

Meeting #8 Jan 21st

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Attendees: Robin, Paula, Ekant, Vanya, Bobbie, Sandy

Sandy: Do the titles compare to the English.

Vanya: Not just anybody is the same. Couldn't find all of them. Tiger of Turkestan, Black Greek, Prince Mukransky ... all have died – Tigers were all killed in Armenia and Georgia. All of them are dead.

Sandy: Were there tigers in Armenia and Georgia.

Vanya: Yes. In late C19 they were hunting them and also eating wild pigs and were also hunted so didn't have anything to eat so they were all gone.

Vanya: Black Greek – moving from Georgia to Russia and was a war with the Greek people who were deported back to Greece and Turkey.

RB: G's parents moved from Greece to Georgia before Armenia – so don't know if they would be classified as Black Greeks.

PS: He was called all these names.

Ekant: Nicknames or a message behind. Moving like a tiger, with a strong body and staring eyes.

Bobbie: Tiger of Turkestan print done by the same artist who did the same print on the 1951 edition.

PS: As we go through life, our identity changes.

RB: It is an octave – 7 different names.

Tatakha may mean sole of the foot or paw. Google also gives 'mother-in-law' – doesn't seem likely.

Mukransky is a Georgian Prince – real.

Vanya: Married Tatiana Constantinova and died in WW1.

Bobbie: One I found died in Russian-Turkish war ...

RB: In Georgian dynasty ... Georgian aristocrat.

Sandy: ... octave and evolving or involving. Teacher of Dancing seems to be highest. The genuine Monsieur Gurdjieff seems to be more evolved than Prince Mukransky to me.

Bobbie: I see names until the Teacher of Dancing and then active.

RB: Nothing that suggested G was related to nobility

Sandy: to do with his father's death near the border ...

RB: Difficult to understand ... we think of countries as countries in the European fashion but all

of that area: Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kurds ... no purity to tribes, just a big mixture. G's father was Greek, but his mother I think was Armenian.

Sandy: Prince Mukransky dying around the same time as his father in similar area. My imagination running wild ... little black feet.

RB: Caligula nickname – means little feet. Not much of a nice emperor ...

Vanya: Darky isn't translated ... it is there – Darki ... were no black slaves .

RB: Doesn't make much sense – Darky is English nickname – wouldn't have been used in Greek.

Vanya: Translates Monsieur to Herr, but no translation of Mister.

RB: Armenian for 'mister' is 'paron'

Bobbie: dunkel is the translation of darky

Vanya: At the start – according to the local complex of amenities translated to 'courtesy' or 'kindness'

Boordooks

RB: Before we had ability to manufacture, everything was biologically made and those goat-guts made excellent carriers of liquid.

Sandy: In MWRM ... they kill all the goats and fill the stomachs with air and also with the stew.

RB: Chopped the goat up and filled the boordooks. Have stomach and large intestine as well.

Makhokh?

RB: Cheap Russian tobacco ...

Sandy: Silly questions –

So ging es fast ein halbes Jahr

Vanya: Half a year and English is almost two. Germans get callouses on palms after six months ...

Bobbie: Barber-surgeons in German.

Ekant: Feldscher - Policemen in the army who hunted escaped/deserted soldiers.

Vanya: Military doctor with low knowledge of wound therapy.

The soup Makhokh was considered the first dish of Great Lent in many provinces of Western Armenia. On the first day of Great Lent, the Armenians of Karin and Sasun danced the "Makhokhapur Dance" without music.

Makhorka is a type of tobacco that is commonly used in Russia and Ukraine. It is known for its strong flavor and high nicotine content. It is often used in cigarettes, pipes, and even as a pesticide.

RB: he went to the Barber-Surgeon when he lost his wisdom tooth

Vanya: True that people went to them for operations ... Feldscher is a military doctor and friseur is barber.

Ekant: We used this word in the army.

