THE BOOK OF RECOLLECTIONS

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illustrated by
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thank you, claire.
some sources say that, over the course of several days, **GOD** created the sun, and the moon, and the trees, and all the animals. other sources disagree. i suspect **IT** is not sure, **ITSELF**. imagine you are **GOD**, and on one day, after many years, you think,

**HOW DOES THE STORY GO, AGAIN?**

today i assert the following, which i have believed for quite some time: that **GOD** has forgotten what **IT** has done, that **IT** seeks to remember, and that we, curious creatures that we are, were built to jog **ITs** memory. i am writing this for you, so you can know, and i am writing this to remind **GOD** why **IT** did all this. i suspect **IT** has forgotten even that.

for a long time, i have kept this knowledge to myself. i thought that few would listen. i was afraid that i, myself, would not listen. i was wrong.
I

THE HUMAN RACE EXISTS TO EXCAVATE

i am doing my duty, and i ask that you do yours. read on, and go forth, and multiply, and take your instruments into your hands, and dig, as i have, and uncover what memories you can. and share them.
through our heads and hands and voices, \texttt{GOD} has spent eras speculating. could there have been \textit{mermaids}? could there have been \textit{witches}, or \textit{nasty voices on the wind}? civilizations churn out these thoughts, turn them over and over, count their consequences, make their verdicts.

\textbf{ALL WORKS ARE ESTIMATES}

of this, we are now reasonably sure. at least, if mermaids play some role in the machine, it remains invisible to us. and we have done a great deal of searching. \texttt{GOD} can cross mermaids off the list of possibilities, and in this respect we have fulfilled our role well. but this is not enough.

\textbf{THERE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MERMAIDS!}
we live in an age of skepticism. GOD has forgotten our purpose, and with IT, so have we. indeed, humankind has dismissed the concept of purpose. we refuse to believe that anything happens for a reason. we refuse to believe that anything happens which we cannot confirm. only the dwindling religious recall of the importance of faith, of visions! these are the faltering fragments of GOD’s memories! they call out to ITS people! we must heed the warnings! see the signs! we are not only here to debunk, but to brainstorm, to conceive. if we are to discover the truth, we must plunge into the depths of our imaginations, swim in the dimly remembered. and we must believe in it.
i believe that \textbf{GOD} has only recently forgotten the concept of purpose. in earlier days, we believed in many things, things which could \textit{only} exist for a purpose. examine again the \textit{mermaid}! the mermaid is biologically nonsensical! it could not have arisen from the process of evolution we know. a mermaid is a \textit{symbol}. it is \textit{compelling}. why did \textbf{GOD} believe there may have been mermaids?
IN THOSE DAYS, GOD BELIEVED IT MAY HAVE CREATED TO COMPEL

you must not forget this. let it guide you. have you felt COMPELLED in your life? for all you know, there may be a PURPOSE! hear, you are a cell in the body of GOD! hear, GOD! you must remember! ■
YOU CAN QUOTE ME ON THIS ONE:

TRUTH IS PRIOR TO LOGIC!
IF YOUR TRUTH IS RIDDLED WITH “PLOT HOLES,"
IT SPEAKS ONLY TO YOUR BRAVERY!
LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF GOD WITHIN YOU!

GO FORTH!
BE COURAGEOUS!
TELL THE TRUTH!
WE ARE FIGHTING A LOSING BATTLE

i hope it is clear by now that GOD is forgetting more quickly than IT can remember, even with our help. at this moment, we are making a great leap forward: we have remembered our PURPOSE, insofar as you heed my message! but though we allow our illusions and delusions to COMPEL us, we must have no illusions of unearned success! the fog that surrounds our GOD can only be called the devil, and it encroaches. what can we do? at a time like this, one ought to lay down commandments. remember that “rules are made to be broken” – we must suspect this saying was coined for a reason! follow your heart! etc!
1  
BELIEVE YOURSELF  
you have to change your attitude! you have to change your mode of skepticism. when something occurs to you, when you notice something, don’t just think “what is that?” think: “why did this occur to me?” “why did i notice this?” don’t ever dismiss your idle thoughts! every experience you have is potentially valuable.

2  
REMEMBER THE PAST & REPEAT IT  
all of history has been dedicated, if unknowingly, to this mission. don’t let humanity’s accumulated knowledge go to waste! in the end, nothing is more important than your own, internal wisdom, but you should at least hear the wisdom of your elders, and you should pass it on! in fact, there are surely many clues our ancestors have left us without even realizing!
3

SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

and remember, *everything is a form of knowledge*. follow your creative instinct! take the thing which you are **PASSIONATE** about, and make of it a message, and spread that message to the ends of the earth. it is an easier task now than it has ever been! *take advantage!* your work has **MEANING**. do not waste it!

4

BE CONSCIOUS AND UNCONSCIOUS

really, explore every source of thoughts available to you. you must be both *analytic* and *open*. let things become significant to you *without knowing*, and then *know them*. engage in *informed COMPULSION*.

5

BE KIND

this one is important. we are all here for the same **REASON**. try to be nice, and don’t take more than you need.
thank you for your time.
if you can, do evangelize.

sincerely,
\textcopyright\loise.
NOTES (take them!)