

#29 The Human Race

An angel woke humankind up and chose two male mortals to enjoy a race. The purpose of the race was to find the best way to arrive in a garden of very great beauty. It was not an ordinary garden. It not only had wonders to see, it also had breathtaking trails to walk and waterfalls in which to swim, as well as delightful food and drink. Since the two mortals had differing ideas about the best path to reach the garden, the angel suggested that each go his own way.

The first mortal took a direct route. In seeing how easy it would be to get to the garden, he let go of time and took in the experience. He found himself beginning a waking-dream of silence, in which he entered the myriad forms of life surrounding him. When he arrived at the garden, to his surprise, the second mortal was waiting. Said the first to the second, "What did you see on your path?" The second said, "It was fine enough; but truly, I did not notice the surroundings, for I kept my mind on the steps in front of me and stayed conscious of my time, so as to be expedient."

At the end of the day, the second mortal thanked the angel and went home. The first mortal stayed in the garden and resumed his waking-dream.

DREAMING CAN BE WAKING