



#67 *The Genius*



A genius was good at woodcarving, geometry, intuitive prediction and mathematics. He loved to set himself challenges that he would turn over in his mind for years before arriving at a conclusion. Suddenly, the day came when he was given an utterly new problem by his intuitive mind. It was as if he 'heard' an idea. It was a challenge that he had never even considered before. The idea arrived in his mind in the form of a question that went like this, "How could something be complex and simple at the same time?" The genius thought and thought about this for days. Then he put the challenge down, as if taking a woodcarving that is only begun and laying it to the side of the workbench, so that you could see it fresh the next time you entered the

workshop. Several days went by and he left the challenge alone. Then, one day, he picked it back up again. "Eureka!" he cried.

He ran to his drawing board and drew a simple form. It branched out like a tree. Then he divined the mathematical equation that would describe the geometry of the form. He then applied this equation to each branch of his tree and got many more branches. Doing this over and over he ended up with a very complex tree. Amazed that his drawing was just like a natural tree, he stepped back and looked at the whole picture. It was the very first simple tree shape he had originally drawn. Then he looked very closely at many individual parts of his complex drawing. There again were the self-same simple branching forms. Quite excited, he started over at the beginning. This time he drew a very simple, curling form. Iterating it over and over, once again his drawing ended up complex, yet simple. This time it looked just like a real fern! "By God!" he exclaimed, "this must be how nature creates. She starts with a simple whole form, then applies that shape within every part!"

*TO ACHIEVE COMPLEX YET SIMPLE,
IMITATE NATURE - REPEAT THE WHOLE IN EVERY PART*