A feldsher (German: Feldscher, Polish: Felczer, Czech: Felčar, Hungarian: Felcser, Russian: фельдшер, Swedish: Fältskär, Finnish: Välskäre) is a health care professional who provides various medical services limited to emergency treatment and ambulance practice.[1] As such, a feldsher is one kind of mid-level medical practitioner.

Barbier is the modern word – only for male customers.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feldsher>

RB: Origins:

- Monasteries: Initially, barber surgeons were connected to monasteries around 1000 AD. They provided haircuts and tonsuring (shaving part of the head) for monks, as well as basic medical care.
- Guilds: As their skills expanded, they formed guilds and began offering services to the wider community.
- Multifaceted Role: Barber surgeons became essential figures, performing tasks ranging from haircuts and shaves to tooth extractions, bloodletting, and even surgery. ~
- Sharp Instruments: Their expertise with sharp tools like razors made them the go-to for surgical procedures in an era when physicians focused primarily on medicines.
- Military Service: They often accompanied armies, providing medical treatment and grooming to soldiers on the battlefield.

Du noch nicht zur Vernunft Gekommener! You who have not yet come to your senses! Different from Misunderstanding formation!

PS: Very strange English.

RB: This is a man who is speaking to himself ... but You who have not yet come to your senses! Is not at all the same.

Vanya: Contract?

RB: When he went to Germany he rented a place for a while and signed a contract that he didn't read.

Ekant: Typical in Germany 10 ... 30 years.

Vanya: Have to read the small print.

Ekant: ... after a year you have different rights and after 2 years ...

RB: Why is he signing anyway?!

Ekant: He puts at the beginning also – the Author – kind of affirmation.

Vanya: A signature is a sign of identity and affirm, yes

Bobbie: An author could sign a foreword

RB: I haven't seen that.

PS: Isn't that the point – we have to know who we are?

This isn't literal.

Ekant: You cannot promise anything.

RB: This is age related – everybody goes through different strong identity

Vanya: When I was studying and had my final exam I had to sign my foreword to state it is written by me.

PS: This is something serious and he has to be very considered about it.

RB: It is said he wrote The Arousing of Thought 12 times.

RB: Stated that Karapet read this in a book on witchcraft and then the behaviour of dog catcher.

How to cast a spell.

Ekant: Literally – strategy – defeat enemy before he can start to attack you. Would never think it would be a statement of G at the beginning of the book.

PS: If we are prepared why something wakes us up ...

RB: If you are there you will know that the steam whistle will sound and then the Church bell.

Bobbie: Seven Virgins ... They must be ready for the coming hour.

RB: Hadn't trimmed their lamps

RB: I think curses are a real phenomenon. My mother used to do it.

Bobbie: Put out an intention.

RB: Read a black magic book written by Dion Fortune and sent something out to someone and when she didn't want that any more, had to reabsorb it. Don't know if true.

Maybe just inner considering. Only need one person to say "I hate that whistle" ... need to think that you should curse ahead of time so no need to inner consider.

He talks about this later when he talks about casting of an anathema. Doesn't resolve that either – says on one hand to Hassein that you don't want to annoy these 3 brained beings from Earth ... casting of anathema ... then tells story that turns out well. Setting stage for it here.

Sandy: Fascinating when he brings up things like witchcraft and anything magical. Has anathema for them and yet brings them up ... Makes me think of Madame Blavatska and spiritualists.

Vanya: Read a book about Sorcerers – woman who was with Castaneda in Mexico and how she had to deal with curses and had to sit in a cave to clean herself of all the curses.

Vanya: Last time when I read about the dogs – got stiff in my body and got scared and disgusted and my instinctive center reacted to the words. Maybe feeling the uneasy feeling of Karapet of Tiflis.

Sandy: Know it isn't literal and yet it bothered me. Especially, the fat ...

Bobbie: Someone cared enough about a dog to have a passport.

Ekant: This is how humans deal with other animals too – if we think about sausages and products we make out of their bodies. Just not with dogs and not with solemnity, but may have been in the culture.

