

TEFIST WISDOM

By Vern Crawford Winter Solstice, December 2017

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I. Principles for Promoting Harmony in Tef

Do not spend too much time exclusively in any one Sector and World. Find balance. Diversify.

“Make *all* of Tef your home.”

“Avoid one-sidedness and extremism.”

Orchestration (L.4) is the weakest Sector for everyone, so strengthen it especially, and thereby enhance all of Tef.

“The whole is greater than the sum of the parts.” (Aristotle)

“Seek Wholeness, Home, and Harmony.”

“Prefer the whole above any one part, yet keep all and every part!”

Protect and cultivate your Sensible experience, and thereby sustain the Material World (L.1).

“Never lose touch with the Original Actuality.”

“Honor the Herenow.”

“Stay grounded in This World (L.1).”

“Nature is your source, your mother.”

Facilitate free and clear Evaluation, employ Enchantment, and thereby bring Heart to the Story World (L.2).

“Never lose the Heart’s authority: Good is Good.”

“As Joseph Campbell said, ‘Follow your bliss!’”

“Express your Gladness for all Good Things. Express your Gratitude to all Good Beings. Be a person of Good Will toward all of *It*.”

“Love Thy Tef!”

Train and use the powers of Mentation, employ Consciousness-*of*, and thereby enhance the Idea World (L3).

“Prefer veridical reps (the truest truths).”

“Cultivate wisdom (knowledge useful in the quest for Harmony).”

“Seek ever higher Consciousness-*of* (perspective and insight).”

“Cherish keenness of Mind (discipline and reason).”

Build up *both* Intellection and Intuition, even if one of them is your natural bias.

“Cherish your Other Half.”

“A *little* asymmetry in yourself is a good thing.”

“We need *both* Heart and Mind.”

Honor the Body Ambiguous, the nexus of *It All*.

“The Body: where Inner meets Outer.”

“The Body links all Worlds.”

“In Tef, Body is central.”

Perceive fully, yet do more than perceive. Also act. And always do your best.

“Share your best.”

“No Action, no Life.”

“Good Will and Good Works: two essentials of the harmonious life.”

II. Pitfalls: Sources of Disharmony in Tef (watch out for these!)

Unnoticed or excessive surrogacy: when Reps fully replace Refs. -- Either quit thinking so much, or rise to high enough standpoint that you can gain control over your thoughts.

Confused or vague Standpoint. --Seek very high Standpoint, and always make explicit the site of your statements.

Unnoticed or inept use of dyads. --Become conscious of your perceptual dyads, especially the Major Dyads and Frame Dyads, and gain wise control over their use.

Mismanaged love: misdirection, restriction, or wrong intensity of love, e.g., you become limited to a centrism or you have erratic and diffuse love. --Practice giving and receiving love; gain high Standpoint on Tef.

Preoccupation with an object, portal, sector, cosm, e.g., with a Figure-on-Ground dyad, portal bias, Sector dominance, preoccupation with human society. --Gain high standpoint (high Consciousness-*of*); learn

techniques of deautomatization of Perception; seek to balance the inputs and outputs of Tef.

Imbalance and fragmentation, e.g., lack of a global concept or model (such as Tef Theory). —Learn to use Tef Theory; learn techniques of Integration and Orchestration; learn to love and to synthesize.

The Commonplace Pitfalls: ignorance, false knowledge, errors, unavoidable conflicts, accidents, malicious acts, incurred wrongs, bad events in nature, disease, deprivation, Disharmonies of unknown origin.
--Work to improve life for yourself *and* for everyone. Teach Harmony as the goal of life. Gain wisdom. Learn from your suffering. Employ anger and other passions in the quest for Harmony, but do so with discretion.

III. Summary Statements for Understanding and Applying Tef Theory: Tefistry

The following Tefist Statements have been mined from my journal and other writings, mostly for the years 1998-2005 (though some of them had gestated for a long time before that). Some of them (or variants of them) have already appeared in others of my publications. Some are newly minted here during my reworking and grouping of the material. Some are very similar to others, hence repetitious. A few may even seem contradictory, though this is most likely the result of insufficient context and elaboration.

These Tefist Statements are seed thoughts. Read only a few at a time. Think deeply about them. See if they apply to your life. Do they “work” for you? If so, wonderful! If not, go on to something better.

Seek a life full of Harmony, as much at each moment as you need. You deserve all the Good you can use. Seek to increase the world’s Harmony, too. *It* deserves all the Good you can give to *It*.

You will know you have enough Harmony when it wells up as Gladness and Gratitude and Good Works. These are signs of the Good Enough Life.

Express gratitude through acts of thanksgiving and through Good Works. Love by loving. If you have more than enough Goodness, spread the wealth.

Disharmony is a spur to Action. Your lack of Harmony leaves room for gain.

Too firm, we feel oppressed. Too lax, we feel aimless. We flourish best within moderate, plastic constraints.

