

‘When karma is exhausted the body packs up and goes.’

June 3, 1995 At Glen Lodge with Swamiji

*Sri Lakshmi and Jai Narain had been asked to a meal at Glen Lodge, where Gayatri was looking after Swamiji. Satchidananda was also there. A decommissioned mobile home Glen, Lodge was more of a cabin than a house. It was even more austere than Kedarnath, and Swamiji was far from well, yet he made us all so welcome there, continuing his lifelong, tireless hospitality.*

‘There used to be a chapel here,’ he told us. ‘This is consecrated land – a bit of a mystery. This is an extension, it finished in here. Some cars come to turn here. They don’t see this house, or they think it’s a little shed. It’s very hidden for a retreat. Gopal Christ<sup>1</sup> liked everything - it’s compactness, it’s privacy – you feel it is personal. Everything here is on one floor, it’s ideal for me, for my health.

‘The young ones need attention. They are growing up, the world is in their hands. Different people have different ways of living their lives, whatever these are, but for the mass there is Sai Baba. He has a mission, he has come, he has a responsibility, he has a dharma. He takes pride and joy in his work to rejuvenate what has gone back to the jungle. But here we are just a handful. First, myself, I have to know what I am doing. You can’t pretend and just by book-reading become a guru. Then the library is full of gurus – go and worship the library. Yes, God is in the scripture, no doubt, but theory and practice are again two different things. Theory is limited to what you know. Practice is quite beyond, beyond. Practice is a variety, not monotonous. Ramakrishna’s life was not learned but is not monotonous at all.

‘Everyone has a mission. When karma is exhausted a man packs up. For some people he gives a warning, but some don’t get that warning - death comes and attacks straightaway. The lucky ones have some preparation, a little warning, a little sign: “Get ready, I am coming.” So he has been coming many times, and we break free. No binding, no bondage, I am free! When death comes, defeat death. Death has to come in the form of peace, says, “I come to make peace.”

‘The book of life is registered, so now what happens? Karma. Nothing is permanent. Yogananda tried five times to postpone his death. He succeeded, but then at the end he packed up. Everyone has a different mission. Yogananda had a cross, you know. Babaji speaks of Jesus Christ as a great avatar, he took Jesus Christ as the guru. Ramakrishna realised Jesus Christ, I mean the same Jesus unmanifest, unknown. Jesus known and unknown, Hariakan Baba known and unknown, Sai Baba known and unknown, Ramakrishna known and unknown. It takes a light to recognise a light. It takes a master to recognise a master’s work, otherwise in a cyclone all trees look the same. The world is passing through a cyclone in this Kali Age.

‘So everyone has a mission, our mission was to love the Mother, main one at the top – it’s not a bad thought, you know. The Mother showed so much concern [to us], even to renounce the world in the prime of life in England, the renunciation was in 1963 – everything was renounced, and that was long before Quintessence had started. Our mission is personal. God alone knows the devotee and the devotee alone knows God. Sarada Devi says God is a mystery.

‘God Himself didn’t come to tell Virgin Mary, He sent his angel who said: “Hail Mary full of grace, blessed art thou among all women.” Then he asked her permission: “Are you willing?” And she said, “Yes, Thy will be done.” God didn’t come himself, He sent his son. And Jesus said, “He who has seen the son has seen the Father. The Father and I are one.” So different people have a different mission and different recognition. It is nice, it is awakened, but how is science going to prove all this? We can’t do without science but also science can’t explain everything. Someone wanted to take Lahiri’s

---

<sup>1</sup> A leading devotee and provider.

photograph, he took twelve snaps in case one didn't work, and in all twelve everybody appeared except Lahiri. When it was developed they say, "Where are you?" and he says "Can you take the photo of the Absolute? Ask permission, then if I want to appear you can see me." These are little incidents, it's not to show you I can do this, I can do that. This comes with their life from childhood, from birth, from pre-birth. They tell you, "I am coming, be prepared." The harbinger says there's one coming who I'm not even worthy to do his laces.

'This is the time of the Holy Spirit [Whitsun], manifest and unmanifest, private or official, it is recognized calendar in heaven. God renews his calendar and says, "Don't live in the past but sing my past glories." Do you understand? It will save you – Ramayana, Bhagavad-Gita and all this – read, read, and read also all this Life of Jesus.<sup>2</sup> The Virgin says, go and read the Bible over and over until it makes sense to you. All this is the past – the past, the present is life for them. They came and gave their life. It's no nonsense. You must have these things manifesting in your gross life, otherwise we are too dented, and our spirituality also gets dented and we lose faith. These incidents are very important, they are reminders, they are memorandum.

'Suffering is a boon, Sarada Devi says. But also even in bliss I have not thought of Thee. O Forgive my Transgression, Lord Shiva. In bliss you are taken over, and there are many kinds of bliss. You have to have super consciousness, super, triple Narayan – or dual. In super consciousness you have to develop dual consciousness or triple consciousness. Arise, awake and beware, and look at the body and say, "Ugh! Is that the body? I don't want to come back." You have to try, you see, I did a lot of that myself. When I go out of my body I try to open my eyes and look. At first I can't do anything, but I did it in my different body – open and talk and reason and go back to you and say, "You know, I had this in a dream." You meet another person and relate that experience so as not to miss but carry on and really engage. Spirituality is not lost. But if you don't eat strawberries how can you belch strawberries?

'Sickness is a monitoring time. A devotee is monitored continuously every second by angels, by guardian angels, by God himself. Before a thought even occurs He stops it. God is so forbearing until He's had enough. Maybe He lets you do it and do it and do it, but maybe now you've gone over the limit, it's spilling – 100,000 times you have exaggerated, and now you've got 100,001 – now it's enough. You see how much He is bothered with us, but if anything goes wrong you blame Him. That's not fair, is it? Therefore there are a lot of things to learn and to know. If you are dedicated, first you have to breathe and live and eat. Some people who are full after a meal are so surprised when after they have finished I am still eating again and again and again. Someone wanted to feed the Holy Mother as Ananda Mai, and Holy Mother ate almost the whole kitchen.

'Divinity is hidden, divinity is private, divinity is personal, a museum art for a personal devotee where there is no entry, only guardian angel. Only angels guard the door of "That thou art" in the heart where the object is most precious. "*Cherish my precious Mother Syama tenderly within, O mind, let no one else intrude. May you and I alone behold.*"<sup>3</sup> Dive deep, go seek in the - . All this is full, full, the words and God are equivalent. But people lose patience in the practice of their spiritual lives, they turn away. "Oh I have tried 25 years, 25 lives even" - many births, and one or two to come! But you are lucky if you get anything, if your heart doesn't stop. And if your heart stops, that's it, you are finished, unless you are a terrific superconscious yogi who can stop your heart at will, which we also have done. But if a disease comes, it's karma, and when karma is exhausted the body packs up and goes. ...'

※

---

<sup>2</sup> *Poem of the Man-God* (five volumes) by Maria Valtorta.

<sup>3</sup> GSR song.