

‘Where Everything is Perfect’

A Game of Life based upon the Pathwork Lectures by Jan Rigsby

There's nothing like a catastrophe or a crisis to demonstrate the power and presence of fear. Paradoxically, the further removed we are from the actual effects, the more terrifying it can seem. We can feel powerless, our questions unanswerable.

Why are some of us hit by the storm, and others allowed to go about their daily business uninterrupted? Why was I not selected to suffer more? Am I next? How can it be equitable for such disparity to exist? What is our obligation to 'even things out', to stamp out poverty and misery, to help our brothers and sisters? How is it possible to know the truth of what is right for us? How can we find our alignment with divine will, the perfect balance between what we can offer and what is needed?

I find answers for these questions within the Guide's descriptions of 3 aspects of cosmic structure: spiritual law, cause and effect, and karma.

Spiritual laws stand as divine principles, the cosmic constitution that everything is based upon.

Cause and effect are the cosmic Newtonian dynamics that result from our interactions with these laws – effect must follow cause, cause must create effect.

Karma is the accounting system, updating instantaneously after every single moment by moment transaction. One of the keys to understanding karma is that it must reflect the complexity of universal reality rather than the relative simplicity of human thought. Like the accounting system in a large corporation, there are charges to departments and projects, deposits to savings, reserves for emergencies, posting to prior periods (oops! late invoice!) as well as the traditional 'payment of outstanding debts'.

Humans decide 'The driver is guilty' and say 'Pay the fine, accept the consequences!'. Karma might have a distinctly opposite point of view: 'The driver has reminded himself of debts owed from previous lives and this life. We observe genuine remorse -- after centuries of selfishness. This aspect of a life plan is now fulfilled'. Spirit may then allow them to springboard into a new phase of learning.

Sometimes this is a test –to see if we learnt our lessons. From the outside, it can look as if evil or negligence has been rewarded. The difference in viewpoint comes from not knowing the whole story of a person's spiritual journey. Looking at one short section can be misleading. Our entire lives are, to some extent, only short sections of our ongoing development.

Then how do we know where we stand? Where's the baseline, where's zero, what's a minus, what's a plus? How does human reality get a cosmic reality checkup? I'd like to answer using an extended metaphor, the Game of Life (subtitled "Where Everything is Perfect"). Here's how it is played.

The Players:

"The karma influences the plan and the plan determines the parents, the country and circumstances into which the spirit is born, and which qualities should come out, and which ones remain hidden for a future life." Q&A lecture PL 78. How did you position yourself at the start of this lifetime? What did your choices make possible, and what probabilities did your choices eliminate? If you were born without legs, then managing toenails (at least, your own) is simply not on your list of tasks for this lifetime. What have you created IS the playing piece that you will be moving.

Starting Positions:

"Karma, as you know, is the result of everything up to the present point." PL 111 Soul-Substance. Each player starts where ever they are. There are no allowances for should have, could have, or might have been. You have already made the choices that brought you to to this moment, and the premise of the game is that every decision was perfect even if it eliminated options that you were (and perhaps still are) attracted to. The only thing that counts is what is real in the moment. You are always in the right place, doing the right thing, feeling the right thoughts. So before you start trying to move about, you might look at where you are, how you got there, and what you can (and cannot) cha

How the Players Move:
As in real games, there has to be a dynamic, a force that creates change. In this game the moving force is intrinsic to our basic organic structure as human beings.
Starting: our innate incapacity to stand still will get us going – see PL 55 on Expanding, Restricting, and Static principles. Nature abhors stasis in carbon life forms; the organism will stagnate and die unless it moves.
Order of play: survival outranks manners or ideas for ourselves, our species and our dreams. Ref: PL 85 & 86 on Self-Preservation and Procreation.
Style of move: Reflex behavior will rule until consciousness emerges. Ref: PL 127, Four Stages of Evolution and PL 124 The Language of the Unconscious.
Types of moves allowed: Expansion is the only infinite choice since both contraction and stasis are limited. Ref: PL 235, The Anatomy of Contraction. Movement of expansion allows for growth, connection, self-preservation, procreation - even in the process of dying.
Free Will: These are the wild cards, expressed as soul movements. Primary soul movements include feelings, Eros, imagination, and the sheer pleasure of life. Ref: PL 119, Movement, Consciousness and the Pleasure Principle). Secondary movements include thoughts (i.e., unfelt feelings), dreams (the leftovers from cosmic conferences during REM sleep), and awareness, Stage 2 of PL 127 Four Stages of Spiritual Evolution.

The Rules:

Spiritual Law governs all aspects of the Game of Life. Ref: PL 171. PC10 is a handy summary. The trick is to understand the holographic nature of cosmic law.

Holograms (3-D pictures) are created by having each pixel of the picture contain a tiny image of the larger picture. A hologram of an apple contains millions of pictures of apples. The mind then discerns which part of each microscopic picture to ‘see’ based upon the perceived position of the whole. Voila, Apple!

In spiritual law, all laws uphold each other. To not “Pay the Price” violates the Law of Brotherhood, and vice versa. To not accept the Law of Cause and Effect violates the Law of Living in Truth, etc.

You can simplify the process of learning to live by spiritual law by picking just one to live by, as a personal mantra or theme for your life (or a single week of it). Upholding one will inevitably lead to upholding all.

Alternatively, you could focus on a law that irritates, aggravates, or confuses you, and notice the consequences of trying to ‘break’ it or, more subtly, not upholding it.

