

Chapter 1

Inspiration

(From a talk by Harry Palmer at the Grand Hotel in Gardone Riviera, Italy, on April 19, 1997.)

Something is reasonable as long as it fits with the way you structure your consciousness. This is very important. This is the most important thing I am going to say tonight. *Something is reasonable as long as it fits with the way you structure your consciousness.*

This is a principle that is explored in depth on the Wizard Course.

Consciousness is structured by the assumptions you make, by the beliefs you accept without question, and by the decisions you make.

The same idea may seem reasonable to one person, or it may seem unreasonable to another person. It depends on how it fits into the structure of the consciousness that views it. You could call this structure of assumptions, beliefs, and decisions a mind.

Some people look at an idea and say, “Oh, that’s very reasonable.” Why? Because it fits into the structure of consciousness they think with.

Other people look at the same idea and say, “That’s completely crazy.” Why? Because it does not fit into the structure of consciousness that they think with.

But it is the same idea.



Inspiring is awakening a viewpoint that realizes that something that seemed impossible can actually be done. —H



When you change the structure of consciousness, which is exactly what you are doing when you create a primary or discreate a belief or impression, the question of whether an idea is reasonable or unreasonable may change.

Trainers see this all the time. Someone comes to do the Master Course and within the structure of consciousness they come with, it seems unreasonable to them that they will ever deliver Avatar. Or maybe it seems unreasonable to them that they will ever do the Wizard Course. Or maybe it seems unreasonable to them that they are participating in the creation of an enlightened planetary civilization. Then they do the Master Course, and suddenly these ideas do not seem quite so unreasonable.

Someone does Avatar with you, and they start the course with some limitation that to them is entirely reasonable. "Oh, I can't do that. I can't make myself happy." And what happens? After the course, the same limitation that they had when they began now seems entirely unreasonable. Have you seen this? There has been a change of mind.

Maybe you are asking yourself, "Is there something that I consider beyond my ability that in fact is reasonably within my ability?" Well is there? What you think of as an impossible dream might be reasonable if you thought differently.

Let's look at this idea of creating an enlightened planetary civilization.

Did you know that some of the cathedrals in this country took over eight centuries to build? Eight-hundred years!

Some creations take a long time. They take even longer if you count the years that people dreamed about building a cathedral but still thought it was an impossible idea. How many years did they

spend going, "Well, someday..."

Some creations take longer than they need to because people become discouraged at how long they are taking and give up on them. "Eight-hundred years to finish this cathedral? Oh, forget it."

That kind of discouragement can infect a whole generation. No one sets any bricks for years. The idea of the cathedral that had begun as a reasonable possibility is now considered an impossible dream. Consciousness has been changed by the currents of life.

But encouragement is also infectious. The Italian Renaissance was a period of infectious encouragement.

One day someone comes along, and the idea of completing the cathedral is raised again. Maybe the person who comes along is a dreamer or a visionary. Maybe they are following a hidden agenda to sell something else to the workers. Anyway, they have some gift of persuasion, and the work begins again. What is a twenty-year delay in a project that takes eight centuries?

So the idea is embraced by a few others, and the work begins again. Slowly at first. Maybe these people are dreamers or visionaries, or maybe they have hidden agendas. But the work begins. Maybe it's only a little work. Maybe just a few bricks are moved, and a plan is agreed upon. Maybe the only commitment is to gather on Sundays and pass some time working together. Share a picnic and enjoy the sun.

But with every stone that is placed, with every bucket of mortar, the possibility of actually creating a cathedral starts to become more real. People believe in it. This belief restructures consciousness. A crazy idea becomes a reasonable project again.





Talented workers begin to appear. Architects and masons, artists and engineers. People are committed to the idea. Maybe before they were committed only to having a good time, but suddenly the structure of the consciousness they are looking through shifts. Instead of occupying idle time, the idea of purpose is born. *Our purpose is to build a cathedral.*

As the cathedral begins to take shape, there are fewer doubters. There is less room for doubt. One day it even becomes unreasonable to doubt. Doubting becomes an indication of selfish misalignment.

Maybe it is discovered that one of the doubters stole some bricks or a beam from the cathedral and used it to build his own house. Maybe the theft isn't discovered until after the doubter is dead and gone. When it is discovered by a future generation—someone finds the altar stone of the cathedral over the doubter's fireplace—the doubter's memory is tarnished forever. Forever! There is no possibility of redemption. The doubter's reputation is ruined. They were doubting for their own selfish ends, and now everyone knows it.

This is horrible, but it does happen. Time reveals the truth. Maybe you don't think it is important how you are remembered by others. But **you** remember. It is a secret that separates you from the unity of life. A secret that separates you from your own enlightenment.

There are a few people who steal Avatar and use it for their own selfish ends—maybe to make a few bucks or to get someone to go to bed with them. If you talk to them, they will say, "You can't create an enlightened planetary civilization. It's not possible." Their dishonesty makes them doubters.

They hope it is not possible, because they have been stealing the bricks that were supposed to build the altar. Do you know what I am talking about?

