

A Divinatory Matrix of Questions

For personal research and contemplation



Lawrence Whitmore, Ph.D.

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Matrix of Questions*

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A Divinatory Matrix of Questions: For personal research and contemplation

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Love questions, for they are gateways to the future

Preface

Today we are living in extremely interesting and important times in the human story. It is true that humans always exist at the crossover between the past and the future; but at special times we exist also at the crossover between epochs in evolution where the human faculty and consciousness go through a process of upgrade.

We are currently living in such an evolutionary crossover time. This is turning up in our lives in many ways: particularly we are finding everything about human life is becoming more potent and we are beginning to realise that there is very much more to being human than we had previously thought or been led to believe.

In essence we are each being called to re-examine the fundamental issues of human life that we might align our lives to the actual truths governing human life and not to some false, shallow or outdated idea of what the truth might be.

Questions, in this context and at this time in the evolving human story, are particularly valuable, for they are a way to open our minds to the incredible mysteries and enigmas of life and existence.

At the same time, questions give us an opportunity, through contemplation and inner searching, to know ourselves better and to access the inherent intelligence of the human faculty that reside in the instinct, intuition, feelings and so on.

A good image to have about life in these times, is a person scratching at the tip of a massive pyramid submerged in sand, and asking: *What is it really all about?*

It is easy to forget that as children we spent much of our time living in the unknown, where curiosity was our motto and discovery our raison d'être. In this way we found out about the world and the things that make it up. But beyond the world are the reasons of the world, and it is here that our questions must lead if we are ever to know meaning and truth.

This book is a celebration of questions and the incredible human capability to wonder, explore, learn and understand. The 105 questions signpost a path towards reality and a deeper connection with life. They are not intended to substitute the naturally self-arising questions that a person might have, but to compliment them and to stimulate the enquiry through which the journey of evolution can continue.

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Life is a quest, made up of many small quests

Introduction

When we were born, we left our isolation chamber and entered a vast world to coexist with countless other living beings. In this world everything was new to us and we were new to it. One of the basic things that we all have in common with each other is that at some time we each appeared into this world fresh and innocent.

In our early state of grace, for that is what childhood really was, we were free to explore the world and the myriad things that it contained - grass, trees, sky, rain, wind, other humans and so on. And we moved from one discovery to the next as if we instinctively knew that our survival, our purpose and our future all depended upon it.

As we explored and interacted with the world, so the capabilities of the human faculty developed to facilitate us in our purpose. And the more complex activities we sought, the more we developed: incoherent utterances became words and sentences, crawling became walking and running, and scribbling became writing.

At an early age everything for us is a question; we just haven't learned to formulate our questions into words. When we do learn the words, we find that many of our questions are very profound. Why is the sky blue? Why are we here? What does it mean to be human? And if we are honest, even as grown-ups we are hard pressed to answer these questions.

Childhood perception is innocent and uncomplicated, and this allows a child to express deep things in simple words. When a child says that love caused humans to be, that might indeed be very close to the truth, but it might take them the rest of their life to substantiate it.

We experience the world through the energies that come into us in the form of impressions. Each new thing we discover adds to the stock of reference that becomes our knowledge base. Many of our questions, especially when we are young, come from a hunger for new impressions.

A picture of Tibet, for example, might give rise in us to many questions. But information alone is unsatisfying - we want to go there, because only by being there can we absorb the energies of the land, the people and their culture. And only when we have been exposed to it long enough, can we say that we have connected to the essence of Tibet and that it lives inside of us.

Questions continue to arise when we are at the forefront of our knowledge or experience and are faced with something new, for they are the quest for that which we do not at the time possess or contain. Human evolution is itself a journey into the unknown and generates new questions all the time.

Almost all of the knowledge and wisdom that resides in the libraries and museums of the world has come from those figures, mostly lost now in history, who through their dedication and devotion penetrated the unknown and shared their experiences and perceptions with us through their writings and art.

One such knowledge is that the human is a small universe, and as such can connect to anything in essence that lives in the greater universe. For example, to connect to the essence of a river and feel what being a river is like; or to connect to qualities such as patience and humility, or to peace and harmony and so on.

Such connection is made by building relationships with things. A person who has connected to the essence of care, for example, will know things about the world because they look through the eyes of care. The intellectual learning of facts can tell us labels, dimensions and statistics of things but can tell us nothing about the life or the truth of things.

The original quest, offered to us by birth-rite, is to discover what it means to be human. We each accepted this quest when we took our first breath, and as we grow up we confirm ourselves with it every day in every conscious effort we make.

Each question is a gateway to new knowledge and therefore to the future. By making investigation we invest in the future and pass through the gateway.

As babies, we are very interactive, sucking and feeling our way to knowledge, and during childhood we find the natural way to learn is through playing. But as we grow up, the higher mental faculties come more into play enabling us to reflect, reason, dwell, meditate, contemplate and so on.

The real measure of human intelligence is our grasp of reality. Through the fundamental questions - what, where, when, how and why - it is possible to characterise anything in terms of its nature, its place and time in the universe, its function and behaviour and the reasons for its existing.

Modern education does not promote the forming and asking of questions as much as it could and perhaps should. We are given much information, but seldom encouraged to explore the causes of things, to question the accuracy of the facts or to challenge the reasons why we are told them.

However, it is natural for us to question and examine our experiences. This is how we discern between reality and fantasy, between truth and lies. This is particularly so when we feel that something does not fit.

Even today in our supposedly open society, there are certain questions that we are cunningly manipulated away from asking and other questions that we are strictly forbidden to ask; and this brings into question the integrity of the establishment.

Questions are the most powerful tool that we have with which to liberate ourselves from oppression. The external oppression of tyranny is always unmasked by simple honest questions, while we are set free from the inner oppression of ignorance when our questions lead us to the truth.

Most importantly, questions are part of an inner journey; for listening to ourselves and finding our own questions that resonate from deep within ourselves, connects us to the mystery and miracle that each of us is.

Were we robots, our lives would be the out-play of fixed programs, and questions would not be an option. But we are not robots: we have freedom of choice, and accordingly are called upon to work things out for ourselves so that we can be informed about reality and make the best possible decisions.

The questions in this book are offered as a means of facilitating the new type of enquiry that is appearing in the world today, seeking the perceptions that we need to have in order that we might live together awakened and free.

These are special questions, not intended to have ‘instant’ or ‘correct’ answers like an exam; rather, they are questions to wonder about, to research and ponder. They welcome you and mean you well. Each one is a gateway to the unknown and an opportunity to explore. How far you travel is up to you.



*What are you capable of when you
make the extra stretch?*