

Running Commentary Following Gertrude's Death

Part 19 of 53

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Another parenthesis connected with the dream experience reported on the 14th.¹

This impression came to me just a few moments ago: may this experience have been more than a dream or even a waking experience during sleep? There's something strange about it. When I came out from it, I seemed to come out through a long channel and as I progressed through that channel, as reported, part of the dream, the recording process that was in the dream, seemed to become unreal and later as I reached waking consciousness the whole dream, including the Realization portion, became dreamlike. But there seemed to be a long passage in doing this, and I've never had that experience in connection with awakening from a dream or a waking experience during sleep—the awakening seemed to be immediate. Then the thought came to me that I might have made a trial run in the death experience, though the process of going in through the channel, or the tunnel, was not conscious and that in that inner zone is where the Realization took place and that I was coming out from a death run, as it were, when I came to waking consciousness.

And there's another curious fact: the cat, Harvey, has been behaving very queerly both yesterday and today; very much like he behaved shortly before Gertrude passed in. He caterwauls and seems to be peculiarly worried at present; and the case of Gertrude it was almost as though he was weeping beforehand; he made such a fuss, and then when the death came he was reconciled to it. But the behavior this time is very similar on his part. So I'm putting this down for what it may be worth.

This is February 15, 1979.

End of the parenthesis.

¹ See the audio recording "Running Commentary Following Gertrude's Death," part 17.