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Persistence Could Win You a Free Trip to Iraq

by Rose Rosetree

Although I'm not writing this from Iraq, I could be. Instead, I'm seated at a makeshift desk with two fat blue couch cushions atop my chair, reaching up to a stylish but very awkward countertop that contains a computer.

It's my second morning on my eighth trip to Japan, where I'm typing on a wacky bilingual keyboard with Japanese characters. Many regular keys have such an unusual location that my usual typing speed of 100 wpm or so has deteriorated to more like 40.

Yet I can't think of a better place for communing with the Pathways community. I'm living proof that inspiration can bring you the most surprising and wonderful adventures; and not just if you choose my profession, but if you follow your improbable dream, the biggest inspiration from your soul, one you refuse to give up.

As you start this New Year, why not start it with a sometimes wacky tale of stubborn inspiration?

Here is the context. For 39 years, I've been a teacher of personal development. Some years I've had a day job to pay for my habit, but for the last 20 years I've been able to work full-time doing what I love: Aura Reading, Face Reading, Skills for Empaths. Call it "Deeper Perception" for short.

I do this as a teacher, giving workshops. I do it with healing sessions, sometimes over the



phone; this morning with my favorite interpreter, Kaori, and clients coming to this Tokyo condo, leaving their shoes at the door and putting on communal slippers before we get started.

Mostly, though, I do Deeper Perception as a writer. Toting up my latest numbers before I got on the plane, I'm up to 214,000 copies of my books in print, in various foreign editions, including the English language originals.

And sometimes the parts of my career that sound great aren't quite. Like that free trip to Iraq. Apart from the rumors you may have heard that the place is a war zone, how did that offer come about?

One email came to me from a translator who told me she was turning "The Power of Face Reading" into Kurdish. Nice! Only I had no contract with her publisher.

So (not for the first time) I had to enter into negotiations with someone abroad who was illegally publishing my work. After many, many emails, my foreign

rights agent, Deanna Leah, managed to achieve a contract. Out of remorse, or perhaps national pride, the publisher invited us both to visit.

For now, I've declined. But considered myself lucky to have a contract, at least!

How have I stayed inspired during the sometimes difficult times? Inspiration, of one sort or another, lies at the choice to be a writer in the first place.

Otherwise, why pick such a crazy profession? We writers and other artists are fortunate because somehow we're connected to inspiration. That's why we're willing to make the sacrifices required to show others our distinctive work.

Writing isn't a job like plumbing, useful though that is, too. Our stock in trade isn't material, like pipes and faucets. We sell something inner, contagious "Aha!" experiences.

Sure, professional writers must also develop the equivalent of plumbers' skills. Someone who's serious about writing enters into a lifetime apprenticeship program, learning everything possible about writing technique. That way the inspired connection stays alive and generates words that sing on the page.

Yet, three inner problems can limit the degree to which inspiration flows through us:

Writer's Problem #1 is bringing inspiration all the way out to the page and beyond, a.k.a. "writer's block." But two related flow problems may be more

important to writers, although I've never seen either one addressed directly in print.

Writer's Problem #2 is how to stay inspired while bringing your book out into the world and dealing with those well-known slings and arrows.

By far the most intriguing and important of this trio is Writer's Problem #3. How can you do justice to your inspiration?

Grade schoolers write "poems" that are variations on "Roses are red, violets are blue." To the Valentine sender, the underlying inspiration rings clear and true (and maybe even blue). To an outsider, alas, the words may clunk with the familiar thud of any cliché.

And isn't that the worst nightmare of any professional writer? After translating your soulful experiences into words, they sound hollow, the literary equivalent of worn-out clothes from a thrift shop.

For me, Deeper Perception brings a solution. One of my books is about using Deeper Perception to co-create with God. (The paperback edition is called "Let Today Be a Holiday" and the e-book edition is "365 Days to a Stronger You.")

However you approach it, I think it's important to nurture inspiration by finding ways to appreciate life at deeper levels, and also make contact in such a way as to help you, the co-creator, come down to earth gently. Any writer or lightworker can become accustomed to thinking, feeling and questioning way beneath the surface of life. The resulting words leave clichés in the dust.

Deeper Perception?

Everyday life contains deeper versions of experience. They're

tucked into life so neatly that, unless you purposely pay attention, you'll miss the whole show. Think of those Advent pictures given to kids. On the surface, there's a colorful picture of Santa or maybe some sacred scene. Looking more closely, the child finds the picture's hidden doorways.

By tradition, one of those hidden doors is opened daily. Then out pops a piece of candy.

That's Deeper Perception, and it's indispensable for anyone who wishes to overcome Writer's Problem #3. Find a dependable way to travel at will to deeper levels of everyday life. Nothing can change a writer's work more.

