Story #8b *Fun*

8. Have fun - and respect students for wanting to have fun. (The Teacher's Bill of Rights)

At the 3rd International Holistic Teaching and Learning Conference at Southern Oregon U. in Ashland, OR (Oct. 2021), I described having fun in terms of Plato's eudaimonia, a way of living with an all-encompassing joy whether you are working or playing. This reminds me of a story that is a prequel to the story I told previously, called *The Milk Maiden*. This prequel fantasizes about beings taking care of the human race, in particular, the farm boy from the previous story. Unbeknownst to the boy, these beings hold the great responsibility for his wellbeing in their hands, all the while exemplifying a way to live in Plato's joy. They are beyond distinguishing between work and play.

"The Milk Maiden Prequel"

Did you ever wonder how your life would be if you could see feelings and intentions just like you can see flowers and trees? Well, the folks in this story can. They can see the feelings that come into them from the highest of high. So, of course, they always stay in a state of joy, because they can see that everything sent from above is always good in the end. So, that's how the story opens.

Picture a young girl who is living with her mother. But don't picture them as human beings; they are Sun beings - beings made out of light. Like humans, they have two bodies. They have

a physical body and they have a non-physical body or consciousness. If you want to picture one of them, think of a physical body made of light that is of such high frequency that if we humans tried to see her, we would just see a flash of light. And of course, we probably would not yet be able to see her non-physical consciousness. If you could, you would see that it was where she kept her feelings and pure ideas, like what she intended to do today. And this is where our story begins.

Today, the girl wanted to learn about the humans on Earth. She asked her mother, "Can I visit those Earth beings? I've been watching them. Their light bodies have such delightfully slow vibrations that they are almost like the plants and rocks and animals. And mother, what's more interesting is that they use their physical bodies to run and play and climb trees and interact with the animals!"

Her mom agreed, but suggested that before they visit, she might observe an Earthling a little closer. "Here, look at this one," her mother entreated. "He's a boy about your age. Today is the anniversary of the day he got his slow-light body. Here, watch him having fun with his mother and father."

As they watched the celebration, the light-girl asked, "What are those little Sun drops on that cake he is blowing on? They seem to make him almost as happy as we are."

"Those are candles. Look closer. Keep an eye on the feelings in the humans' hearts. The candles are a symbol of how the parents want to make him happy. They might even sing a song about wishing him to be happy on this anniversary day of his birth. But learn, my daughter, it is not simply the symbolic candles and song that make him happy; it is the feelings the parents are sharing that delight the boy. Can you see the feelings?" The girl observed the feelings moving from the parent's hearts to the boy's heart. Her mother continued, "Most Earthlings cannot see feelings directly yet, so they are reminded to sense the feelings by using symbols."

As the light-girl continued to observe, she probed, "Now the boy seems quite excited about a box that is wrapped in beautiful paper that his parents have just given him. Why does he like the box so much?"

"Look closer," her mother replied. "Do you see that he is anticipating that inside the box, there is something he really wants? His parents knew what he wanted, hid it in the box, and waited until the right time to give it to him."

"I see," said the girl. "I like this boy. I want to visit him. I want to bring him a box. I know, I'll slow my light down to an Earth-like body, fill a box with the best feelings I have, and bring it to him."

"Alright," replied her mother. "That's fine. But be warned. If you do not wait for the right time, he may not be ready to see what is in the box. And if he cannot, you must not blame him or feel bad, yourself."

"Yes, mother," answered the girl.

"Well then, if you want to go to Earth, you must promise me that if the boy cannot see your present, you will come straight home to the Sun. If you assure me that you will do this, then I pledge to you that you may have permission to go back, just as soon as he is ready."

And so, the girl promised and went to Earth. And, if you have heard "The Milk Maiden" story, I think you know the next thing that happened ... except for the ending. But the truth is, I don't know the ending either. I do wish however, that someday the farm boy learns to see feelings and the light-girl gets to go to him.

Charles Eisenstein reminds us that ...
"As we do unto others,
we are already doing unto ourselves."

"In theory there is no difference between theory and practice.

In practice there is." - Yogi Berra

So, that's the story for today. I'll see you in one of those tomorrows.

