

Hide and Seek

In the song "auld long syne", I know two variations of a part in the last verse (for the German version of the song only). The first one goes like this: "Life is not a game. The one who knows how to live it proper reaches the great goal." The other edition originally says: "Life is a game. And who knows how to play it right reaches the great goal." I prefer to say: "Life is a game. And who knows how to play it fully lives the great goal."

None of these variations is right or wrong. They just declare through distinctions a different context. In the context of the first variation there is a "great goal", a difference between "life" and "game" and between "right" and (thus implicit also) "wrong" life. Only the first leads to the "great goal", which seems to come "at the end". Other sentences from the same context might be: "If you seriously make an effort, you will be rewarded in the end." or "If you don't take life seriously and only waste time as play-boy or girl, you will see what you get in the end."

In the context of the last version are distinctions like "the way is the goal" and "a great goal in life is to live every moment fully – that means consciously, with full heart and with both strong and playful dedication."

The first context seems to belong to the ones that distinguish between "right" and "wrong" or "good" and "bad". Such contexts like to perceive themselves as right and all others as wrong. Therefore they can easily create results like exclusion, conviction, justification, being right and fight (even war).

In the context of radical (coming from the roots) responsibility it is a matter of intentions and results. Through taking responsibility for the results which I achieve in life, I can explore my (also unconscious) intentions and as a result get the possibility to choose. In this context, there is the distinction that it is your decision (conscious or unconscious) which context you choose. And that it is not about the question, what is right or wrong, but what offers you more possibility, more love, more clarity and more power to live your destiny (vision).

Now we come to the paradox: radical responsibility is only possible with playfulness. That includes serious efforts and painful processes ("high-level fun tries to express that figuratively – deep joy, all-embracing acceptance and humor arising from a "YES"). However, if you forget the lightness of play because of struggle and pain, you will quickly end up with the severe earnestness of dogma and ideology. As said before: it is your choice. Nobody can determine it for you or decide about you. What you choose, will simply influence the results in your life.

With these distinctions you can discover more: each context creates its own game worlds. Some might lack the clarity that it is a "constructed" world with "invented" rules (game rules). Part of these game worlds is to consider them to be "the only possibility" or "the serious side of life". Most of the times it is mainly about winning, e.g. money, power, prestige,



influence, being right, status, ownership, affection, sex, love ... the driving force in these game worlds is scarcity. Winning becomes existential for survival.

In the context of radical responsibility, you have the choice to be the source of what is needed right now. You have the possibility to consciously create a game world of "winning happening". In such a game world, the point is that playing (life) continues, that lightness, joy of life, creativity and liveliness allow more possibilities to emerge than we could have ever imagined. The intention is that spaces open full of connection, community, sharing, clarity and all-encompassing love.

What context do you choose?

In case the context of radical responsibility with all these playful possibilities appeals to you, I have a dangerous question for you: Which pearls do you still hide from the world?

One possible experiment: Write down your first ideas about it, while noticing your feelings and writing them down too. Write before you think. Follow your longing and allow your being to speak. Once nothing comes up anymore, take a deep breath, drink a glass of water, read what you have written, take another breath and then ask yourself the same question a second time. Let yourself drop down and relax even more while writing, hold back nothing. Decide for yourself if you want to do it a third time. Alternatively (or in addition) find a partner, who asks you the question several times and where you can speak into their listening.

From the context of radical responsibility our daily "fight for survival" also appears as an (unconsciously chosen) game, which is mainly about hiding ourselves. In every "low drama" (all games that aim towards avoiding responsibility) we hide our Being, the part of us that wants to live, be in contact and love, behind our survival strategies as victims, persecutors or rescuers (in permanent and fast alternation). Our Gremlin (the unconscious, active part of these mechanisms) rubs its hands and feeds off it. Nothing changes. We get older, without letting our pearls shine, without making a difference in the world.

What holds us back? Letting our pearls really shine, seems to cause more fear than our deficiency – indeed valid, when we look at the history of humanity and how many "shining" people have been murdered. Yet still: Where would we be without those who valued life more than survival?

Fear is fear. You can use it to create undreamt-of possibilities out of not-knowing in every moment. The fear about fear, the part that paralyzes and blocks, disappears if you give yourself into service for something greater and take one (baby) step at a time in order to reveal your pearls to the world. What you have to give, is urgently needed.

Lots of joy, playfulness and high-level fun! Georg