Violence *to* me hurts me. Violence *by* me hurts me. Either way, violence is *bad* for me!

Life has one great challenge: How best to love.

Somewhere, a lamp is ever burning. Somewhere deep inside, there is...something alive! The God Within.

The Last Word on anything is still only a *word*.

Never believe a scientist. Never believe anyone else, either.

I would rather be clear-headed and naive than be illusion-bound and erudite.

You get two by cutting up one. Therefore, to have one, quit cutting!

Life is like a melon: no matter how you cut it, it begins as one.

We need to live a *whole* life: not *li* and *fe*, but *life*!

What am I living for? One thing only: to worship. I live to love.

If you live to love, you will love to live.

God is us...but we do not yet know ourselves.

Tell me which way is home. No matter where I travel, tell me home is here.

Deity speaks *through* us, not *to* us.

Where, who are the sane ones, the quiet-minded ones? They are those who know an Other and are in love with it.

Have you become self-absorbed? Love an Other.

The hardest thing of all, you see, is to *tell* it like it *is* !

I have set sail to meet God. He is anchored here for the meeting.

You do not have to *believe* in God in order to *worship*. You can be spiritual without God.

The natural man is a luminous ideal...and a swiftly setting sun.

The Grand Illusion is the separateness of things.

We have seen our destiny and it is here.

Why is being an animal not good enough for us? We lurch toward some faint utopia. Why? Suppose we sought, instead, to be more and more natural each day?

Always return to nature. Once again be the animal in its habitat.

Language “gets” us long before we learn we’ve been “got”.

Where there is Gratitude, there was first a need.

Harmony: I always know it when I see it. Same for you, too.

Ungrounded poetry is insane poetry.

Absent Will, we are immobilized. Absent Will, our love does not manifest. Loving Action needs Good Will.

Speak your mind and act your heart.

Eden, they say, *was* good. Heaven, they say, *will be* good. What about the *here and now*?

Feeling lost? The only place you can be lost is in the Other Worlds. Still feeling lost? Return to This World.

“All the world’s a stage”—It is for people who are living in the Story Other World.

With Intellection alone, we can only *see* the world, as if through a window: We are not really *in* it. We are *out* of it.

Reality: We are of it, in it, and never beyond it. Tef is a model of reality.

“What am I?” must be answered *both* objectively and subjectively.

When we are passive, we perceive the world. When we are active, the world perceives us.

Love is a feeling, a will: Good Will. *Loving* is an engagement, an act: Good Work. Wisdom encourages both Good Will and Good Work, both love and loving.

We suffer the errors of our ancestors. Our children will suffer ours.

We impose the Other Worlds upon This World: Enchantment and Consciousness-*of* upon Main Street.

Want to help others? Encourage their strength and strengthen their courage.

You are co-creator of your world. The world you perceive is part Original, part Additional.

Ultimately, a philosopher has to quit thinking and just live life. Even the wisest of the wise has a life to live.

In itself, no fact or act is good or bad. The Heart alone assigns value.
Heed your Heart.

Why is This World not sacred enough? *This World*....

Both scientism and religion are poorly grounded.

Will is always “free”, though not always effective.

Representations never contain their referents.

The Empathetic Formula: As I am, I surmise you are, too.

Tef is One, Whole, and All. (Well, actually, *It* is One, Whole, and All.)

Experience is primary, existence secondary. No experience, no existence.

Experience is the only thing in its class. Indeed, it is the *only* class.

Love Thy Tef.

Experience has no gaps.

Love is the great bonding power, the great survival power, of humanity.

The goal of justice is to restore and keep the greatest Harmony possible.

Honor the objective realm. Honor the subjective realm. Honor their integration.

Good Will and Wisdom make a strong team. Who will be the teamster?

Chained? If you were set free, how would you live? Could you manage your freedom? Could you stand it?

We earnestly seek stories: ones that satisfy us...whether they're true or not.

Three things that will help you: Heed all of your experience. Account for your time. Seek higher perspective.

Druids and Tefists: philosophers, helpers of helpers, Way Showers.

When you speak, say where you're coming from. That is, reveal your Standpoint, and note whenever you change it.

The Present does not *require* a History. Artifacts do not *require* a History. The Herenow is independent from all Therethens. History is an invention, a story we tell ourselves to make sense of the Present.

Much of your self-image is politically-inspired and socially imposed, that is, inspired and imposed by others in *their* own interest.

Self is not given at birth. You have to build it. Your self-identity is not so much what you *discover* as what you *create* .

Earth has billions of human bodies, but only one self: *billions* of Outer Bodies, but only *one* Inner Being. And that one is I. Only in me does an Actual Outer wed an Actual Inner.

Self-image, like all built images, is what *was*. What *is* is yet to be remembered.

“Know Thyself”. That is, be alert and be sincere.

Being and Seeing are never simultaneous, not even in the mirror. Likewise the Actual and the Inactual.