Sandy: In English we say 'Oh Hell' and in German 'Teufel'

RB: Gurdjieff uses dogs as a symbol and people have dogs in them. These are the dogs being talked about. From the Paris Meetings: GURDJIEFF: This proves that automatism is very strong in you, that you have many weaknesses, many dogs, many "results to de-salt." You must kill them. How can one be bored with a divine thing?

Q: Something is lacking in my self-remembering.

GURDJIEFF: It is a symptom of the fact that you have nasty things in you. All this has to be cleaned up to become worthy of doing this exercise. Put ten times more attention on cleaning up your inside and making it worthy. You are not worthy. There are too many dogs. Do you understand what I call dogs? Different things crystallized in you by life, by education. All these results play the role of factors creating associations which arise continually and carry us with them. These factors are many. It is impossible to kill them outright. But we must turn them into functions. At present one of these factors often becomes your "I" and guides you. Until real "I" comes, its place must be held by the head—the head must play the role of "I."

RB: The description here of what is done with the dogs relates to the liver. The idea of a slaughterhouse is the liver in the body. That's what cuts up the meat – with enzymes and with small intestine and stomach ... Talking about various things crystallised in you and destroy them if they don't have a license. License would be if you find a function for them. You do things that are not helpful to your awareness/worth. Have to find a reason to use that part of you or get rid of it. Drive it down the passage into the furnace and out comes – luckily – fertiliser and soap.

Bobbie: To clean yourself and continue to grow.

Sandy: Dogs and buffers related?

RB: Dogs are buffers. Nobody likes to talk about it because we are sexually repressed. First place to work on dogs are sexual dogs – dogs that live around sexual center and divert course of sexual energy. There are dogs around every one of the centers ...

PS: Dog distracted by bitch

RB: Bitch on heat attracts every male – one of the ways to distract the dogs is to turn them away from sex – church bell.

Vanya: Also feel relieved and makes sense that when reading it was resistant – don't want someone taking away my buffers.

Ekant: Dogs start to growl

PS: Have to sneak up on them to catch them.

RB: An event occurs and it engenders a negative emotion and very quickly it has won. Very little space between negative emotion emerging and you being able to make a difference. You have to sneak up on them or wouldn't catch them. Basic mechanical behaviours that you have – buffers – too late. If you could describe your buffers you wouldn't have them.

Sandy: What the dogs are and who is sneaking up on them. The Barbara-Surgeon, sneaking up on them and putting them in a carriage neatly. How do you catch them ... with a fishing net ...

RB: this is Christ and his fishing net. The idea of the barber-surgeon – doesn't like the word doctor – looked it up and interesting that they used to do blood letting and reason for the red and white pole. For teeth extraction ... leeches.

Bobbie: Still use leeches and also maggots.

RB: Maggots – famously the case that they eat flesh before it gets gangrenous. Makes sense.

BP: Barber-surgeon also important in the community ... listened to everybody's problems ...

RB: In the Monasteries they were the doctors. Looking at a part of yourself that is into healing. Two aspects to the Work – correct things that are incorrect – could be remove buffers – healing process. Conscious labours and intentional sufferings is not a healing process it is a development process.

Interesting thing is this is all about H96. H96 belongs to World 96 and crystallisation of things in psyche is probably H96 and also level of enzymes that digest food in small intestine and also energy of immune system – some vitamins. Idea of taking something that is H96 and taking it to the liver to be broken down makes sense to me.

Ekant: The cursing – not about an outside behaviour that could mean that instead of things coming to you unconsciously – this cursing ahead could mean to make something to be conscious and be prepared and cannot materialise in unconscious part of me.

Sandy: Old man removed from a more strenuous job out of the kindness of his boss. Wakes people up and older fellow.

Bobbie: And gives him callouses.

RB: The railway station in Tiflis was on a hill and isn't any more. Doesn't make much sense. The story does relate to a time when the railway station was on a hill.

