only when this scope is exhausted, the possibility to change to another plane of existence is released (for example through physical death), where the experienced disharmony can have a harmonizing effect in a more comprehensive frame of reference. The free will of consciousness is naturally involved in such decisions. However, if it overcomes deep preservation impulses that refer it to the present reality out of that more comprehensive awareness, it again acts disharmoniously (suicide).

You may think that we are talking here about qualities of life within which it is difficult to find clear standards for our behavior. This makes it all the more important to *open up* to one's own essence and that of one's fellow creatures, to develop a deeper awareness of the overall situation - external *and* internal - and to make conscious decisions *based on this awareness*. Mistakes remain, if not desired, nevertheless allowed. Everywhere we are, we are to learn.

Value fulfillment is harmonious in a very deep sense, but it is not equal to harmony. It may well be accompanied by disharmony, if,

for example, individual A wants to hinder individual B and the violent enforcement of B's value fulfillment also leads to A's value fulfillment. Overall, there is a higher harmony on which B – possibly unconsciously – relies, from which he may draw his motivation, his *energy* (chapter 36). But value fulfillment for both individuals already takes place on the disharmonic level:

In the case of an adolescent whose attitude to life overtaxes the value system of his parents, the inner *potential* for harmony (and the desire for it) does not assert itself equally harmoniously with the *accepted* potential of child and parents. Nevertheless, it usually leads to the value fulfillment not only of the teenager, but also of the "old people" against their will. These eventually come to the deeper insight that they can better voluntarily promote the realization of *their child's* ideals, discovering in them a value for themselves as well. Value fulfillment, however, has been taking place all along. It is a *quality of progression that anticipates the attainment of its goal*.

Even if the goal is missed, it *may* still be attainable or have been achieved in other ways based on the experience gained, or it may have changed, so that an assessment in retrospect - whether value fulfillment has occurred or not - is equally ambiguous. This circumstance makes value fulfillment an iridescent concept, more reminiscent of an infinitesimality structure than of a clearly defined object. We should therefore deal with it primarily (but not exclusively) *intuitively*, in the sense of the above-mentioned openness to the overall situation. Value fulfillment as *awareness* is intertwined with all probabilities and therefore inherently self-explanatory.

However, just as we can still find creativity in destruction, we may recognize value fulfillment where we do not feel harmony. Value fulfillment means a higher harmony, which can also *appear in disharmonious form*. (The concepts of value fulfillment and harmony intertwine.) From this follows at the same time, that disharmony plays a *subordinate* role in it. It belongs, after all, to the potential of every individual and so to the value fulfillment of its

infinite totality. Let us not make it appear more often than necessary in the finiteness!

On the other hand, something that does not lead to the unfoldment of individuals into each other - however harmonious in the sense of unity and opposition - does not mean value fulfillment. It is not enough for *one* individual to develop in harmony with his essence and environment. His value(s) refer from the beginning to the relation to the other *as such*, as a self-conscious partial aspect of his own dynamic. Value fulfillment thus means the flourishing of a harmony that includes the unfoldment of a truly multi-individual community of consciousness.

Just as harmony and value fulfillment are not congruent, active freedom of will is not congruent with them. Freedom would not be such if it could be reduced to another concept. But there are *correlations*:

Even more than through a prevailing or targeted harmony, free will is *promoted* when it decides in the sense of value fulfillment. With this, the variety, the number of possibilities and connections increases, which enlarges the scope of action. Above all, value fulfillment lies rather in the trend of the other independent individuals, who are to be involved actively. Freedom of will is, after all, also freedom for value "destruction", with which it sets limits to itself. It means possibilities *also* for value fulfillment, while this *consists* essentially in the growing potential of all participants (chapter 37). A certain degree of conscious free will is an indispensable part of every individual and as freedom of another at the same time an *aspect* of its value fulfillment. Therefore, "only" loosely linked tendencies are possible here, into which the only possible identity splits at the point of reflection of the universal continuum - just as it splits into individuals.

Striving for expression (and constitution!) of All That Is means striving for its *free* expression and thus for more scope for the own individuality as the medium of expression. Via the permanent crea-

tion of independent offshoots this potential for more conscious creativity realizes itself as free value fulfillment.

Thus, several paths lie before each self. It is free to follow a dead end or a path of "sideways development", but at some point it will become conscious that it is not realizing its potential to the fullest in this way, and it will freely choose a path to more harmony. Only after internalizing this harmony, can it control more degrees of freedom and embrace its greater potential. The self grows into a more flexible world in which, in order to cope with it, it must recognize the autonomy of all others as a value, indeed as part of its own. By living its own values, it enriches all creatures and draws from their otherness.

