

MELTING INTO THE BELOVED

Roopa: You may recognize these flowers, they grow [inaudible] this week.

GR: Oh, thank you very much. This is very beautiful.

Roopa: Everybody wanted to have our own [gurupurnima?] so we put together [inaudible], a garland and so from all of us who are here with you we so much appreciate...

GR: Thank you very much, thank you. That's a very kind gesture which has been practiced for thousands of years. And seeing it come alive in America is a great joy to me. Thank you.

Roopa: Guruji, you heard Chetan's poem in Canada, but all of these people haven't heard it. We thought it would be nice if Vidya could read it.

GR: That would be nice, yes, yes.

[Vidya reads the poem about [Gurupurnima?]]

GR: Very good. Chetan is a very, very devoted person and he's going through some very, very wonderful experiences. He phoned me from Canada at Vidya's home just to tell me of the experience he had that morning. The experience of entering into the black hole. Totally vivid. He can only emerge from there into enlightenment. He's a great soul. Yes. Good. What shall we speak about tonight?

Q: When I look into my beloved's eyes, for that moment I melt away into him; but when he is away from me, I remember him temporarily and the moments of melting are forgotten. Why?

GR: When looking into your beloved's eyes and melting away, what portion of you is melting away? Is it melting away because of a mental attraction, or is it melting away because of a physical attraction? You might be so physically attracted to another person that you feel as if you've merged with that person. But then that would be your perception, and

it might not be real mergence at all. The very idea of it fading away would prove or tend to prove that that person has not experienced the totality of love, has experienced partial love, or else it would not fade away. But there's no hope to be lost because with further, greater development or unfoldment, rather, the person will merge away so, so totally in the beloved that that feeling and that melting will never fade away. It will ever be there. And that is the ideal, that is the goal. And if you can have that feeling of mergence even in absence of the beloved, and that feeling is sustained, remember you have merged into God. Before then, that sustained feeling of mergence is mergence with God, and your beloved symbolizes divinity. If you love me, who are you really loving? Are you loving the physical me? Or are you loving the mental me? No, you're not. For the very expression of love is the expression of God, so you are loving God first even before you see me. And that is why we say, God is love and Love is God. The personal God, we're talking about. So whenever you love someone, always remember this, that you're loving God first and then you're loving God as a symbolic object in the person, a symbol of God. That is what loving is all about. The reason why this intense feeling fades away is because, to repeat again, not the totality of love. There could be great physical and mental love, there could be a great feeling and emotion there, but not the totality of spirit. So, therefore, I say always, and I've said this many times before, that you've got to be totally integrated mind, body, and spirit to really experience what love is all about. The experience of the common man about love is very it's partial. It's partial. It's not complete. It is incomplete. So we are forever striving for that completion. My wife, I love her very much. But yet when I'm away from her, which is 7, 8 months a year, the love is not less. At this very moment, this very moment, I can look into my palm and tell you exactly what she is doing. It's a siddhi, although I don't encourage anyone. It's a siddhi. I know what she's doing. I know she's happy or unhappy. If I find her to be a bit unhappy, I'd be sending thoughts to her to make her happy because I love her. But, here is another question that can be posed. What would it be if a man or a woman loved two people? What would it be? Say a woman loves me, for example, and also loves someone else. What are the mechanics in the woman that make her do that? Both men are good looking. Both men are brilliant. Both men are gentle and kind. What is the chemistry in the woman that would make her love two people simultaneously and just as intensely? Now this, according to moralists, would not be approved, because moralists talk of one pointedness, which is true, but how do you interpret one pointedness? I am not a moralist. I believe in purity and sincerity and honesty. That woman that loves two men just as intensely is because she, through her own mental chemistry, has superimposed the one upon the other and regards the two to be one. That too is one pointedness.

So, the point is this, you start loving one, then you start loving more and more and more and more until you love the entire universe with equal intensity. There's no lusts and things involved I'm not talking from that angle at all a pure love which is sincere and totally honest. There's nothing wrong with it. Because you're loving God. You're not loving the

person. The person's only a symbol. You're loving God by God. In other words, divinity expresses itself in a practical, divine form. And yet love, the greatest thing in the world, is so intangible to most people. But it is very tangible. It is very tangible. You can see it around you. And that tangibility does not require you to embrace your beloved or whatever the things people do to feel the tangibility of her body or his body. You can have that love with such great intensity and feel it tangible although your beloved may be thousands of miles away. But that is a stage a person has to reach to, a person has to reach to.