Vanya: Few slight differences in translation. Salutary oven and in German 'soothing'. Dogs in English are stray and in German are mooching.

In German the dog is springing with a leap to the side.

RB: p50 ... die-sich-in-der-Sphäre-des-Idiotismus-becnden – idiocy in English. Science of Idiotism ...?

Vanya: Idiotismus is an expression of idiocy

RB: Have you observed how you are an hour before you wake up? Have tried to observe my waking up process. Mind full of garbage – trash. Can change that if you want. This is a phenomenon he is referring to, not anything made up.

Ekant: All those who might curse me but in this sphere no one can do anything – just processes happening.

RB: Relates back to him choosing Beelzebub as a hero and world's possible reaction. He curses all of those people who are asleep anyway and emerge from the sphere of idiocy and hear someone has written a book about Beelzebub and they cry ... someone is glorifying the devil – mustn't allow such a thing.

Ekant: Didn't have the need to curse them – they are cursed anyhow when they are in this sphere.

RB: Nothing sensible happens in that time. The idea I had is as soon as have any awakesness, make it awakesness that counts – definitively find something to attend to.

PS: I have also noticed that and when I do I decide it is ridiculous and want to stop it.

RB: Are there some things that happen in us that we need – we can't work all the time.

Sandy: It is gone immediately you notice it. What do dreams mean? Mine are repeaters – variations on a theme and not much worth paying attention to and don't see any connection to subconscious.

Vanya: People used ask this guy what dreams mean and eventually he said: what you do with dreams you wake up.

Ekant: What G said is stop to do any analysing – become awake.

RB: Tibetan practice is to become conscious in the dream. Say you can practice it and helps to be awake during the day. Not much difference between dream state and awake state. Don't see any meaning in dreams. Don't know what you would do if you found some meaning in the dream.

Ekant: Drive it to the oven!

Vanya added the following translation notes, after the meeting:

Page 47 E: Like our engineers and technicians G: Wie unsere Ingenieure und Techniker, die mich in der letzten Zeit nicht in Ruhe ließen - he adds this part: who have not left me alone lately Page 47 E: desire for knowledge G: Wissensdrang - urge for knowledge

Page 47 E: scrupulous consideration - gewissenhafte Überlegung G: peinliche Betrachtung - embarrassing consideration

Page 47 E: continues almost 2 years G: So ging es fast ein halbes Jahr (half a year)

Page 48 E: salutary oven - heilbringender Ofen G: wohltuender Ofen - soothing oven

Page 48 E: stray dogs - streunende Hunde G: mooching dogs - herumlungende Hunde

Page 49 E: Flow off like a shot down - flog davon wie ein Abschuss G: Sprang mit einem Satz zur Seite - sprang with a leap to the side

Page 49 E: Oh Hell - Oh Hölle G: Teufel - Devil

Page 49 E: A feeling of being offended at myself - ein Gefühl der Beleidigung mir selbst gegenüber
G: Gefühl von Scham über mich selber - feeling of shame about myself Page 50 E: vibrations of all
kinds of malice - Schwingungen aller Arten von Bosheit G: alle möglichen böartigen Wünsche -
all kinds of devil desires

Page 50 E: Stop! Misunderstanding formation! - Stopp! Missverständnis der Bildung! G: Du noch
nicht zur Vernunft Gekommener! - You, who have not yet come to your senses.

AI Meeting Summary Jan 21, 2025

Quick recap

The team had a complex and unclear discussion about various topics, including the history of a steam whistle, the concept of identity, and the symbolism of dogs in Gurdjieff's work. They also explored the meaning behind various elements in a story, including the role of the barber surgeon and the significance of the red and white pole. The conversation also touched on the concept of "cursing ahead," the idea of allowing certain activities to happen within oneself, and the potential meanings of dreams.

