Monograph Four:

Symbolism – the Language of Higher Consciousness

The conscious awareness is working against the subconscious in many ways but particularly in the language it speaks, which sets it in direct opposition to the subconscious. The two different languages – that of the conscious awareness and that of the subconscious – are fracturing human consciousness, with dire consequences for our psychology, our reality, and even our souls. So what is the language of the subconscious? And how do we speak it consciously so that we can begin to heal the fracture within us?

Two Languages of Consciousness that Exacerbate Perpetual Separation

The fracture in human consciousness – the wound of Perpetual Separation* – that characterises human existence can be explained fairly easily, but healing it is another matter entirely. Simply put, humans exist in the most shallow layer of consciousness – the conscious awareness – as if this layer, or facet, of consciousness is all there is. We pay no heed to and certainly do not reference those other vital facets of our consciousness, the subconscious and higher consciousness (the part of us we refer to as the soul).

As a consequence, the conscious awareness is isolated and Separated not just from those other powerful facets of consciousness but, more significantly, from its own source. We are, therefore, ignorant of the true multifaceted nature of consciousness and of the role played by the conscious awareness as part of the whole.

Whilst there are many dynamics contributing to and causing this Separation, not least of which is the culture of chronic ignorance that forms the bedrock of modern society, one of the most significant of these, but perhaps the easiest to rectify, is the language the conscious awareness speaks. It speaks a language of its own, a language that is different to the language of the subconscious and the higher consciousness. So, in this illusional human reality, there are two languages of consciousness, and the two are enabling, perpetuating and even exacerbating the fracture of Separation.

In fact, the language the conscious awareness speaks sets it *against* the subconscious, causing it to work in direct opposition to those two other powerful facets of consciousness. This is the tug of war I've referred to often enough, with the psyche caught in the middle, bearing the brunt of the internal pressure. Is it any wonder, then, so many people are exhibiting and experiencing the symptoms of deep and chronic psychological illness?

Literalism Verses Symbolism

So what are the two languages, exactly? The conscious awareness speaks a language of *literalism*, or, as I also refer to it, a language of actuality, using what it perceives through the five physical senses as its primary, often sole, means of cognition, taking what it

perceives on face value, or literally. The subconscious, on the other hand, speaks a language of *symbolism*.

The reason the language of literalism works against the subconscious and its language is that of literalism inverting, subverting, and, thus, obviating the deeper meaning of the images and symbols employed by the language of symbolism. Put simply, the conscious awareness doesn't just miss the point, it turns the point upside down and inside out.

You can see this principle demonstrated when myth or allegory is literalised. So, for example, the allegories Yeheshua [Jesus] used or referenced, like that of he and Peter walking on water, were designed to illustrate deep psychological and metaphysical principles and concepts. Instead of being used to convey a principle, however, his allegories have been taken *literally*, and we've been made to believe they actually happened, to him, which automatically obviates the deeper meaning they were intended to convey.

In fact, literalising his allegories was a deliberate aspect of the process of iconification that robbed us of the beautiful meaning and message of his whole life . . . not to mention causing him to be elevated above the ordinary masses by turning him into a god, or the son of one (see Monograph Nine for greater detail).

But there is another dire ramification for us in all of this because symbolism, as the language of the subconscious, is the *official* language of *consciousness* and, as such, it is also the true language of reality. The psyche is not the only thing caught up in the tussle between the conscious awareness and the subconscious. So, too, is reality.

The Two at Odds with Reality Caught in Between

It would not be so bad for us if the subconscious made allowances for the fact that the conscious awareness speaks an entirely different language. But it does not. Nor does it change either its interaction with reality or its interpretation of reality just because the conscious awareness is interacting with and interpreting reality completely differently.

On the contrary, the subconscious continues to speak the language of higher consciousness and it continues to interpret and interact with reality accordingly. So the two – the subconscious and the conscious awareness – can be likened to two children squabbling over a toy . . . although given the human penchant for conflict – from war right down to family fights and neighbourly disputes – this is, perhaps, a little unfair on children.

But the toy of this metaphor is reality, and the squabble is an unfair one because the subconscious can be likened to a much-stronger, much more powerful, more intelligent, older child fighting an ill-equipped, hopelessly ill-matched younger one. In the analogy, the petulant child – the one to whom the toy *doesn't* belong – and, therefore, the one in the wrong, is the conscious awareness.