They may not be found out in their lifetime, but eventually one of their students will come to you and understand that the purpose of Avatar is to build an enlightened planetary civilization. In that moment they will see that the person who sold them an altered version of Avatar was really nothing more than a selfish thief.

And the person who stole Avatar, the one whose dishonesty wouldn't allow them to align with the rest of us to create an enlightened planetary civilization, is exposed. Yes, it has happened. The person's reputation is tarnished forever. Forever. That is so much worse than having to review the Master Course or do a walk for atonement that there is no comparison. This is not a good vibration, so I won't talk about it anymore.

I'll tell you a story. There are three stonecutters, and they are all cutting stones. The first stonecutter is asked, "What are you doing?"

He answers angrily, "I'm cutting stones as any idiot can see."

He is angry, because every day is the same. He gets up and cuts stones. His life has no purpose that he can see, and he is unhappy.

The second stonecutter is asked, "What are you doing?" He is irritable. "I am cutting stones so I can raise a family and afford a nice house." He will die an unhappy, selfish man in a nice house. He has served only himself.

The third stonecutter is asked, "And what are you doing?"





He is happy. "I am cutting the stones for a great cathedral that will give comfort to thousands of people." His life has purpose, and the purpose feeds him and feeds his family and makes him feel good.

The Goal of Life

An enlightened civilization is an idea that life has been working toward since the first creature appeared on this planet.

If you fired an arrow, stopped it in its flight, and sighted along the arrow, you would see where it was going. If you stop life in flight and sight along it, you will see that it is headed toward an enlightened planetary civilization. It is like building a great cathedral, only it will comfort everyone.


In 1987 chance favored a prepared mind, and the route to enlightenment was developed into a path that all could travel easily. Previous routes to enlightenment were traveled with great suffering and sacrifice. By comparison, Avatar is easy.

There were many elements that had to be addressed before the real purpose of the technology of Avatar would be seen as creating an enlightened planetary civilization. There were many decisions to be made. A way had to be found to keep the workers fed. Skills had to be learned.

Companions and helpers had to be found. Some contributed for a few weeks or months and grew discouraged at the size of the job, but a few stayed. A few noticed that just living to collect stuff was not really satisfying. They needed a purpose.

Pretty soon there were Avatars, there were Masters, and there were Wizards. And there were Star's Edge Trainers.

Creating an enlightened planetary civilization is no longer an impossible dream.

Eventually every individual must decide where he or she stands in relation to this idea of an enlightened planetary civilization. Is it reasonable to you? Tonight, new Masters, it is your time to decide. 



How Do You Define Success?

If your goal is to be a multimillionaire living behind security fences, driving overpriced automobiles and spending hours with brokers, accountants, and lawyers, think twice about becoming a full-time Avatar Master. This is not an “Earn \$10,000 a month in your spare time” deal. Only a few Masters ever earn that kind of money.

But, if you are not motivated to collect a lot of stuff or generate a lot of envy in people you don’t really like, and you do enjoy living simply, meeting interesting people, and learning more about life, then by all means commit to being an Avatar Master.

A commitment should be the result of a rational process rather than an emotional process. Emotional commitments, whether driven by fear or desire, are very risky to your future integrity and honor.

The real profit from delivering Avatar goes beyond money. You leave behind you smarter, happier people. You become a smarter, happier person. Whatever your struggle or suffering, you know there is a payoff. You are working to protect an entire planetary civilization against future outbreaks of man’s most deadly disease—ignorance.

Commitment

Contributing to the creation of an enlightened planetary civilization can take many forms. It does not necessarily mean that you quit your job and become a self-employed Avatar Master. That is only one option. Maybe you can do the most good by continuing what you are doing and using your influence to steer people toward greater care and tolerance. Maybe you can follow your profitable profession and deliver to an occasional student in your spare time or at a co-delivery with other Masters. Maybe you can partially or completely convert services you already deliver to Avatar courses. Maybe you can scale back working for others and transition into marketing and delivering Avatar with partners. Maybe you can affect legislation, media, or public opinion toward a more favorable environment for the planetary expansion of Avatar. Maybe you can add a little adventure to your retirement or spend your vacation doing something more productive than nursing a sunburn.

What are your options? They are discovered by using a combination of personal experiences, imagination, and reason. Rate your options by the same criteria you rated your goals in the beginning of the Master Course.

Exploring options is usually a 24- to 48-hour process. The advice to sleep on a proposal before you make a commitment is good advice. But finally, pick a direction or a plan of action and commit to it. Your commitment has power. It's a stable point in a chaotic world. It's a foundation for inspiring friendships. It is the power of your commitment that will determine your success or failure in any endeavor.

Here is a story that motivational speakers like to tell. Three frogs are sitting on a lily pad, and two

decide to jump off. How many frogs are left on the lily pad? Someone in the audience always calls out, "One."

"No," the speaker says, "there are still three. Two of them decided, but they didn't commit any effort to acting!"

Commitment is backing up your primary with action. Undertake something.

*Even if you
are on the
right track,
you'll get run
over if you
just sit there.
—Will Rogers*