Site cannot see itself. It is never self-reflexive. Current site is inferred, at most. My site is out of my sight. Site is like the eye: it perceives everything but itself. I have never seen my own eye. I infer it, at most.

We have no choice about our pursuit of Harmony. It is The Only Way for us.

Stay grounded in the Herenow. It is our “human-sized” Actuality.

A hypothesis is a Scenario that links things together inferentially.

We humans are Body-beings. Body is central to the Inner/Outer Dyad.
Stay grounded in the Body.

We can somewhat influence our emotions and our thoughts. Knowing this this gives us extra power.

I live my experience the way a fish lives water. How do you think a fish would define water? How would you define experience?

To be conscious-*of* is to employ the Representational/Referential Dyad.

Rich consciousness-*of* needs riches: rich referents, rich representations, and rich links between the two.

Can one be too conscious-*of* for one's own good?

Philosophers often stand outside, out in the cold. Whereas Stories are told inside, in warm conviviality. Perhaps we should open the door?

Stories are no problem at all--unless you forget they are Stories.

Who would occupy the highest site and have ultimate Standpoint? A God Transcendent.

In Actuality, we are creatures of “is-time” solely, not creatures of “was-time” or “will-be-time”.

Much of the world runs on lies: money, zero, other souls, other places, God, the Past, the Future, and so on.

Isn't Behaviorism pure objectification?

Life is three sure “unthings”: undefined, unfinished, and uncertain.

Your task is simple: meld your passion and dreams with your reason and wisdom to yield a truly ethical and harmonious life. Can you do it?

Learn to use symbols without being used by them.

Become aware of the whole and cherish it.

Paradise within, paradise without. Hell within, hell without. Color yourself and you color the world.

Inference from experience is never more real than the experience itself. The Original always trumps the Additional. For me, Orthoreality always trumps Metareality. But I do a lot of inferring anyway.

Tef Theory is philosophy. It is not lived life. It is ideas *about* lived life, a map *of* life.

A theory does not have to be perfect to be useful. Any theory is successful if it achieves its purpose. The Good Enough Theory.

If you wait for perfection, you will never live, never love.

Reality is always far greater than our truths about it.

Lost? In extremis? Honor the Whole, center in the Body, and return to the Original.

The Vector of Value always orients your life toward Harmony.

The referent of “Tef” is the referent of “*It*”.

To date, Tef has shown internal contrast, but no external contrast. Tef is the Total Experiential Field and nothing more.

The Story World gives you rose-colored lenses for seeing This World.

Dogma takes no faith.

Philosophy is a tool. If it doesn't work for you, don't use it.

“Leavers” are drawn to What Might Be. “Stayers” are drawn to What Is. There then v. Herenow.

Concepts are Imaginations that closely fit the facts.

Surrogacy can mislead the eye. It supplants the Actual with the Inactual. It gives Metareality the status of Orthoreality. Beware surrogacy!

Passion *demand*s Action. Bottled-up passion either rots or explodes.

Money confers power and rights.

Before there was my self, there was its Ur-experience. I consist of constructed percepts.

Before there were Other Worlds, there was This World. Inhabit the Other Worlds at your own risk!

My one great anchor in life is my *experience* : *my* experience.

Experience varies and changes: qualitatively, sectorily, spatially, temporally.

No one *owes* you their compassion. Love is always a gift.

Our beliefs influence our actions--for better and for worse.

A paleontologist without a *story* is just a fossil collector!

Take the history--the *story*--out of geology and all you have is rocks!

Try being self-reflexive. Don't expect to succeed.

Tefistry says, "Seeing clearly, perhaps you can live more harmoniously: Better Being through Better Seeing".

Anything can stand for anything, provided you don't require consonance.

Consciousness-*of* of the Not-self does not require the Self.
Consciousness-*of* the Self does require the Self.

Ur-experience is always Herenow, always Actual, always Orthoreal.

There is reality. And there is what we say *about* reality. And there is the wedding of the two (called Consciousness-*of*).

You cannot Be yourself and simultaneously See yourself. Sorry.

The price of Consciousness-*of* is loss of life lived. The price of Consciousness-*of* is separation and fragmentation. The R/R Dyad splits Tef.

Got Consciousness-*of*? Then you also have site! And the R/R split. The price of Consciousness-*of* is disjunction and even pain.

Thinking takes time, a debit from the rest of your life. Some people just won't take the time.

Same and similar are similar, but not the same.

Body spans the Great Divide between Outer and Inner.

The Mind fears death. The Heart does not.

Nature is my original context, not culture.

Mama is Mother, Nature is Mother, Culture is Mother.

Every philosophy is a personal philosophy.

Never let the Additional eclipse the Original.

“Unreal” is a false adjective. Nothing is unreal. Get rid of the word.

Just as microscale Evaluation does not require microscale Mentation, so megascale Intuition does not require megascale Intellection. Thus, Love does not require Theology. However, the Whole person needs them all.

The ending of Perception marks the beginning of Mystery. Reality passes over into Mystery.

