

from our readers | sharing

The Ultimate Shared Thing

Right now, amidst the birthing pains bringing forth a New World, we all share something that could change everything: The Ultimate Shared Thing. It's powerful enough to unite all of humanity in common purpose, foundational enough to address every systemic global crisis we face, practical enough to put the whole world to work on a project of unparalleled, profound importance and solid enough to be the literal foundation upon which to build a fundamentally New World. Because nothing less will carry humanity forward; it's also the key to the survival and evolution of the human species on Earth.

Sharing plays THAT profound a role. That the current world based on competition is unsustainable is no longer in question. It's clearly dismantling itself system by system, proving that fact. We find ourselves in a dynamically accelerating global crisis spiral that affects everyone. With the entire human species at stake, there is no 'us' and 'them.' Knowing this puts us in the powerful position of being in charge of our own evolution. If there was ever a time to recognize and unleash The Ultimate Shared Thing, it's now.

What is it? The answer may surprise you: Every single human being holds—and therefore shares—a vision for the world that will ensure our survival and sustain a thriving new humanity. You may say, "No way! 'Those people' don't want the same thing I do." This is understandable; we've been focusing on our differences for eons and have yet to actually ask ourselves what we most deeply want. We've been too busy focusing on what we don't want and complaining that we keep getting it.

Don't take my word for it. Discover it yourself. Go deep in your heart and dream of your dream life, community and world. See it. Experience how it feels to live there. Did you experience violence, scarcity, fear, and oppression or peace, abundance, joy, and freedom? You found peace, abundance, joy, and freedom because that's what's in your heart. By their very presence with Life Force running through them, that's what's in everyone's heart. This is your vision for the world because it's who you truly are. This is a vision we all share because it's who we all are.

Our task is to recognize that beneath the layers of our differences, in the One Heart of our common humanity, we share the Ultimate Shared Thing—a vision of peace, abundance, joy, and freedom—and to ensure our future on earth by creating a world that reflects it.

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A Mother's Perspective on Sharing

One of the most universal manifestations of sharing is that between a mother and child. From conception until birth, a woman shares her most precious belongings—her body, her life force, her blood—with her unborn child. She does this largely without thought, without hesitation. The new life growing in her womb is a part of her and sharing with her child is both natural and desirable. It is perceived as simply the way things are meant to be.

This deep sharing, this giving of the essence of oneself, continues after the child is born. The mother of a newborn gives her child her milk, her sleep and the bulk of her time, attention and affection. The needs of her baby take precedence over her own. Yet, she does not feel diminished or imposed upon. She is doing what is to her natural, right and good. In giving to her child the mother feels that she is the one who receives.

As the mother of a 5-month old baby boy, I have experienced this phenomenon first-hand and can attest to its life-altering power. I have never questioned my desire to share all that I have with my son. However, I have begun to ask myself why I don't have the same degree of desire to share with anyone else. I've been a 'spiritual' person for much of my life and believe quite passionately that we're all connected, all part of a single web of life. Yet, I think of sharing with strangers and even friends and family members as something I *should* do, whereas sharing with my son has become one of the primary imperatives of my existence.

Why is this so?

I believe the answer to this question is that unlike anyone else in the universe, I do not perceive my son as separate and apart from myself. It is my truth that I am not just 'connected' or 'one' with him in a spiritual sense; he is a critical and inextricable part of who I am. Therefore, to deny his needs would be to deny my own. Sharing with him is sharing with myself, and is crucial to my own existence. It flows naturally and insuppressibly.

This insight leads me to ponder what would happen if there was a global shift to the unity consciousness described by mystics. What if we could all get to a place where our interconnection with others was our perceived reality, rather than an intellectual concept?

I believe the results would be a universal system of sharing and cooperation.

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