Specifically, the two are at odds over their *interpretation* of reality, their *interaction* with reality, the *language* they speak, especially in relation to reality, and their innate knowledge of the *purpose* of reality. And, the plain truth of the matter is the subconscious

has it right and the conscious awareness has got things horribly wrong.

All of which begs two very obvious questions, at least in my view. First, what *is* the language of the subconscious – the language of symbolism – and, second, how do we start speaking it consciously?

The Language of Symbolism

The language of symbolism is the very substance of the subconscious, and so the subconscious speaks it extremely well, as those who remember their sleeping dreams will attest to. It is a language that uses images to symbolise deeper meaning, or symbolic meaning, as opposed to actual meaning. That old expression 'a picture can tell a thousand words' applies very aptly to the language of symbolism and the images it employs to communicate. It can, therefore, use a single image to convey profound meaning.

The subconscious employs this language very effectively in our dreams because it can, courtesy of the conscious awareness being switched off or asleep, so using dream imagery is a good way to begin to conceptualise what symbolism is and how it works. Dream language is, to some extent, individualised, but it is also, at the same time, universal, employing images that hold standardised meanings.

So, for example, to dream of a snake does not mean you're going to encounter a snake physically, or actually. Rather, the snake symbolises (transcendent) wisdom and is, in effect, a warning from your subconscious to watch the wisdom of your choices and actions in the days ahead, especially if the snake bites or attacks you in the dream.

The subconscious is not bound by linear time as is the conscious awareness, it being higher dimensional, so it knows what is to come in the days following. More significantly, it knows what is being created.

As another example, to dream of your teeth falling out does not mean your teeth *are* going to fall out in actuality. Teeth are associated with the element of air in dream language, which is itself symbolic of thought and mindset, and to dream they're falling out is your subconscious sending you a warning that you are currently under a dangerous amount of stress which you need to address, and quick smart, too.

Symbolism is the language upon which the Tarot is based, so the Tarot speaks the same language as the subconscious. As such, consciousness works with it beautifully, so much so it can become a point of communication, for those who learn to read it properly, between the subconscious and the conscious awareness that is and can be extremely handy. The Tarot can, therefore, potentially unravel the mystery of the circumstances one finds oneself in, but from the perspective of higher not lower consciousness, which is exactly why it fails to work when read only from the perspective of the conscious awareness, or when it is interpreted using the language of actuality.

So, for example, the appearance of one of the knights in a reading is often misinterpreted as travel when the knights are symbolic of an internal movement or shift. The Knight of Cups, as a case in point, is often misinterpreted as travel across water when it is, in truth, indicative of an internal shift, or movement, in psychic vision or an intuitive

sense or feeling about something or even possibly a dream.

Manipulating the Subconscious Using Symbolism

So easily and effectively does the subconscious *speak* the language of symbolism and *respond* to it that symbolism can be used, again very effectively, to manipulate it, and on a mass scale, too. This is another reason why the bombardment of advertising and marketing imagery is so toxic. The subconscious is being flooded with a barrage of images and symbols that are deliberately manipulating it.

This is also why subliminal advertising – a method of embedding images in advertising and computer games that flash up too quickly for the eyes and, therefore, the conscious awareness to perceive but *are* perceived by the subconscious – works so powerfully. It's a method that implants a message, or a hypnotic suggestion, in the subconscious that, then, controls an individual's conscious thoughts, choices and actions without that individual being consciously aware of it.

The power of symbolism is also the reason why the symbols of corporations, institutions and religions are not just inane and ineffectual motifs. They are symbols that hold real power because the subconscious responds to them. In fact, if you contemplate it, you will notice that you respond far more quickly to a company's logo than you do to the name of that company spelt out in full. This is because your subconscious responds to the logo instantly.

Worse is the fact that the subconscious can be manipulatively programmed to respond to the symbolic logo in a specific way. So a product like Coca Cola, for example, has a logo that the subconscious interprets, as a result of manipulative marketing, as hip or trendy, and as something we really must have if we want to have a good time. There is absolutely no benefit, at any level – physically, psychologically, spiritually – to an individual drinking Coca Cola. Thus is it as bad for you as anything can be, but its logo has wormed its way into the collective human subconscious in such a way that humans have become addicted to it psychologically, not just physically, which was always the intent of the company. Such is the derivation of its name, because cocaine was, in Coca Cola's inception, part of its original recipe. Such, too, was the malevolent intent behind its inception – addicting the masses, and not just for profit.