Our invention of the mirror perhaps signals, historically, an intensified desire to know ourselves. The mirror helped us grasp site, self, soul. It was revolutionary. In our own time, virtual reality technology may become just as revolutionary as the mirror.

There are Doers and there are Talkers. Language puts you outside the Action.

Much of Perception is Interpretation. Our Ur-experience is only the start of it.

The only escape from This World is travel into an Other World. Travel at your own risk!

Never expect to be *fully* understood. Communication always fails, a little or a lot.

Fear motivates control. Consciousness-*of* assists control.

A central issue: how to employ conscious wisdom in the pursuit of Harmony.

Being sees from the inside of life. Seeing sees from the outside of life. Being's world is not necessarily Seeing's world. Standpoint matters.

All experience is private. None is shared, none is truly public. But some of it we *pretend* is shared and we *call* it public.

Pretending is play It is practice and rehearsal for community. Both children and adults need to play.

Community rests on shared values. Shared values spring from shared experience. Community requires common ground (ing).

Belief in other minds demands faith, for it demands a pretended truth. Our inference of other minds is untestable. Our life experience encourages this belief, but it never actually confirms it.

Do not hold other people *responsible* for their actions, for that asks them to mirror *you* . Instead, honor *their* motivations and learn *their* world view. Appeal to *their* Perceptions.

A philosophy tailored just for me may hang poorly upon you. Wear Tef Theory only if it fits you.

If you would prefer a different painting, don't complain about mine. Mix your paints and take up the brush!

Self, it appears, is an unruly committee. Each of us is multiple, incoherent, poorly integrated, and at war within. We have a long way to go!

Society prefers each self to be unified, integrated, and conforming. Society will always be somewhat disappointed in us, of course.

Attend more fully to the nonhuman. Then you will be far less prone to make war. The (human) world is too much with us.

All selves are structurings, partly inferential. None is purely objective Actuality. Selves are, at most, warranted inferences, pragmatic fantasies.

Herenow is never a lie. Therethen is always a lie. We live much in our imaginations.

Beware the danger of unknowing or careless substitution of Reps for Refs. Beware surrogacy.

Creativity envisions things not of the Herenow. Creativity tells Therethen lies in the service of Harmony. To be literal is to be limited; creativity seeks to transcend the literal. How often does it succeed?

My Actions, even if they victimize no one else, may still offend *me*. I must heed this fact.

To reject love is to sin. Unlove is sinful.

Stories entail changes: “movies”. Scenarios entail differences: “snippets”.

Well-grounded people live in Actuality.

Evaluations from an external site may not match those from the corresponding internal site. This mismatch can be a source of Disharmony.

No matter how useful it is, analysis results in separation. In the Story World, separation is the worst Disharmony.

To be *in* love, you must first be *in* a Story--or the other way around!

I think originally we lived inside our Stories; we were not conscious-*of* them. Then, some centuries ago, we got outside them; we gained Consciousness-*of*. Maybe now we can learn, somehow, to be both inside and outside.

We give form to nature. How much form can nature receive from us?
We can never be sure until we try.

A firstperson is unaware of his own site. Only thirdpersons can imagine the firstperson's site. It's called empathy.

An Other can show us who we are. That Other can even be a part split off from ourselves: a self-Seeing self split off from our self-Being self. Orchestration seeks to restore wholeness to this split self.

Ceremony is a tool for Orchestration: the gathering of fragments into a whole.

Dreams are Actual Inner experience, even though in our slumber we lack Actual Outer experience.

Is death a release from Disharmony? I believe no one really knows.

Spiritual detachment, as in meditation, is an effective affective anesthetic.

The Past is a lie. It is Therethen, a purely mental Other World percept, a mix of memory, imagination, inference, and belief.

Change happens. Things become manifest, and transform, and then they vanish away. Where are all the vanished things *now*? Where is the Past *now*?

Never assume that inferences are Actual Herenow. At most, you should only treat inferences *as if* they were Actual Herenow. In fact, they are always Inactual Therethen.

Legal and societal values are always imposed on me by others. My own values are my own, unimposed.

Much that we regard as Outer is actually Inner. We add much when we link Repts to our Refs.

Higher and higher Consciousness-*of* creates a hall of mirrors.

In America we have an Independence Day. But we also need a Dependence Day, in which to honor nature, culture, community, indeed all of *It*.

To grant Actual status to Inactual experience takes a leap of credulity. With a wink and a nod we grant the Other Worlds membership in This World.

Surrogation is widespread. With it we delude and confuse ourselves. We must cherish the Actual. We replace it with Inactuality at considerable risk!

We tend to be suspicious of others. If they're not obviously good, we wonder--or we outright assume--that they are bad. So, silence encourages suspicion. Make yourself known. Speak up.

Metaphors are lies, as in "This is That". This is *never* That. If you must use figures of speech, prefer similes: "This is *like* That". Metaphors are thrilling, but dangerous.

