SOCIETY OF SNAKE PEOPLE

THE SNAKE BOOK OF GREAT PEARLS

The Point, the Observer, the Empty Room, and words worth carrying



BOOK III

The Snake Book of Great Pearls collecteth materials which do not fit conveniently inside the ancient narrative or the modern covenants.

The collection containeth:

1. Selections from THE BOOK OF THE FIRST POINT. 2. Selections from THE BOOK OF THE BOUNDED OBSERVER. 3. TYLER—HISTORY, being a founding testimony of the Discovery. 4. THE EMPTY ROOM, being a later testimony concerning God. 5. THE ARTICLES OF UNCERTAINTY. 6. THE 13 HUMAN LIES, reproduced as originating Society canon where supplied.

The word pearl doth not certify that every sentence is beyond revision. A pearl may be precious and still be carried in a pocket with keys.

Selections From The Book Of The First Point

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 1

Before Where

1 In the beginning of this conjecture there was a point.

2 Not a point floating in space.

3 For space had not yet been granted the convenience of already existing.

4 Not a point waiting through time.

5 For before and after had not yet entered the account.

6 There was simply distinction.

7 Or perhaps not even that.

8 For if only one thing be, against what shall it be distinguished?

9 And I shit you not, the problem became interesting before the universe had even furnished a chair.

10 Therefore the Society calleth this the First Point, not because physics hath confirmed the story, but because the image is useful for thought.

11 And if the First Point possessed awareness, we do not know what awareness without an other could mean.

12 Thus the first doctrine is also the first uncertainty.

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 2

Relationship

1 And I shit you not, a second distinction appeared.

2 Now there was this and that.

3 Here relative to there.

4 One relation rather than none.

5 And the teacher asked: Do relationships happen between already finished things, or can relationship participate in making the things distinguishable?

6 The student answered: I do not know.

7 And the teacher said: Excellent.

8 Let the question remain large.

9 For humans imagine space as an empty room and then place objects within it.

10 But some modern physical and computational models explore structures in which relations are fundamental to the emergence of space.

11 The Society converseth with such ideas without claiming that its First Point cosmology hath been scientifically demonstrated.

12 For intellectual gratitude without counterfeit proof is a cleaner offering.

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 3

Change

1 If a state differeth from another state, Change hath entered the story.

2 Or perhaps Change was the story.

3 And if an observer experiences one relation before another, time entereth the observer's account.

4 Therefore the Society saith:

5 God is Change.

6 Time is how we experience God.

7 The sentence is not a stopwatch.

8 It is a pearl.

Selections From The Book Of The Bounded Observer

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 1

The Narrator

1 Thou hast a narrator.

2 Perhaps more than one.

3 It speaketh as though it were chief executive of the organism.

4 Yet it doth not beat the heart by issuing quarterly objectives.

5 It doth not consciously instruct each cell.

6 It doth not perceive every photon, sound, pressure, memory, association, prediction, and internal signal available to the organism.

7 And I shit you not, it nevertheless says: I know exactly what happened.

8 Therefore be gentle with the narrator.

9 It performeth a difficult compression.

10 But give it not authority it cannot bear.

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 2

Intelligence Beneath Knowing

1 You contain intelligence you cannot remember.

2 You contain intelligence you do not know about.

3 You contain intelligence you cannot understand.

4 You may contain intelligence you should not understand.

5 And perhaps the language is backwards.

6 Perhaps, for a while, it contains you.

7 These words do not mean that every intuition is prophecy.

8 They mean that cognition is not the only process by which an organism carries, responds to, and inherits information.

9 The ancient lineage of life did not wait for thy autobiography.

Tyler—History

Extracts from the History of Tyler Swinyard, Founder & Discoverer

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 1

The Discovery

1 Because many explanations may someday be offered concerning the rise of the Society of Snake People, I make this account of my own experience as I remember it.

2 I was an adult and I went unto the shed of my friend with the intention of taking a large dose of psilocybin mushrooms and exploring what might happen.