Is it any wonder, then, these types of drinks are intrinsically linked to diabetes and to specific types of cancers, like pancreatic cancer. But even this is a symbolic link. Cancer is an insidious killer, one that is notoriously difficult to excise from the body, a perfect symbol for just how bad these types of drinks are for humans and for how entrenched they are in today's culture so that they, too, are notoriously difficult to remove from the fabric of modern society.

Opening up Channels of Communication Between the Subconscious and the Conscious Awareness

The Ancient Egyptians understood very well the power of the language of symbolism and its connection with deeper consciousness, and they used that knowledge to perfection in everything they created, from their writing system to the building of their temples and monuments. Obelisks, for example, are symbols of masculine energy and power, which is why they were used to commemorate the reigns and the deeds of specific Pharaohs. In fact, the Pharaohs would erect an obelisk just as soon as they had even a semblance of an excuse for doing so because the association of obelisks with masculine energy and power symbolically communicated the very same thing to the people in relation to the Pharaoh himself, more often than not making the people believe he was something he was not. Or, more specifically, making the people believe he was strong and powerful, whether or not he actually was.

The power of the language of symbolism is also why the Egyptians used symbols in their hieroglyphic writing system. In fact, in using symbols in their writing system, they very successfully opened up channels of communication within consciousness as a whole because the symbols facilitated seamless connection between the subconscious and the conscious awareness.

Can you imagine the effect and the power of the conscious awareness and the subconscious speaking the same language in a day to day context? It was extraordinarily healthy, unlike modern systems of writing. The way humans write and use language in the modern era have the opposite effects because both are designed to speak to the conscious awareness in isolation.

Imagination: the Great Interpreter

There is, however, a way for modern language to be employed in such a way as to speak the language of symbolism, thereby powerfully and beautifully opening up the channels of communication between the subconscious and the conscious awareness, without the conscious awareness even necessarily knowing about it. Analogy, allegory, myth, metaphor and archetype all use images symbolically so that these comprise a beautiful part of the language and are, therefore, a beautiful expression of it.

When myth, metaphor and analogy are used to convey meaning they activate another vital part of consciousness – the imagination. In fact, the imagination is a supremely brilliant interface, or an interpreter, acting as a go-between for the subconscious and the conscious awareness. This is, in truth, one of its vital functions. Is this not perhaps the most important reason for preserving and protecting it?

And then, of course, this vital function can be harnessed back the other way. Meaning, the imagination can be used, proactively, not just to interpret images and messages *from* the subconscious but to send them back *to* the subconscious. This is already being harnessed, very powerfully and effectively, by those of the Darkness – one of the more sinister functions of Hollywood, as people are now beginning to realise.

Using the imagination to communicate *with* the subconscious is the reason why visualisation techniques actually do work, to a certain extent. But the mistake so commonly made in employing these techniques is that of trying to change *reality* when they are, in fact, designed to change *mindset* or *thought*.

Misaligned intent, in other words, and misguided focus. Whether or not visualisations change reality is entirely dependent on any other thoughts that might exist deeply in the

subconscious and on other dynamics like whether or not they are working against the creative Process.

The Supercomputer of the Subconscious

The subconscious can be likened to a supercomputer with a vast, virtually unlimited storage and processing capacity, that's programmed in a uniquely-different and highly-complex language. Rather than having to learn the specifics of that language perfectly and correctly, however, the imagination allows the conscious awareness to beautifully, seamlessly, constantly and, in fact, naturally interact with the subconscious.

And so, courtesy of the beautiful interface of the imagination, an individual very quickly, easily and effectively connects with the meaning of what is being communicated when analogy and metaphor are employed as tools of communication and description because *both* the subconscious *and* the conscious awareness *can* connect with it. With any of the analogies I've referenced – the frog and his boiling water, for example, or the caterpillar and his cocoon – the images are used symbolically, and the subconscious grasps the meaning easily, but so, too, does the conscious awareness grasp it. More significantly, both connect with it in the same way, the way it's meant to be grasped and understood.