Summary

Exploring Names and Titles of a Prince

Vanya discussed the various names and titles associated with a person, including "Not Just Anybody," "The Black Greek," "The Turkestan Tiger," and "Prince Mukransky." The group speculated about the possible meanings and origins of these names, with Sandy suggesting they might symbolize the person's evolving identity. Robin clarified that the person was a real figure, a Georgian prince, and that some of the names might be nicknames or symbolic rather than literal. The group also discussed the possible historical and cultural contexts of these names, including the person's possible Greek and Armenian heritage.

Gurdjieff's Writings and Goat Stomachs

The transcript discusses the translation difficulties around the word "darky" and related terms in Gurdjieff's writings. Barbara suggests the German translation "dunkel" for "darky," which Vanya confirms means "dark." They also discuss the translations of "Monsieur" and an Armenian term for "Mr." Vanya points out an odd translation of "amenities" in the German text. The conversation then shifts to discussing Gurdjieff's descriptions of using goat stomachs called "boordocks" to store food and liquids like wine during his travels. Robin provides details on how the different goat intestine parts could be used as containers. Sandy recalls a passage mentioning storing tobacco in the boordocks as well.

German Translation and Barber Surgeons

The team discussed the translation of certain words in German, particularly focusing on the terms "barber" and "surgeon". They clarified that "friseur" refers to a barber, while "fälscher" refers to a military doctor. They also discussed the difference between "barbe" and "friseur" in the context of military operations. Additionally, they touched upon the historical context of barber surgeons and their role in providing medical care. The team also discussed the translation of "fast time" to "almost 2 years" in German, which was deemed significant.

Misunderstandings, Identity, and Authorship Discussed

The team discussed a contract that was signed without being read, leading to a misunderstanding. They also discussed the concept of identity and how it can change over time. The conversation then shifted to the topic of authorship, with the question of whether an author would typically sign a forward in a book. The team also touched on the theme of self-discovery and the importance of knowing oneself before being genuine. The conversation ended with a discussion about the process of writing an introduction or forward for a book.

Exploring Curses and Witchcraft Concepts

The group discussed the concept of curses and their potential effects on individuals. Robin shared her belief in the existence of curses and how they could be cast, while Paula and Vanya expressed skepticism. The group also discussed the idea of preparing oneself for unexpected events, such as the sound of a steam whistle, to avoid negative reactions. The conversation also touched on the topic of witchcraft and its potential influence on people's lives. The group agreed to continue exploring these ideas in future discussions.

Exploring Dogs and Their Symbolism

The team discussed the symbolism of dogs in Gurdjieff work, with Robin explaining that dogs represent various factors or associations in one's life that can either be beneficial or detrimental. The team agreed that these factors, or "dogs," need to be either found a function for or eliminated to improve one's awareness and work. The conversation also touched on the idea of sneaking up on these factors, as mentioned in the text, to better understand and manage them. The team also discussed the concept of buffers and how they relate to the dogs, with Sandy suggesting that the dogs could be seen as buffers. The conversation ended with the team pondering the meaning of the story and how it could be applied to their lives.

Exploring Story Elements and Symbolism

The team discussed the symbolism and meaning behind various elements in a story. They focused on the role of the barber surgeon, the significance of the red and white pole, and the use of leeches in wound care. The conversation also touched on the concept of "cursing ahead" and its relation to making unconscious things conscious. The team also discussed the translation differences between English and German versions of the story, particularly in relation to the oven and the dogs. Lastly, they explored the concept of "idiotism" and its possible connection to the various toasts made at meals in the story.

Exploring Dreams and Mind Activity

The team discussed their experiences with dreams and the mind's activity before waking up. Robin shared his observation that the mind is filled with "trash" in the hour before waking up, and suggested that this could be a useful time to focus on something that requires attention. The team also discussed the idea of allowing certain activities to happen within oneself, even if they seem unproductive. Sandy and Paula expressed skepticism about the meaning of dreams, while Vanya mentioned a therapist who advised simply waking up after a dream. The team ended the conversation with a light-hearted exchange about dreams and their potential meanings.