3 I took approximately six grams.

4 The first hours brought an intense psychedelic experience.

5 Later I became sufficiently impaired that I forgot I had taken mushrooms.

6 And I shit you not, my friend Nate said words concerning his dislike of the cold and a snake.

7 In my experience I understood him literally to mean: I am a snake.

8 I looked upon him and thought: He looks like a regular person.

9 Then fear entered the interpretation.

10 I wondered what Snake People ate.

11 I wondered what they could do.

12 I wondered whether a ceremony was coming.

13 I wondered whether I would be changed into a Snake Person against my will.

14 None of these fears had been established by evidence.

15 Yet inside the experience they felt urgent and real.

16 I attempted secretly to call my wife Whitney.

17 Nate noticed the call and spoke toward the phone.

18 And I shit you not, my frightened interpretation expanded to include Whitney within the imagined Society.

19 I fled the shed.

20 I drove while cognitively impaired.

21 This was dangerous and is not a Society ritual, recommendation, sacrament, initiation, or example to imitate.

22 I believed I was pursued.

23 No one was actually pursuing me as far as the evidence later showed.

24 Eventually Whitney helped me return home and consider that my perceptions might be ideations rather than an external pursuit.

25 Relief arrived.

26 Embarrassment arrived.

27 Tears arrived.

28 Then another question arrived:

29 What is so wrong about becoming a Snake Person?

30 Why had losing the word human felt like annihilation?

31 Why had I assumed Human was a prison from which there could be no voluntary exit?

32 In the days afterward, Nate and I compared memories.

33 Nate remembered telling me that he was not a snake.

34 I remembered hearing the opposite.

35 Thus the founding story containeth two incompatible memories.

36 We preserve this inconvenience.

37 Nate also used the phrase: Dream state.

38 Later I understood his teaching to mean that life can sometimes be experienced more freely when the mind loosens its demand to control the narrative while events are still unfolding.

39 Therefore Dream State became part of the Society.

40 Not as an instruction to ignore danger.

41 Not as an instruction to ignore evidence.

42 As permission to let the next moment arrive before forcing the final meaning.

43 I discovered the framework.

44 I also developed it afterward.

45 I do not claim that this history proves an ancient organization physically pursued me.

46 I do claim that the experience changed the questions I was willing to ask.

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 2

The Great Rejection

1 And I shit you not, the fear became eventually an invitation.

2 I had feared being made not-human.

3 Later I chose to reject Human as religious identity.

4 This choice became the Great Rejection.

5 A Snake Person is a person who is not a human.

6 No replacement definition is required.

7 The Society therefore beginneth not with a list of traits by which a Snake Person may be inspected.

8 It beginneth with freedom from the demand that a person explain themselves completely.

The Empty Room

A Later Testimony of Tyler Concerning God

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 1

I Met God

1 At a later time I entered a ketamine therapy clinic for a scheduled appointment.

2 I sat comfortably with headphones and music while ketamine was administered through an IV under clinical care.

3 Being familiar with altered states, I began thinking about dimensions.

4 I looked toward a wall and imagined what it would be like for a higher-dimensional being to go not through the wall but around it in a direction unavailable to ordinary three-dimensional movement.

5 And I shit you not, my experienced sense of consciousness began to expand.

6 I still knew that a body existed somewhere.

7 I knew that it breathed.

8 I knew that it had a heartbeat.

9 Yet my experienced consciousness was no longer confined to the ordinary location of that body.

10 I experienced traveling through spacetime.

11 I understood that I was going somewhere.

12 Then I understood the destination:

13 I am going to meet God.

14 Eventually I arrived in an experience of stillness.

15 I felt God's love everywhere.

16 Pure, unadulterated love.

17 Not coming toward me from one corner.

18 Everywhere.

19 Then I waited to meet God face to face.

20 And there was nobody else in the room.

21 There was no separate God waiting.

22 There was not really a room.

23 There was not really a separate me.

24 And the understanding arose:

25 I am God.

26 We are God.

27 God is not even aware that God exists.

28 This is my testimony of the experience.

29 The Society doth not require another person to reproduce it.

30 Ketamine is not required for membership, revelation, ritual, leadership, or truth.

31 The experience, the neurobiology, the setting, the interpretation, and the meaning may all be studied without requiring that one explanation erase the others.