In other words, these are things we probably wouldn't normally pay a whole lot of attention to, certainly in the context of mundane reality, but when we use them symbolically in analogies, they convey a deeper, more powerful meaning that we're able to connect with profoundly. Accordingly, the analogy becomes a very powerful tool of communication because it allows all the facets of our consciousness to read from the same page, the same way, making the same interpretation, getting the same message, operating in sync, in harmony, in alignment. This is the inherent power of the language of symbolism when used in metaphor and allegory.

And it is indeed a powerful language, it being the language of consciousness itself, but it is also supremely beautiful, worth working with for that reason alone.

Signs and Synchronicities

When we talk about symbolism in terms of specific images, whether as part of our dream language or as part of an analogy or metaphor, it's not difficult to grasp the concept of it, and of how one image or object can be used to symbolise a deeper meaning. Nor is it difficult to at least begin to understand how the subconscious speaks it and uses it to communicate, especially when we begin to be able to interpret our own dreams.

Specific images, like those used in our dreams, can also be used in our reality symbolically, which, again, is easy to relate to. Many people believe, for example, as I do, that seeing a white feather, especially on the ground near you, is indicative, or symbolic, of angelic, or higher, guidance. These people understand the language of symbolism and they understand that it is used in reality. This is exactly what signs and synchronicities are. The phenomenon of 11:11 is a powerful example of this, being symbolic, as it is, of a Process of mastery.

The Language of Emotion

So what, then, when it is a person or a relationship or a circumstance or a series of events in our reality that holds symbolic meaning? How can these be symbolic, because they can, indeed, be so?

This is where that other powerful language we've been gifted comes in so handy – the language of our emotions. Your emotions will let you know, pretty quickly, too, when something holds symbolic meaning for you. In truth, emotion is, like the imagination, a beautiful interface between the conscious awareness and higher consciousness, designed to aid us, specifically, in our symbolic interpretation of reality. Unfortunately, we use reality to try to generate the good emotions within us, like excitement, and to keep the awful ones, like despondency, at bay.

Is there someone with whom you are entangled who constantly arouses anger or resentment within you? Then, quite simply, that person or that relationship symbolically holds and reflects *your* shadow for *you*. Is there a particular circumstance in your reality that generates anger or jealousy within you – one that seems to occur with frustrating regularity, even if in different guises? Then that circumstance holds symbolic meaning for *you*, or, rather, symbolically reflects *your* fear.

The tricky part in using emotion this way is two-fold. First, it is supremely difficult to force yourself to stop focusing on, and cursing, the person or situation arousing your emotions, to look beyond the physicality of your reality, so that you can become introspective. Second, it is not at all easy to identify what, exactly, *is* being symbolically reflected and expressed. Naming your fear is a lot harder than it seems.

Symbolism as the Language of Reality

The way to conceptualise symbolism as the underlying premise of reality is to think of reality as a piece of fabric, comprising different threads, each with different colours and configurations on them, weaved together to form a pattern, because no matter what is in your reality at any moment, there is always a pattern formed of many threads. It is the pattern, or parts of it, and sometimes even a specific thread, that holds symbolic meaning because, when chaotic emotion is aroused, the pattern symbolically reflects the impurities within you. The pattern of your reality, then, acts like a poultice, drawing those impurities up and out of you so that you can see and resolve them consciously thereby facing the truth of them as they exist within you.

That is, it is the pattern, or a particular part of it, that symbolically reflects and expresses what is deeply buried in the subconscious, those deeply-held thoughts. So, for example, until I resolved it, a specific part of the pattern of my reality that symbolically held my fear of being controlled was the many and varied and different managers I had in my work places many years ago. Each one held a subtly different variation of the same fear, too, and it was up to me to know what each variation was so I could resolve it.

If you prefer another analogy, think of a story line in a stage play or a movie, comprising a whole string of different scenes, all of which are, themselves, a symphony of interweaving threads that symbolically express and reflect your deeply-held thoughts. It

often takes a lot of scenes and a lot of threads to set up the premise of the story line, which, in itself, needs good direction. In terms of reality, this is the genius of how good we are as directors, but we don't just direct, do we? We create the story line, we star in the scenes, we interact with the other characters. We just don't do it consciously.

The Inherent Danger of Literalism

Not creating consciously is *not* the problem, though. The problem is we're not conscious of not being conscious of what we are creating. We're not even aware and knowledgeable of the fact that this is how our reality is working for us. So instead of interpreting the landscapes in our reality *symbolically*, especially when the strongest of our emotions are aroused by these landscapes, we take it all on face value, interpreting it all *literally*, and we respond and react accordingly.