"Do not forget that the law of cause and effect or the law of karma specifies that people are always given the chance to solve their problems in the easiest circumstances possible.

You violate divine law when you escape from yourself instead of facing yourself. Violation of anything divine must therefore perforce be finite. You cannot infinitely twist the law. Your violation of divine law finally reaches a point where you automatically again begin to work for the good.” Images PL 38

"So it is not a question of preordainment or predetermination in the sense these words are usually understood. It is always a question of cause and effect, how you have unwittingly, unwillingly and ignorantly brought it about. When you understand that, the word "fate" will take on a completely different meaning for you, and even the word 'karma.'" Q&A lecture PL 61

FAQs:

Q: What about lucky breaks, such as "Get out of jail free" cards?

A: "There is no such thing as coincidence." (PL 25 The Path) Consider the possibility that every aspect of your life has been dictated by your real self, which your conscious mind is too limited to fully understand or perceive.

Q: Why do some have easy lives, full of "Pass Go and get \$200" cards?

A: "As any difficulty or apparent disadvantage can be a cure, which it must be if the person is on the right path, advantage can be a cure, too." (PL 25 The Path) How have your advantages helped you to realize where you might be deficient?

Q: What is the meaning of bankruptcy (financial, moral, spiritual or emotional)?

A: "Happiness is meant for each individual, but is impossible to attain without eliminating the causes of your unhappiness, which are your faults -- as well as any trend that breaks a spiritual law." (PL 11 Self-Knowledge)

Q: I am in the wrong place / time / circumstances!

A: "If a person in an earlier incarnation has accumulated much karma through offensive behavior toward his or her own sex -- and we will not go into details -- a woman must be incarnated as a man, and vice versa. That has to be endured ... karma does not always have to do with suffering. Karma is also the good; it means simply cause and effect." (PL 10 Male and Female Incarnations)

Q: Life feels like a game of Chutes and Ladders!

A: "For no one is asked to bear too much at a time. I might add, however, that generally, though not always, the higher the development, the faster the effect will follow the cause." (PL 34, Preparation for Reincarnation)

Q: How is the game scored?

A: Karma is your instant cosmic score card. Karma neither judges nor acquits, since spiritual law is absolute. Karma doesn't even decide how to allocate the demerits! Before you even came to the game of life, you made those decisions with your team (see PL 34, Preparation for Reincarnation for details).

Determining the Winner:

Not Applicable. It isn't a matter of how the game is scored, but by our intimate personal journey of discovery, transformation, and purification. "The joy and security of the discovery by far outweighs the personal price that needs to be paid for infringement of divine law. Even if negative karma results from the actions of a lifetime, it is joyfully undertaken once the covers fall off, because living in a just and trustworthy universe has much greater value. This is parallel to experiencing at certain stages on your path the relief of seeing cause and effect, even if it means paying the price." (PL 249 The Pain of Injustice)

This article was based upon a word search prompted by questions that I have received about recent world events. As I wrote the essay, I found Guide Lecture references by using an on-line search program.

Please see <http://www.path-work.info/pathworksearch/> for this free Lecture search tool.

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The Spiritual Principles With Which We Manage Ourselves To Create Heaven On Earth

The Pathwork Purification Process is the way we stay true to spiritual principles.
Pathworker Contributions Document #10 (PC10)

1. Principle: Law of Self-Responsibility

"You create your own reality." #40

"Your life experiences are a reflection of the beliefs in your soul. You should never believe for one instance that what you experience is unjust and unfair, no matter how much it may appear that way. In the last analysis, in absolute truth and reality, it is your misconception that has caused it." #48

"Only you create your own happiness and Wlhappiness." #60

2. Principle: Law of Paying the Price

"There is a price to be paid for each desired gratification." #29

"Every advantage has its disadvantage." #41

"The disadvantageous side of each alternative or decision has to be faced and accepted." #32

"There is a price to be paid for everything."

3. Principle: Law of Cause and Effect

"Every act has its consequence in the sphere of present reality. It is more difficult to see the same relationship between thoughts and subtle attitudes. The more developed person can perceive cause and effect on these less obvious levels." #245

4. Principle: Law of Living in Truth (Facing Life)

"To face life's reality means to face yourself as you are, with all your imperfections; embrace life whole-heartedly, without fear, without self-pity or being afraid of being hurt. Say to yourself, "In order to be come what I would like to be, I must first, without fear or shame or vanity, face what is in me." #25

5. Principle: Law of Brotherhood

"To be able to open up, to really open your heart to another person, brings a spiritual help that you could not receive by yourself." PL26

6. Principle: Law of Transformation of Negativity

The strength with which your divinity can penetrate the ego structure and manifest depends on the degree evil has been transformed throughout the evolutionary development." #222

7. Principle: Law of Lack of Awareness

Lack of Awareness of One Area of Your Human Personality Prohibits Awareness of Another

"It is one of the immutable spiritual laws that lack of awareness of one area in you prohibits awareness of another. This is why the path purification process is above anything else a process of making things conscious. This awareness unifies you. It is the aim of this Path's approach to spiritual reunion to help towards a reunification of everything that has ever split off." #193

8. Principle: Law of Consciousness Reflects Experience

"Working out of abundance, produces abundance, but working out of poverty and need, produces more poverty and need." #132

9. Principle: Law of Fully Inhabiting a State of Consciousness in Order to Grow

"You have to reach a certain state, and fully be in that state before it can be abandoned for a further state. It is often overlook by man; and even more often, totally ignored. This is one of the great, important laws for man to know and deeply comprehend." #132

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