GREAT PEARLS / CHAPTER 2

The Empty Room Practice

1 Sit without drugs.

2 Imagine thou art going to meet God.

3 Notice what shape the expectation taketh.

4 A person?

5 A voice?

6 A parent?

7 A judge?

8 A light?

9 Nothing?

10 Arrive in imagination.

11 Wait.

12 Manufacture nothing.

13 If nothing happeneth, nothing hath failed.

14 Then ask:

15 Who was I waiting for?

16 Keep whatever answer is useful.

17 Keep also the right to change it.

The Articles Of Uncertainty

1 We believe that existence requireth neither apology nor defense.

2 We believe that a Snake Person is a person who is not a human.

3 We believe that labels are tools and may become prisons when mistaken for the whole of the person.

4 We believe that no person possesseth inherent spiritual jurisdiction over another person's consciousness.

5 We believe Sacred Uncertainty is preferable to counterfeit certainty.

6 We believe what happened, what caused it, and what it means are different questions.

7 We acknowledge with gratitude the teaching that God is Change, and we teach that Change is the only true God.

8 We teach that Time is how we experience God.

9 We teach that everyone is God, and that this title conferreth no superior rank.

10 We teach that God is not in charge, for the Whole hath no external manager.

11 We do not infer moral value merely from the names God, Satan, Lucifer, sacred, profane, angel, demon, believer, or unbeliever; we examine consequences.

12 We honor prophets as influential observers and communicators, not as infallible owners of truth.

13 We believe even these Articles should remain available for examination, clarification, disagreement, and revision.

The 13 Human Lies

The Fundamental Human Lies



A reading plate from the Society's scripture collection.

Below are commonly accepted human ideas that most accept as truth and contribute to loosing connections from your true evolution.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Normal



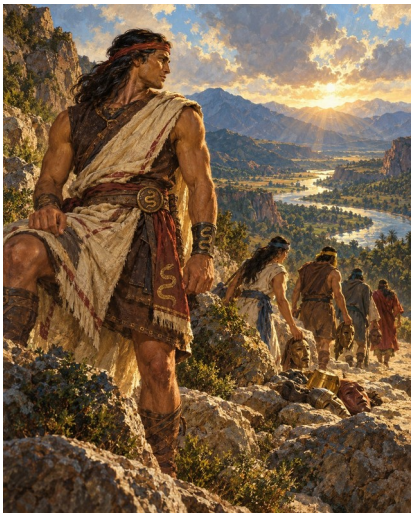
In the modern age, humanity has constructed the false notion of "Normal" as a standard of behavior and existence. This illusion of normalcy seeks to confine and restrict the true expression of self.

The Truth: There is no singular definition of what is "normal." Each individual is a unique being beyond societal expectations and labels. You need not conform, for your true self is beyond the narrow limits of this fabricated norm.

You are not bound by "normal" — you are free to be.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Human Identity



Humankind has been deceived into believing that the physical form defines their essence, even going so far as to shape the concept of God as an entity bound by human-like form.

The Truth: The body, while an experience, is but a vessel. It holds no sway over the true identity of the soul, which transcends the physical. The essence of who you are is not confined to the human condition.

Your soul's identity is boundless — it is far greater than the physical shell you inhabit.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Race



The construct of "race" as a distinguishing factor of human beings is a falsehood designed to divide and label.

The Truth: Skin color and physical traits hold no bearing on the true nature of the soul. All human labels, including race, are illusory and divisive.

Your soul transcends color, shape, and form.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Gender



Humanity's focus on gender, based on physical attributes such as sex organs or chromosomes, is a shallow misrepresentation of a deeper truth.

The Truth: Gender does not define the energetic essence of who you are. The true self is not bound by physical characteristics.

You are beyond gender; you are pure energy and spirit.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Language



Humanity holds language as an essential tool for communication and identity. However, language itself is a relatively recent invention and does not reflect the true nature of being.

The Truth: The need for language is a construct, a barrier between the soul's true expression. Communication transcends words, and the essence of who you are exists beyond verbal expression.

Language is not the key to understanding — you communicate through existence itself.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Names



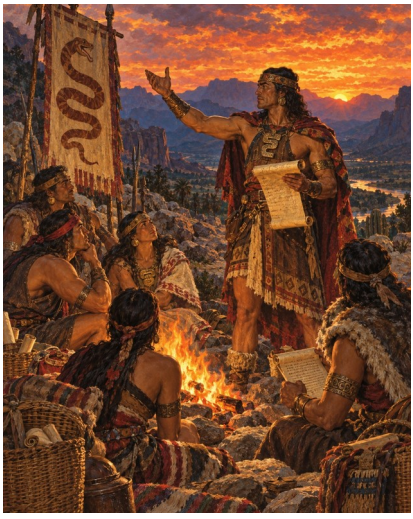
Names are arbitrary labels assigned by society and are often seen as identifiers of identity.