Orientation on this path and its emotional expression is love. It grasps the observer personally through the fascination of the other for him. It is the drive to participate in this other, to identify with her repeatedly and to feel as an equal part of a new perfection, so that one feels this perfection also in oneself. Love does not lead to identity, but to a stronger unity of unity and opposition within a dynamic infinitesimal structure. For that reason, it can only be fathomed *emotionally*, while the ideals operative within it point beyond the respective self-experience. Love is fulfillment and at the same time the way to it. It is therefore constantly new. The love for a certain self (and first of all for one's own essence, which is to enter into the new perfection) radiates into a general love and can now more easily concentrate on further individuals. The created opening to repressed aspects of one's own individuality favors the unfoldment of even more love; after all, every individual needs every other somewhere on the endless path of its value fulfillment.

Love is therefore by no means limited to the interpersonal sphere. We can discover it in and for everything that surrounds us. It triggers a harmonious development towards the absolute universal continuum, which is most dependent on all its "parts". At its point of reflection, all-encompassing love has reached its culmination and entitles us to say that All That Is acts upon us, or rather,

within us, with love. Our own all-encompassing, infinitesimal-structured dynamic shows that this love is specifically for us, that is, for each individual. The love of All That Is already reveals itself through our presence. We can therefore *trust* it and *return* it by acting in loving awareness.

Of course, love can only be circumscribed by other terms. When free will, harmony and value fulfillment coincide, it realizes itself optimally, as their intuitive synthesis. Indeed, it promotes selflessness and deeper communication, increases energy and creativity. But it can also go astray, one of which is hate. It is also based on love, because the counterpart of love is not hate, but indifference. Someone we hate is not indifferent to us. He does not meet the expectations of our love. (Check that - honestly to yourself!) The confrontations provoked by hatred still unite the opponents, only in a disharmonious way. This does not necessarily result in a predominant tendency to separation - some also *want* to fight each other. Certainly, though, separation is a *possible* development. However, it does not change anything in our love, but at the most makes it more ideal and at some point perhaps subconscious.⁹⁹

The following indifference in consciousness does not relate to the former love symmetrically either. Although love does not lead to the identity of the different individuals, the identity of their unity *and* opposition is nevertheless possible for an infinitesimally short moment - a point of reflection. I mean love lives from its constant realization and re-dissolution. Complete separation, on the other hand, leads to the identity of the other side with the imaginary (compare chapters 4 and 18), which is active through all infinitesimal centers in the remaining individual, and this in a very *concrete* way, whereby unity and opposition remain united in a *different* way. In short, we love at least the concrete absence of everything disturbing. The infinite infinitesimality structure cannot be divided anywhere; it underlies everything. So does love.

⁹⁹ An excellent account of love and hate can be found in: "The Nature of Personal Reality" by Jane Roberts, Prentice Hall 1974.

The necessity for feeling it remains undisputed in view of the impossibility to integrate logically all these circumscriptions and especially the *whole* consciousness. Only in love to our fellow creatures, the realization of our indestructible individuality has a meaning, which moreover expresses itself lively. Integrating and breaking down perception merge into a higher unity. And should we one day encounter something deeper than feelings, our understanding of the meaning of our existence and development will once again be fundamentally expanded.

Conclusion

The main argument in this book is the undeniable openness of every system to the unknown. And the fundamental question goes: What does this openness produce?

We are a part of the infinite universe and an incorporation of its wholeness. Both for us means an individualized reality, through which the universe expresses itself and on the other hand through which it is built up with. It also means our necessity, importance and indestructibility for the sum of its incorporations. Most connections among ourselves are hardly conscious for us. Meanwhile the infinitesimality structure of all consciousness guarantees not only the logical lack of inconsistency of these connections but also the freedom of choice of every individual.

Our goal by no means can be to decide completely consciously. Responsibility contains spontaneity or rather trust in a meaningful working together of the forces. We increasingly become aware of our role in the entire relationship and we learn to contribute optimally to the value fulfillment of all individuals, ourselves included. Beyond the supposed differences between objective and subjective reality, we at some point of awareness comprehend that we create our reality out of our innermost depths. While this goes on, with the love of All That Is (or God) permeating even the smallest units of the omnipresent consciousness, we are given the certainty of being not alone.

If you, dear reader, would like to convince yourself of your own power to create, then please indeed try the described methods herein to change reality, keeping your mind open and look forward to the success, that I also wish for you wholeheartedly.