In the days of Hemingway, the technique was simple. The writer would go get drunk. I favor an approach that won't wreck your nervous system but will fine-tune it instead.

Inspiration Flies By

Inspiration found me at age ten. I still remember walking to my Girl Scout meeting one rainy fall evening. Out of nowhere in particular, I felt an indescribable joy. My instinctive reaction was to try to describe it, which made the joy feel stronger.

Somehow I found a pen, some paper. I stood there, ecstatic and dripping, writing down words the best that I could. Some words anyway... Some souvenir...

Luckily for me, the feeling of inspiration lingered, more important to me than either my words or anyone else's reaction to them. So it didn't matter that my words at the time were, literally, a soggy mess.

I had been initiated. Ever since, writing has been my fa-

vorite activity in life. (Yes, that includes sex. Unlike Carrie Bradshaw in "Sex and the City," I would rather write than make love. Or shop.)

During high school, like a lovesick teenager who keeps waiting for that important phone call, I lived for the moments when I'd feel inspired enough to write. But until I solved Writer's Problem #1, it wasn't enough that I had a topic and someone to write for. I couldn't start a thing. Until my last semester of college, the writer's block grew more and more acute.

As an English major at Brandeis University, I had to write loads of papers. After agonizing, I'd turn in something that would be returned with a low grade and comments like, "Your ideas might have been interesting if only you had managed to express them."

By that last semester of college, the only A on my transcript was for a course in "Nonverbal Communication."

Overcoming Writer's Block

Any writer, or healer, or other kind of lightworker, can learn to actively co-create with a source of inspiration. The simplest way to explain this process is to put it in terms that make you big enough -- not holding yourself like some wooden block or person built with a blockhead but as a person who has the ability to connect with God whenever inspiration is needed.

Many blocked writers are really inspired writers-in-waiting. At least once, we have connected with a true source of inspiration, be it God or muse or some other place deep within. The problem becomes how to have lightning strike us again (or in my case, as you may remember, how to

receive a soft autumn drizzle).

Ironically, Writer's Problem #1 may happen most to the writers who have the most to offer. They don't only dream of, some day, being inspired. They have known the experience. So they ache when that inspiration doesn't come back. Yet it can. On demand. For anyone. The secret is to use techniques that connect a person up.

I won't presume to rubber stamp a pat solution onto each aspiring lightworker. Save that one-size-fits-all treatment for the many rejection letters that each of us has received! (Hint: The nearest trash basket is an equal opportunity nyah-nyah machine.)

My approach to writing, or healing, or any lightwork with which I have been involved... honors the uniqueness of each individual.

What's the quick, practical summary? I suppose it would be to stop being passive, waiting for what we're "supposed to" write, hoping that we will be worthy to receive more of the good stuff. Any writer can team up actively with a source of inspiration. I'm one resource for learning how, but there are countless others. And fortunately, all any writer needs is one co-creating!

Let's be bold and use the G word. I recommend co-creating with God. So the first, super-

important part of this definition involves God.

Okay, God's precise definition I leave to each person reading this article. However, I'll advise you this much. Avoid depending on some puny, vague, wispy, wistful dream. Define God as someone or something real. Find a way to experience God as if this counted at least as much as having a good poop. Too many lovers of God are walking around spiritually constipated.

Next, co-creating with God involves taking an active role asking, instigating and receiving. During my 39 years as a teacher, I've found that as soon as the topic involves God, many people turn uncharacteristically passive. This applies equally to people who worship officially on a regular basis and folks in what I call "disorganized religion."

Within the terms of your very personal belief system, could there be an invitation to grow up? Each of us is God's beloved child, and always will be. Another certainty is that this special relationship is the great love story in life. But what will a person make of it? Through considerable struggle, I've discovered that we can evolve to the point of relating to God as a grownup, rather than a supplicating child, like me standing out in the rain, soaking up every drop of inspi-

ration. There's beauty in that. But there's just as much beauty (and surrender) in setting things up so that, whenever I choose to write, whatever the occasion, words flow and joy sparkles all around. That, incidentally, would be a working definition of lightworking as co-creation.

So, if you seek a free trip to Iraq or becoming a powerful healer, if you're an organizational genius or able to bring lightworking into your day job with the existing establishment, the main thing is, be yourself. Be yourself co-creating.

Express God with your hands, your feet, your heart, your very human perspective and personality. Because the Heaven all of us wish to bring to earth must begin right here.

Rose Rosetree's latest book is "Read People Deeper." She offers workshops in America, not just Japan, with information available at her website: www.rose-rosetree.com. You can find information there as well about her healing sessions, cutting cords of attachment and using other techniques, including Energy Release Regression Therapy.

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