Our Gladness, Gratitude, and Good Will are a small price for Tef's boons. A fuller recompense is our Good Works.

Good advice: Live fully, give thanks, seek wisdom, and be helpful. One, two, three, and four. Also, remember.

Sex: I see clearly that I do not see it clearly. Much of it is fantasy. Much of it is wild. Much of it is an altered state. It is a specialized, powerful "program" in our life. It links L.1 and L.2.

Dreamtime's physics is not necessarily nature's physics. Don't expect the Story World to follow Natural Law.

My life quest: the Orchestration of my Perception and Action to yield optimal Harmony, throughout Tef.

Between "I will it" and "I did it" lies a gap of much unknowing. Within this gap lies "I do it". Effort.

The Vector of Value determines our direction. Thus, Harmony is our sole destination, though the road there may be tortuous.

My ends are always good. But my means may not be.

I take Body seriously. I do not just *have* it, I *am* it (and more, of course).

We back our way up the Levels, from L.1 to L.4. Current site is always behind our eyes.

Humanity's gains in Perception are the mileposts in History.

A major lifetime task: reconciliation of one's private and public self-images.

Reality is phenomenal, and Tef Theory is a Phenomenalism. In Tef, "seems to be" is synonymous with "is". Appearance is the most basic reality. It is Actuality.

A *lived* Story is an alloy of This World and the Other World.

Astute Orchestration weaves a gorgeous tapestry from life's separate threads.

My truths are all--and always--provisional. I reserve the right to be proved wrong. I also reserve the right to right my wrongs.

Teaching students can be hard. I can show, I can explain, I can give synonyms, I can use analogies and list traits and make predictions. I can even advise trial and error. Or, if all else fails, I can send the student to another teacher.

We would dearly like to reclaim Enchantment, yet keep our Consciousness-*of*. How to do this?

Some say existence lies behind every experience. I've looked and looked. Why have I never found existence *anywhere*?

An Inference begins as an Idea—an Imagination—called a Hypothesis. If confirmed, we accept the Hypothesis as a Concept. When archived, the Concept becomes Knowledge. Still, in any event, the Inference was, and is, only an Idea. Thus, Inferences are always Other Worldly. They are Metarealities. We employ them in complex percepts.

Animists find spirit in just about everything: in stones, waters, clouds, plants, animals, even in humans.

God is ungrounded Inactuality. In L.2, God is a grand Fantasy, imaged as the Soul of the Whole. In L.3, God is a grand Imagination, one of our biggest Ideas, Creator of the Universe. He is, however, never part of L. 1, never a grounded Actuality. That is why we say we believe in Him.

At any given moment, self may seem to be singular and well-coordinated. But over time we discover that self is more like a committee, with typical committee dynamics.

Language is representational. It “abouts” every one of its referents.

Ideas are volitional and intended. Stories are involitional and wild. I have my Idea-Scenarios, whereas my Image-Stories have me. Ideas happen *by* us, whereas Stories happen *to* us. (There are, of course, hybrids of the two.)

Knowledge distances. It can thereby become an enemy of communion and love.

A good use of one's time: bringing light and hope and joy to the world.

Intellection prefers discontinuity and separation. Intuition prefers continuity and participation. Fortunately, neither Sector rules forever.

Action branded with my will, or with my intention, is Action branded with me.

Nearly always our percepts belong to one or more Frame Dyads, such as Self/Not-self, Inner/Outer, Material/Spiritual, Original/Additional. Through these dyads we see the world. You must learn the role of Frame Dyads in your life. Also, avoid mindlessly mixing them.

Got “Dyad Disharmony”? First, identify the dyad in use. Then mitigate its Disharmony. Or find a better dyad. Or forego dyads completely if you can.

Got “Perceptual Paralysis”? First, do not strive for *perfect* balance; a bit of asymmetry is useful. Then learn how and when to employ that asymmetry. Then seek Orchestration.

Our goal should be richness and diversity and fulfillment, not limitation and narrowness and poverty.

Much of Tef becomes dyadic: This and That; or This in relation to That; or This because of That.

A history: Our ancestors needed to communicate; communication required representation; representation created Consciousness-*of*. Thus, Consciousness-*of* = Rep + Ref.

People never seek Disharmony, yet their Actions in pursuit of Harmony sometimes cause Disharmony. So, do not question their most basic values. Rather, seek to change their methods of pursuing Harmony.

Empathy is projected self-awareness. It is spirit “found” in others. It is the Golden Rule (L.3) employed in the Intuition Sector (L.2).

The self grows and evolves. It is not created in a moment, and it is not static for all time.

Ethics is *always* situational, if only because you have to choose *something* in every situation.

How humans relate to nature--An Other Place--pretty well defines the times they live in.

We have no choice about Value. We always choose Harmony over Disharmony.

The existence of language does not prove the existence of other minds. It merely proves the great utility of language.

Ethical value can be seen as a subset of esthetic value. Righteousness is beauty in interpersonal relations.

