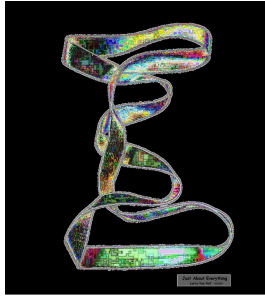


“Have I done good? Are we there yet?”

Of age and into livelihood, to score we try
The goals so high and failures piling to the sky
Yet medals on mantelpiece, successes treasured
Life tests and projects duly measured
Retiring seemed a fairly simple chore
Remove the soul from rat-race grind
So hard the task to calm a churning mind
The pesky thing begins to churn once more
To dignify past deeds long done in history dead
Still the mind is counting medals it once wore
Anticipating what else lies ahead
Our past a lengthy lesson learning how to fly
Retirement age, our wings still good, we try LVP, 2010



A tribute to the work of Douglas Hofstadter

Maverick Thoughts On Humanness

Items marked *** are in my **little books collection**. Written in later life, they benefit from years thinking about a life's work—fermented, condensed, clear and delightful. I would take them with me to that fabled desert isle. They contain **threads of commonality** among maverick minds. They contain hard questions.

Selected Threads of the Loopy Human Mind

Barfield¹

It is time to re-examine the **Barfield** message in light of the other works listed here. TBA.

Bohm²

Bohm believed that we are becoming ever more incoherent, endangering humanity's survival. But we can train ourselves to suspend and examine our flaws together. In the bibliography, the names **Owen Barfield** and **Michael Polanyi** appear. I looked there after finding the word 'tacit' in the preface to this Routledge edition. The Polanyi book is one of those books that I'll add to my 'little' collection.

Bohm & Peat³

Science, Order and Creativity is a collaboration on the subject of creativity and how humanity stalls its own development/evolution by allowing theories to become rigid and inflexible.

Campbell⁴

An worldwide study of myths looking for common properties due to common mental and psychological capabilities among humans—albeit modified by locale and linguistic convention. Example: the cross-cultural hero's journey.

Combs^{5 6}

A consciousness scholar with an exceptional and readable grasp of the subject.

Edelman⁷

Images of mental processing that are individually unique.

Frazer⁸

TBA

Gebser⁹

Historical human development through stages of human consciousness, self-awareness and perspective.

Gilmore¹⁰

Patterns of mental development in older adults during retirement—a personal journey.

Hofstadter¹¹

Mentality as a loop process.

Jaynes^{12 13}

Mentality as a natural progression that reached a major turning-point some 3000-4000 years ago.

Kauffman¹⁴

The cosmos as a developmental system with a built-in self-ordering property that produces continually increasing complexity. In my opinion the human mind operates in the same fashion as the cosmos it inhabits—a fashion that is never fixed but changes from each instant to the next. It would be awful if humans were doomed to endlessly repeat the same state of being. Yet that is what we pretend when we try to be just like everyone else. This is the myth of Sisyphus, perhaps the greatest, most enduring, myth of all. The people in this list are significant observers of human change. They debunk old Sisyphus. Lee :-)

Polanyi¹⁵

Towards a Post-critical Philosophy where knowledge is personal, partly describable—able to be stated—and partly, i. e. mostly, unspeakable.

- 1 Barfield, Owen, *Saving The Appearances*. Wesleyan University Press, 1988. ***
- 2 Bohm, David, *On Dialogue*. Routledge, 1996. ***
- 3 Bohm, David and Peat, David, *Science, Order and Creativity*. Routledge, 2011. ***
- 4 Campbell, Joseph, *The Inner Reaches of Outer Space*. Joseph Campbell Foundation, 2002. ***
- 5 Combs, Allan, *The Radiance of Being*. Paragon House, 1995.
- 6 Combs, Allan, *Conscious Explained Better*. Paragon House, 2009.
- 7 Edelman, Gerald, *Second Nature*. Yale University Press, 2006. ***
- 8 Frazer, James, *The Golden Bough*. Random House, 1981.
- 9 Gebser, Jean, *The Ever-Present Origin*. Trans. Barstad and Mickunas, Ohio University Press, 1985.
- 10 Gilmore, Jon Barnard, *On Retirements*. BPS Books, 2010. ***
- 11 Hofstadter, Douglas, *I Am a Strange Loop*. Basic Books, 2007.
- 12 Jaynes, Julian, *The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind*. University of Toronto Press, 1976.
Internet Document: <http://www.julianjaynes.org/bicameralmind.php>
- 13 Jaynes, Julian, *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*. Ed. Marcel Kuijsten et al., Julian Jaynes Society, 2007.
Internet Document: http://www.julianjaynes.org/pdf/jaynes_consciousness-voices-mind.pdf
- 14 Kauffman, Stewart, *At Home In The Universe*. Oxford University Press, 1995. ***
- 15 Polanyi, Michael, *Personal Knowledge*. Harper Torch, 1962.
Internet Document: <http://www.infed.org/thinkers/polanyi.htm>