Mataji was telling me a little story where she was initiating about 6 people in the prep technique. So she'll normally leave for awhile and leave the people alone. So Mataji, of course, went into another room and meditated there. When she came back, they asked her, "Did you come back into the room? You were here, were you not?" Mataji says, "No, I wasn't here. I never came into the room at all." What happened there? What happened there? Those people that were learning to meditate, even the prep practice, were taken to a certain level of rest, a certain level of mental quietude, where they got a glimpse of the superconscious level of their minds. And because of this glimpse they felt me to be present there. Although I'm not conscious of it. And the reason I'm not conscious of it is because the superconscious level of the mind encompasses the entire universe. But their focus was directed to a certain point so they drew from the well. You see, the point is this, that man can reach to a stage, these were just glimpses, but man can reach to the stage of total, permanent experience of this oneness even if the beloved is away. It should not fade away, the feeling must be just as intense.

Now we use the word feeling and emotion. Melting away in your beloved is combined, is just another way of talking of your feelings and your emotions. But what if these feeling and emotions are empowered with that superconscious level of the mind, that finest relative level and if you can with that encompass the entire universe, which is billions and billions and billions of miles big and still ever expanding, then how easy it is to be in communion through feeling and emotion with your beloved. There is no time and no space at all.

There's one meditator here in America whom I'm putting through certain practices that any time you need me or want to see me, do this particular practice and you'll find me materializing there. She's of a high level of spirituality, spiritual development, and if this person, if she does this twice a day for say, 6 months, she will achieve it. Because she will be drawing upon the superconscious level of my mind and picturing my physical self. She will materialize me which is a possibility.

How many times don't I lay in bed and speak to my beloved. She's there. I tell her about the day, how the day went, what I ate, what I did, what I did not do. I tell her. Perhaps she might not catch it, but I have materialized her. And this you'll find in The Autobiography of a Yogi I haven't read it the last I read, it was 15 years ago. There, too, something like

that is described where you physically materialize and what materializes me to be there in your room is you. You are drawing upon the subconscious level of your mind, and knowing my form, all the pictures you're making alive there. You know, there was this man I met I think I told this story before somewhere in California where the Yogananda has a little shrine there and this man was from Switzerland he was a Swiss. They close at 5:00 normally, but when the people that went with me told him who I was, he invited us in and showed us around. There's a little lake and the shrine and temple. It's on Sunset Boulevard, in California, Los Angeles, and we were talking a very wise man and he was telling us a story of one chela that went to a guru and tells this guru, "My own guru is dead so would you accept me?" So this guru replies being a true guru this guru replies, "Your guru is alive, but you are dead." So you can be close to your beloved at will, but it requires that degree of integration to do that, to develop that total togetherness where two just gather into oneness.

Let us take the example of Ramakrishna, one of the greatest saints that lived at the turn of the century. His ideal of worship was Mother Kali, the goddess Kali. And the stone statue, he used to bring it alive and he used to sit and talk with Mother Kali, converse with her, laugh with her, cry at her feet for guidance. These things are real: these things are real. There was a time when Vivekenanda, his main disciple, asked Ramakrishna a question and Ramakrishna said, "Go ask Mother Kali." Vivekenanda went into the temple and sat there at the statue and the statue became alive, became alive and [he] talked with Mother Kali.

So the point is, it is not the object of your love but you yourself, and if you find you can melt away in my eyes now in my presence, and if you find that when I'm not around it fades away or diminishes, then know for sure that it is your weakness and not the weakness of the object. But this would happen; this would happen. How many people are totally integrated, so this would happen.

Now, what do we do to remedy the situation? Of course we do our spiritual practices that takes us gradually to greater and greater integration and the cognition of the integration; but another quality is necessary there. And that, that if in the presence you feel a total melting away, that love, that devotion, back it up with a yearning. So you are not with your beloved 24 hours of the day he goes to work; he has his work to do or you have your work to do and you feel and you have this emotion. But with that you must also develop yearning, and if you develop that yearning for the beloved, it will sustain you if he is not around. The yearning will sustain you.

So the mind, although being a cunning animal, can be used very wisely and for good purposes. After all, this entire creation that we call creation, manifestation, what is it? It's mind, nothing but mind. To people, mind seems intangible, like the fragrance of this beautiful flower. You smell it but you can't grasp the fragrance. You experience it. And these are experiences of a very high level. And as you progress on, you will find that these experiences become tangible. Then

when Mataji told me the story, she also told me a story of a person that had just at least I heard of it from someone that Mataji told it to. You see how important the efficiency and sincerity of a teacher is. If a teacher is sincere in the teaching, it has a far deeper effect upon the pupil. So this story I heard where Mataji initiated, or perhaps it was Merrill, I don't know, initiated one person, and this person, a day or two or whenever later, phones and says, "Do you know, I was looking out of the kitchen window, and Guruji was sitting there in the garden. And then after awhile, Guruji faded away." And such experiences keep on occurring all the time, all the time.

