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The Mystery of Awareness

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The books of Carlos Castaneda are tales of awareness. His encounters with his mentor DJM has been full of mysterious experiences lived in a state of heightened awareness. He narrated such mysterious experiences in twelve books that he published over 30 years. Here is Castaneda recounting how DJM tries to explain the mystery of awareness:

He briefly outlined the truths about awareness he had discussed: that there is no objective world, but only a universe of energy fields which seers call the Eagle's emanations. That human beings are made of the Eagle's emanations and are in essence bubbles of luminescent energy; each of us is wrapped in a cocoon that encloses a small portion of these emanations. That awareness is achieved by the constant pressure that the emanations outside our cocoons, which are called emanations at large, exert on those inside our cocoons. That awareness gives rise to perception, which happens when the emanations inside our cocoons align themselves with the corresponding emanations at large [1].

These words are in total accordance with the concepts of modern physics, which accepts that all existing entities are local concentrations of the energy field, called the Lattice Field, permeating all things and forming what we call 'space' (see article **9-The Lattice Field** under the science heading).

Here is how CC narrates the understanding of his mentor DJM regarding the modern worldview of a rational reality:

He explained that I had to understand that rationality is a condition of alignment, merely the result of the position of the assemblage point. He emphasized that I had to understand this when I was in a state of great vulnerability, as I was at that moment. To understand it when my assemblage point had

reached the position where there are no doubts was useless, because realizations of that nature are commonplace in that position. It was equally useless to understand it in a state of normal awareness; such realizations are emotional outbursts that are valid only for as long as the emotion lasts [2].

DJM explained that there are two positions of the assemblage point where the person has no doubt at all:

In one you have no more doubts because you know everything. In the other, which is normal awareness, you have no doubts because you don't know anything [3].

Both states of normal awareness as well as heightened awareness are a matter of alignment, or in the modern jargon, a matter of **resonance**. We know that every object has a resonance frequency. When the object vibrates at that special resonance frequency, the amplitude of vibration increases to such a high level that the object can break. The sudden intuitive realization of a fact can be understood as being a resonance between the physical reality and the metaphysical reality (see article **21-The Double** under the science heading). Such experiences last a short while and are called "**Hal**" by the Sufi mystics. Here is how DJM explains why such experiences are temporary:

Because the emanations that account for greater clarity cease to be emphasized once warriors are out of heightened awareness. Without that emphasis whatever they experience or witness vanishes [4].

The only force that can temporarily cancel out alignment is *alignment*. You will have to cancel the alignment that keeps you perceiving the world of daily affairs. By *intending* a new position for your assemblage point and by *intending* to keep it fixed there long enough, you will assemble another world and escape this one [5].

[1] **The Fire From Within**, Carlos Castaneda, Pocket Books, Page 108.

[2] **The Fire From Within**, Page 282.

[3] **The Fire From Within**, Page 281.

[4] **The Fire From Within**, Page 113.

[5] **The Fire From Within**, Page 289.