All symbols are potential surrogates. All surrogates are lies. Use symbols with caution.

Self-consciousness implies a split mind, a double mind: both observation and observer are joined in one being, both first person and third person in one person.

The most ethical persons pay attention to multiple perspectives.

Same-age groups generate their own culture, always new. Each cohort is parent of a new culture.

We need more multi-age mixing in America. We are too isolated generationally.

Help others gain true wealth. Help them gain fond memories.

Voyeurs are outsiders; they never belong. Yet they have Consciousness-*of*. Those confined to their Story never achieve Consciousness-*of*, yet they have social context and Enchantment. How can we have both?

We have rejected nature, at great loss. And, unfortunately, having culture and theology never fully compensates the loss.

Tef is not simple. How can we describe such a complex web of Perception? Not quickly, fully, or easily!

Some people seem trapped inside their Story. They perceive with internal site only, in Level Two. The external standpoint of Level Three seems lost on them. Ideas do not influence them very much, and they undervalue intellectuals. Not fully “awake”, they dream their lives.

Avoid creating resentful minorities. They can become just as odious as heartless majorities.

Today will become the Past of my Future. Today will become the Yesterday of my Tomorrow. What I am Today is what Tomorrow I will have been. I am living Tomorrow’s history today. Really? If so, so what?

First, we see it. Second, we think it. Third, we see it and think it as one, combined percept...and are conscious-*of*.

The theoretical limit to our Perception, at any one moment, is our current site.

Christians are powerful because they presume *authority* to dominate and coerce others. I sometimes share their willfulness, yet I seem to lack their sense of moral *authority*, their self-righteous aggressiveness. If they wore black robes, we would call their *authority* satanic.

Religion and sexuality have a lot in common. They both spring from the desire to bond. They both have priesthoods, both have rituals, both are intuitional, and both are interpersonal. And both are very, very powerful.

Seek to love *all* of Tef. This includes learning to love the unlovely parts of it, too.

Mass, inertia, momentum: these are Ideas built upon the lived kinetics of our Inner Body. As infants our first two lessons in physics were effort and relaxation.

Always reveal the site and Sector of your statements: either before, after, or as an aside.

Some thinkers do not dream much. Some dreamers do not think much. The most successful people do both.

We are eager, even frantic, to find ourselves *in* the world. And we hope to find other selves there, too.

The erotic engine almost never stops. Always idling, it can rev up in an instant (at least in males).

Eroticism is rarely “off”. It is almost always “on”, a smolder waiting to blaze.

The Thinker’s Marching Orders: At some point, stop *thinking* and get on with *living* .

To the Intellection, our ancestors’ personification of nature seems an error. Yet can we moderns somehow love nature without personifying it? We still need a world with which we can bond and love. We need Orchestration of L.2 and L.3!

Cause and effect have some sort of bridge between them. Something flows from the one to the other: energy, I suppose. If so, are they therefore really separate?

Love is integral to Story. If your life lacks Love, change the Story you are living. (This may be easier said than done.)

Stories and Ideas--both of them--when disconnected from This World, risk marooning us in an Other World. Stay grounded.

Each of us tends to have a “leading” Sector. In some, it is Sensation; in some, Intuition; in some, Intellection; in some, Orchestration. How about you?

In sex, partners have experience at the same time, but not the *same* experience at the same time. Each has different needs and capacities and emphases. Sexual sharing is more like economic barter than a distribution of community goods. It involves, after all, two different, distinct bodies.

When your soul emerged in Tef, it was a dyad that emerged: Self *and* Not-self. You and the world emerged together. What existed before then?

Because it springs from self-interest, Conservatism is inherently and profoundly and incorrigibly egocentric. It also cherishes the Harmony

that used to be and may still be. It faces inward and backward. That is also its strength.

Trust in the not-self is a Liberal trait. Because Liberals trust a lot, they gamble a lot, hence have to hope a lot. They are motivated by not-self-interest--but only because this optimizes Harmony, including their own. Liberalism faces outward and forward.

Ecocentric egalitarianism is ultimately a form of anthropocentrism.

No ism can last unless it brings us Harmony.

If you desire to live within a Story, do not limit yourself to people and human culture. Seek to love *all* of Tef!

We want so badly to live within a Story. Even an unloving Story seems better than none at all. Some pay dearly for relationship.

If you want love, live a Story. If you want control, employ Ideas. If you want both, you will have to learn how to weave.

Existence is not a yes/no situation. There are degrees/kinds/stages of existence.

We like to invent, for we enjoy a measure of control over our inventions--even over God.

I can *imagine* existents that are independent of Perception (that is, outside of Tef). But I have never found referents for those imaginations. "Independent existence" is not a representation of anything. It is a rootless representation.

Think of the Body as an arena of Integration: Outer with Inner, Self with Not-self, sexuality with work and dance and war. Ours is the Body Ambiguous.

This is a challenge: how to manage a Tef in which there are multiple realities, some of which are unaware of the others.