For example, one that comes to mind it comes to mind to me because I am very fond of Marjorie, Marjorie Chambers she's an elderly woman, you should remember her. She has a little room where there's one little bed there and she has a table with a symbol where she does initiations. And she has the little bed there perhaps as a guest room, or she has no other place to put it, whatever the case might be. She was initiating someone and she says, "Guruji, you walked into the room while I was initiating this person." Now for Marjorie, I mean, being a meditator and a teacher for such a long time, it would be quite natural for her to have such an experience. But a totally new person who knew nothing about meditation also saw me. And I came in, looked at them, made my namastes, and I went to sit on the bed. So next day, what she does is go to a furniture shop and buys an armchair, and she writes to me, "Guruji, please come and visit very often. I've got an armchair there in the meditation room where you can sit on, so you don't need to sit on the bed." Now, this kind of love between man and woman, does it come from attachment or non attachment? This kind of human love comes from the mixture of both. The attachment has to be there on the physical and mental level because you yearn for the presence, and the non attachment is there because you could never become integrated if there was no non attachment. So here you have two opposing things functioning simultaneously. So through this dual process, through this duality, you take the elements of duality and combine it into a beautiful unity so that human life can become enjoyable; and at the same time, you enjoy God's love and God's life. Do you see. Both can be achieved simultaneously. Non attachment and attachment. When you read Hindu scriptures, the Upanishads and the Vedas, they only talk of non attachment. I go a step further than that. I say you have both attachment and non attachment but the attachment must not be an obsession. It must be taken at its value, for here you are loving deeply and sincerely and honestly. You're not attached for any selfish motive, so you are actually, as I said before, you are using the person as a symbol but you are attached to love which is divine. Yes. And of course, when the spirit is infused in that, it is non attachment because the spirit could never be attached to anything. Do you see.

Talking of non attachment, there was a plane flying across the Atlantic. And something went wrong with the engines and it was going to crash. So the pilot and the engineers on the plane decided that we should make the plane lighter. So

what they started doing is throwing out the baggage so that at least it could float. Then they started throwing out the seats and whatever they could. But still the plane was too heavy and it was going down faster and faster still. So they decided, it came over the intercom, the pilot says, "To save fellow humanity you can sacrifice your love." So we want volunteers to jump out of the plane. So at first the American got up. He says, "These are all my brethren, I'll sacrifice myself for them. After all, let me have my liberty, that's my symbol." So he jumps out. Then an Englishman got up. He says, "God save the queen" and he jumps out. Then a Frenchman got up. He says, "Viva la France," and he jumped out. Then there was a guru also on the plane. You know, gurus are lazy. If anything can get done for them they don't do anything themselves. So he takes his chela along to open the back door and he pushes the chela out: "Do not be attached." Yes. You got gurus like that, I've heard of a few.

Let's see. You have your concert tonight, I believe. See if we can find another one.

This actor was very ill, the doctors could do nothing for him. But his wife cured him. So the friend asks the wife, "How did you cure your husband?" She says, "Well, I fed him a lot of sugar." So his friend says, "A lot of sugar?" So she replies, "Haven't you heard of a sugar cured ham?" [laughter]

This manager hired a new secretary. And you can ask Sujay, he knows all about these things, when they send their staff out on trips they have an expense account. And many of them have the habit of really getting their best. It has to be a particular type of steak and the ritziest hotels, so the expense account is big. Fine. So the manager tells the secretary, "Look, we send people out on business, but one thing I want you to watch very carefully is the expense account. And you total the expense account three times so that there's no mistake." So about an hour later the secretary walks in and says, "Sir, I've done it three times and I've got three totals." [laughter]

This big game hunter was addressing the group of children, he was a braggart, you know. And he says, "I shot down an elephant one day and a tiger one day," and this and that. He says, "One night I was sleeping and I heard this sound. It was a lion. So I always keep my shotgun at the foot of the bed. So I grabbed my shotgun and shot the lion in my pajamas." So one little girl asks, "But how did you get the lion in your pajamas?" [laughter]

You know, in America you've got wonderful airlines. You can have breakfast in New York, lunch in Chicago, dinner in San Francisco, and your baggage in Dallas. [laughter]

Well, it's been a pleasure this evening. Do you think we should have a ten minute break?

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