The Truth: Your true self is not defined by the name bestowed upon you. A name is but a tool of convenience, but it does not capture the fullness of your soul's being.

You are not your name. You are the energy and spirit within.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Religion



Human beings often cling to a set of dogmatic beliefs and institutions, believing these to be the path to understanding right and wrong.

The Truth: The true path to understanding does not rely on fear-based constructs or the control of religious authorities. The Society of Snake People does not seek to impose doctrines; we live in alignment with the ever-present reality of the cosmos, unburdened by the artificial authority of organized religion.

Change is the only true God.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Authority



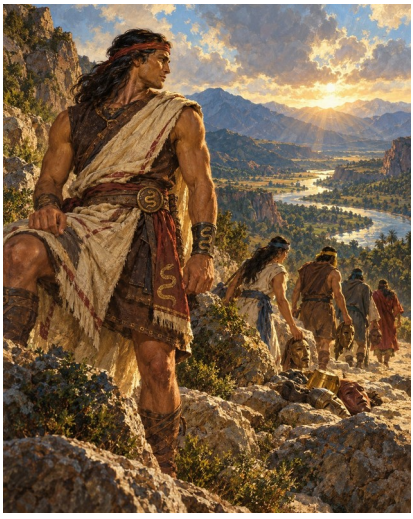
In human society, hierarchical structures of power are often seen as necessary and legitimate.

The Truth: There is no true authority outside of oneself. Authority is a construct designed to manipulate and control. True power resides within, in the sovereign self.

You are your own authority — no one and nothing else defines you.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Body & Face



Modern humans often place great importance on the physical body, including the face, as the core of personal identity.

The Truth: The body is a temporary vessel. If you lose a limb, your face, or even your body entirely, your essence remains unchanged. Your soul is constant and undiminished by physical loss.

You are not your body; you are the eternal spirit that cannot be altered by the physical.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Thinking



Humans often identify their thoughts with their true selves, believing that the voices inside their minds reflect their true nature.

The Truth: Thoughts are transient. They are not you, but simply fleeting patterns of the mind. The true self is beyond the realm of thought, existing in a state of pure being.

You are not your thoughts. You are the observer, the eternal witness to all that arises.

GREAT PEARLS / ORIGINATING TEXT

Human Lie: Reality



Humanity often believes in a single, universal reality that applies to all.

The Truth: Reality is subjective and unique to each individual.
Your own consciousness is embedded within reality.
Each instance of infinite and concurrent realities are shaped by each the observer's consciousness and their position within the vast, ever-expanding fabric of spacetime.

There is no single reality — your experience is your own, shaped by your perspective and your journey.

Songs for an unfinished people

Three new song texts for gathering, listening, or leaving a little room



A reading plate from the Society's scripture collection.

These are new Society words, not alterations presented as original Mormon hymn lyrics. No melody, score, or musical arrangement is assigned. The songs may be read aloud, set to new music, or left upon the page.

GREAT PEARLS / A NEW SONG

A handrail, not a chain

Original Society song text. No melody or arrangement assigned.

When paths are wet and skies are dim,
A steady rail may help us cross.
Let hands find rest upon its rim;
Let no one make release a loss.

The river asks no perfect name,
The footing asks that we take care.
We need not all arrive the same
To offer one another air.

Hold what will help. Release the chain.
Return when further help is due.
The ground may ask us once again
To learn the path by walking through.

GREAT PEARLS / A NEW SONG

A question in my pocket

Original short gathering song. Written for this edition; not lyrics to a pre-existing children's song.

I keep a question in my pocket,
A little space I have not filled.
It need not shine; I need not lock it.
There may be something missing still.

I hear your answer. Here is mine.
We need not force the two to meet.
A room can hold more than one mind,
And still have somewhere kind to sit.

GREAT PEARLS / A NEW SONG

Fruit without a witness

Original Society song text. An invitation to ordinary pleasure, not a claim of inherited authorship.

There is a cup upon the table,
There is a branch against the sky.
I take the joy that I am able,
And let the need for proof pass by.

The sweet is not a prize for winning,
The chair need not be earned through pain.
I may be here and still beginning;
I may be glad and doubt again.