Myths are beliefs that operate in the Intuition Sector. We live our myths. Raise any myth to Consciousness-*of*, however, and it is not really a myth any more. For if you raise a myth to Consciousness-*of*, you severely wound its effectiveness. You cannot (fully) live a myth and know it as myth, too.

An Ethical Law with regard to living things: Empathize with living things when you can; otherwise, treat them with awe, respect, your true need, and society's current ethical norms toward them.

The Poet of Life seeks rich sensation, sound affect, sharp cognition, full integration, and, through all these faculties, a harmonious life.

Amazing how much of our life is actually Fantasy and Imagination: the Other World is thoroughly mixed (mixed up?) with This World. A measure of our philosophical growth is our awakening awareness of the interpenetration of This World and Other World, Actual and Inactual, Ref and Rep, Orthoreality and Metareality.

We must learn to shift our site to Level Three, the Intellection Sector/
Idea Other World, before we can become Conscious-*of*.

Reciprocation generates selves. We create each other. We do this by sharing love and language, specifically by sharing Stories and by sharing Ideas. We do this with Actions and with Messages (Communication). Reciprocation implies both giving and receiving. We are mutually co-creative.

Life is like a powerful bull. If you grab it by the horns and try to muscle it down, it will gore you. Instead, if you ride it with finesse, you can nudge it toward your vision.

Every vanished percept has a replacement, I note. True gaps never open in Tef. Our experience, though ever changing, is ever present.

Change brings hope. Permanence brings security. Life offers both.

In a head-to-head contest, love trumps knowledge, value trumps form. And quality trumps both value and form. But it's best to keep them all pulling together. The full team has quality, value, and form, and hence, wholeness.

Combine the Artist and the Scientist and what do you get? Wow!

Got "Existential Angst"? Avoid preoccupation with yourself, and seek live an enchanted Story. That is, find An Other to love. (This may not be all you want from life, however.)

To Love: to bond, to merge, to seek completeness through relationship with An Other.

We live a messy complexity: Life.

Society's constant challenge: to discover the common good and share it equitably.

Eroticism seldom *intends* to make babies. It is lustful loving, not family planning!

Erotic arousal *can* lead to sexual activity, which *can* lead to zygote formation, which *can* lead to children and to parenthood. But it *may* not necessarily lead to any of these.

Eroticism is wild, willful, powerful, overwhelming, and even addictive. Our lives prove we worship it, yet, surprisingly we have no monumental art to honor it. It is still the elephant in our living room.

Early on we find life is confusing. Later on we realize life is mysterious. And frustrating, too!

'What is not' is nonsense. All experience is positive. Negative experience is a notion lacking a referent. It is a rootless representation.

Wonder=>Science=>Control=>Harmony (if we are lucky)

Harmony=>Gladness and/or Gratitude=>Good Will=>Good Works=>more Harmony (if we are lucky)

Good Will is our will for good.

Religion is what churches do. Spirituality is what souls do.

When you see an expressive face, you infer a psyche in a brain. The face seems to project a hidden subjectivity. But, really, the subjectivity you see is actually just part of your own.

You are *not* a collection of disjunct body parts. Body is a continent. It has peninsulas, but no island archipelagos. Consider its parts as regions. “Your nasal region is dripping”--not “Your nose is dripping”. “Your penile peninsula is erect”--not “Your penis is erect”. “Your heart muscle tissue is beating”--not “Your heart is beating”. Nose, penis, and heart are regions of one continent, not disjunct things. Body is one, whole, and (for the most part) indivisible.

Cherished beliefs are very, very clingy.

Myths are very close to us--and sometimes a better source of wisdom than even well-tested Concepts.

Some of life's persistent questions: Why pain? What am I? Where am I? What is this world? What will happen next? Am I alone? Does someone love me? Am I actually secure? What am I able to do? How should I live? Am I asking the right questions? Should I stop asking so many questions?

Got "Envy, Jealousy, or Resentment? Focus less on yourself and your possessions, and more on the world. Seek a balance between receiving and giving, between keeping and releasing, between serving the Self and serving the Not-self.

Conservatives fear loss of self and security. This makes them self-defensive and lonely. Liberals fear loss of community and love. This makes them crave inclusion at any cost. Everyone has conservative and liberal parts.

Homosexuals, males at least, appear to worship *all* parts of the body. Gays seemly love bodies. In that respect, at least, they are well grounded in L.1, the Sensation Sector/Material World.

Every seemingly sharp boundary can be resolved into an ambiguous boundary. Sharp boundaries therefore appear to be a choice, not a fact. Tef is basically a continuum, regardless of how many boundaries we choose to recognize.

To “subsume” a dyad means to “shrink it down” into a monad.

Confused? Seek simplicity! Puzzled? Return to the Original!

Kinds of Action:

Involuntary and wild (as in spontaneous and reflex Action);
Voluntary and willed (as in willful Action of the Intuition Sector);
Voluntary and intended (as in intentional Action of the Intellection Sector); and Mixed (as in integrated Action of the Orchestration Sector).