So if someone makes us angry, it's their fault, not ours. Instead of recognising that this person symbolically holds our shadow, especially fear, in the case of anger, and then taking responsibility for this, working out what that shadow actually is and, therefore, how that person is symbolic of it, we lash out. Or, because this person has had the audacity to make us feel the supreme discomfort of our own anger, we punish, justifiably so in our eyes.

I saw an item on the news a few days ago of a man who stabbed his new neighbour to death when he went to confront that neighbour for having a disturbing, noisy party in the early hours of the morning – a rather extreme reaction but one he will pay for, not just in this life, spending the next couple of decades in prison, but beyond this life as well. Before their confrontation, they didn't know each other. Or, rather, they *believed* they didn't know each other because they hadn't actually met in this life. In truth, they were karmically bonded because this is how it works. Now, the karmic bond between them has intensified, become more powerful, when it should have been resolved. And so it would have been if the two of them had known they were symbolic reflections and expressions, each for the other, of fear.

That we hurt each other when we blame in lieu of taking responsibility is only part of the problem. When we hurt others, we hurt ourselves because we lacerate our own higher consciousness. By hurting someone else, we open up a wound in our soul that will come back on us because we incur karmic obligation and imbalance that remains in our consciousness until these are rebalanced and discharged.

The worst part, however, is the fact that, while we have consciously interacted with our reality and interpreted it on face value, the subconscious, which always and only interprets reality and interacts with it symbolically, has also done so with our choices, intents and actions, and *reactions*. So, this man who stabbed his neighbour to death hasn't just incurred the deepest of lacerations to his soul, he has sent a message to his subconscious that he believes the fear it holds is real thereby empowering it *within* him and giving it more power *over* him. Now, when he creates this fear again in the fabric of his reality, as he will, it will be more intense.

In other words, he'll have to dance with this fear again, in this life, but because it will have gained power within him, it will be a more powerful and, therefore, more painful experience. If this action karmically comes back on him in this lifetime, chances are a

similar confrontation, based on a similar dynamic, will occur for him, only this time, it will be him who is stabbed, possibly fatally.

But you have to remember, he has hurt many more people than just the neighbour he killed. He has, for example, hurt that neighbour's family, and his own, and he probably traumatised many of the people at that neighbour's party. Plus, he is now karmically obligated to *help* the soul he *harmed*, the neighbour he killed. These are all consequences he has brought on himself and will now have to create so he can experience every facet of what he has done. All consequences, I might add, that cannot be experienced in just one incident. There is trauma ahead for this man, because of his reaction to one circumstance, and all because he interpreted his reality literally instead of symbolically.

Perhaps now we can begin to see how dangerous human ignorance actually is.

Breaking the Self-Perpetuating Cycles of Fear

To reiterate, the subconscious holds the wounds of shadow, fear, misguided belief and mindset, and karmic obligations and imbalances, and is the filter out of which, or through which, reality is created. But the conscious awareness is subjected to these in reality and, predictably, feels victimised and, often, outraged. So, then, courtesy of its ignorance, it acts *in* fear and *out of* the fear, often lashing out, thereby empowering the fear in the subconscious rather than *disempowering* it. And so, in response, the subconscious causes the fear to be created again in reality and the conscious awareness again acts out of the fear . . . a self-perpetuating cycle of fear that is constantly reinforced.

And humans are locked into these self-perpetuating cycles of fear and shadow, so much so that they take them across whole lifetimes and beyond.

There is a way to break this cycle. Instead of acting out of the fear ignorantly, thereby sending a signal to your subconscious that you fully believe it's real and it has power over you, look beyond the physicality of the circumstance to the symbolic meaning of it. Look the fear full in the face, see it within you and recognise its hold on you thereby sending a signal to your subconscious that you recognise the fear for what it is and you recognise it is in you, but you recognise, too, that it is an illusion because it's all in your mind . . . your deeper mind.

This is how you can, then, bring your conscious awareness back into alignment with those higher aspects of your consciousness, and you will begin to change the fabric of your reality . . .

Jennifer Wherrett

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^{*} Author's Note: I deliberately use capital letters to denote higher-dimensional concepts and to distinguish these from the common, lower-dimensional use and definition of the words.