

A DIFFERENT DRUMMER

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A few words about out-of-the-body experiences, aside from whatever we might have imagined from movies, books, and so forth. I can start out by saying that we are more or less out of the body these days and it has nothing to do with the recent eclipses or even the lunar cycle.

And I don't want to give you a lecture either. Suffice it to say that our consciousness moves in and out of the body all the time. If we wander too far out of the body we can fall ill or simply be carried away in some hair-brained scheme or another. We lose touch with reality. This is why the traditional Buddha reaches down with his right hand in the earth-touching gesture or mudra: grounding himself. Keep it real.

On the other hand, if we wander too far 'into' the body we can get bogged down (even depressed) and unable to see where we are going in life. For many of us it is a case of feast or famine. Our consciousness circulates in and out of the body.

The idea is that while we all may seek a balance, a "happy" medium, we actually tend to operate more like a pendulum, going from one extreme to the other and we are not always able to stay in the balanced zone (the middle way) as long as we might wish. We could simplify this by just saying we tend to be up or down and not usually content somewhere in the middle comfort zone.

Right now (these days), at least with our inner life, we tend to be more out than in: out there and floating around, and not necessarily as in touch with the practical day-to-day feel for things as we might want or even need to be. So what is this out-of-body time good for?

It's good for looking around at your life and getting a bigger picture of what is going on overall. That's the plus side. The downside is that it could be easy to simply be impractical and get carried away from responsibilities and, to some degree, lose touch with day-to-day reality.

And this will go on for a while (at least a week), so it's probably worth commenting on. As mentioned, it's good to get out once in a while and have some kind of overview, perhaps see into the distance (past or future) a bit. Sometimes I think of it as like the groundhog. We are always busy tunneling away underground in our mundane life, but every once in a while we pop our head up out of a hole and look around.

In other words, we are more active in our mind right now than perhaps we are in our senses. In fact, these days we actually have a different kind of time, one with its own unique perspective, perhaps even somewhat different from the conventional social wisdom, but still having its own merits.

The mind is very clear just now, able to grasp concepts and pull whole ideas out from a bunch of facts - to put it all together. However, and this is what is so different about the mind at the moment: everything you come up with, the conclusions you draw, etc., are somehow different from the ordinary, from what you might expect or what people and society might expect.

They are not in any way wrong and they don't contradict conventional thoughts. In fact, they

actually complement them, but, and here is the wrinkle: They do appear to be coming a little out of left field. In other words, what you see right now in your mind or the way you are seeing has a different perspective to it, much like the proverbial blindfolded men feeling an elephant and describing or seeing it differently depending upon what part of the elephant each is feeling. Right now we can see what everyone else sees but from a unique or at least a quite different perspective. And it should be a useful perspective, at that.

I have been studying large-scale planetary patterns in the heavens for over forty years. Early on I began to chart out all of the possibilities and came up with some sixty or so basic archetypes or patterns. Since it is more complex than most people want to consider, I made up a set of sixty tarot-like cards, one for each major planetary pattern or archetype. I call them “StarTypes.”

Anyway right now StarType #39, which I call “A Different Drummer,” is holding sway in our solar system. Here is the graphic card I designed for that. Also, at our birth each of us is born under a particular StarType configuration.

Feel free to comment on what you are experiencing these days.
— with [Josephine Matsutani](#).