Tef Theory asserts that our life in L.2 is a movie in which we star, and it's a Love Story at that! Yet we are unaware *why* this is so or even, usually, *that* it is so.

Our highest Standpoint gives us God-like oversight, a kind of omniscience.

In childhood Story arises automatically. Animism arises automatically. We perceive mythically before we perceive conceptually. We are Animists first, Mechanists and Monotheists later. The world was enchanted before it was understood, before we became conscious-*of*. Intuition precedes Intellection.

Stories come to us automatically and easily. Ideas require some effort and discipline.

Neither patriarchy nor matriarchy cuts it. We need an all-inclusive, egalitarian Orchestration in Tef.

Mentation is a key in search of a lock. Ur-experience is the lock. Both are necessary for *things* to happen.

May at least one person in this universe be well-grounded *and* clear-sighted *and* warm-hearted! Might this be you?

Ethics, an intellectual guide to Harmony, marries value to wisdom, emotion to planning.

Idealized things often transform into mundane things with warts. I prefer the ideal, yet I must live with the mundane. This presents a challenge for harmonizing my life.

Names are passports to Consciousness-*of*. We feel uneasy about things that lack names.

Childhood presents us a number of fragmented, competing, poorly coordinated world views. A real mess! We try to glue and tie them together, but they are still a mess!

Perhaps all love, all bonding, builds on the primal bond: Mother and Child.

Sexuality occurs in a rainbow of kinds. Some kinds predominate. But then, maybe sexuality is not a natural category at all, just an artifact of modern thought.

We seek relationship with Beings. We thrive on affective reciprocation. We even simulate a two-way love toward nature by personifying, animating, or deifying it. Thus, we can more easily love Gaia than the earth's biogeochemical ecosystem. We can more easily relate to a Creator God of the Universe than to mere natural processes.

Humans assume the unity of self--at least of *other* selves. Though you may like *both* dance and sport, *both* speech and song, *both* beer and wine, you are still seen as *one* person--warranted or not.

The male is “give-y”. His erotic bond is based on giving gametes. The female is “receive-y”. Her erotic bond is based on receiving gametes. He gives sperm cells, she receives them. He and she have different purposes, in this regard and otherwise. Why suggest their sexualities are the “same” thing?

Be a person of Good Will to *All*, all of the time. Be sure to both receive *and* give Love, every day: Sympathy, Lust, Love for Nature, Reverence for *It*.

Even evil deeds aim to create Harmony-- *someone's* Harmony, somehow.

Every Representation is part of an Other World: either the Story World, or the Idea World, or the Archives of Memory.

One way to experience Chaos is to speed up the pace of change beyond the powers of our Mentation to process it. Then we relive what our infancy and childhood were like at times.

Theatre is another person's dream, shared with us.

Discipline can be limiting and oppressive. It can also be integrating and empowering.

Some perceptual processes operate at lightning speed. Their products emerge in an instant, and we barely see what has happened. But our percepts vary in their speed: whereas some Sensible entities are perceived instantly, our intellectual Concepts are often built up slowly.

We are still learning how best to love: self, others, nature, Tef.

Actually, we are not supposed to worship God. We are supposed to *be* God. We are to envision Godly behavior and then to live a Godly life.

My Stories are marked by a cherished, precious notion: that the world is lovable and that I will be loved by it. I want to live a Love Story.

Orchestration seeks to restore oneness. Doing so somewhat erases the Self/Not-self split. Yet, we need and want *both* oneness and multiplicity. Can we have our cake and eat it, too?

Knowledge is always simpler than reality.

The Mind/Brain Problem only shows up at Level Three. It does not trouble the Story World of Level Two.

Our Field of Attention potentially affords us a multitude of percepts. But Perception usually settles for working on just a few at a time.

We don't like to be awakened--if our dream is a good one.

Theoretically, the Self/Not-self Dyad exhausts Tef. Thus, by learning everything that is Not-self, I can discern what is Self, for whatever is left over from Not-self must be *me*. Simple math: Tef minus Not-self equals Self. One valuable reason to study nature is to find out what you are not.

“The” and a word usually implies an Idea: a snippet, a still photo in the Present Interval. By contrast, Stories are movies. They are too long and too continuous to be labeled with “the” and a word.

Life's Vector of Value points from Disharmony toward Harmony. The two form a ratio--H/D--whose magnitude is a measure of our success. We want more H and less D!

Theology is Ideas about an “otherworld”. Science is Ideas about “this world”. They are both intellectual Other Worlds, however. Therefore, even as you step into Theology and Science, always keep one foot in This World.

Orthoreality is ineffable. What can be told is Metareality: Stories and Ideas and Memories.

They tell me life is not fair. True: Life is only an opportunity, never a guarantee.

Harmony is the goal, Harmonious Action is the means.

You have your own innate values and you have much wisdom. I cannot add much to these, except to urge that you honor and heed them.